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#### ARKANSAS MUNICIPAL LEAGUE



#### GREAT CITIES MAKE A GREAT STATE

Cover photo by Andrew Morgan.



**ON THE COVER**—"Straight Lines on a Round World" is a new sculpture installed in front of the Statehouse Convention Center in Little Rock. It celebrates the 100th anniversary of the Louisiana Purchase survey, which began Oct. 27, 1815. We look forward to seeing you at the Statehouse for the League's 81st Convention, June 14-16. As you'll see inside this issue, we've got an agenda full of topics important to all our cities and towns, and there's still time to register.—atm

## **Features**

# Magnolia's Blossom Festival a recipe for success

The Magnolia Blossom Festival brings thousands of visitors each year to the southwest Arkansas city, including ribeye aficionados looking to win the annual World Championship Steak Cook-off.

- 10 IBLA Grand Prize winners perform
  This marks the 20th year winners of the
  IBLA Grand Prize international music
  competition have visited Arkansas to share
  their talents with audiences of all ages
  across the state.
- 12 Bridging the communication gap
  Better communication skills and strategies help build stronger organizations.
- 20 Law enforcement and faith community come together

Faith communities in our cities and towns have a long tradition of community engagement, and by partnering with local law enforcement can build trust and strengthen relationships.

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Dear Friends,

On April 26 we attended the Southern Municipal Conference meeting, which was held in beautiful Jekyll Island, Ga. It was such a wonderful setting this time of the year. Most of the discussion was about how cities were dealing with the new laws and mandates passed down from state and federal legislatures.

I had the opportunity on May 9 to attend the I-69 Coalition meeting in Monticello. Discussions were held pertaining to the possibility of funding the Great River Bridge to be located near Arkansas City and 190 miles of the four-lane interstate that will connect Mississippi on the east and Louisiana at the south end

On May 10 I attended the 16th Annual Golden Triangle Economic Development Council Dinner meeting where Congressman Bruce Westerman was the featured speaker. There were more discussions about the I-69 corridor and economic development in the Delta and the southern part

The Mayors Mentoring Mayors Summit was held on May 12 at League headquarters. The event was sponsored by the Arkansas Coalition for Obesity Prevention (ARCOP). The meeting focused on ways to improve the overall health of citizens in Arkansas. I found it to be very informative, helpful, and creative. My plan is to look at the possibility of implementing a wellness program for the officials and employees of Stephens. By doing so, we as city officials and staff set a good example for our citizens.

Don't forget to register for the League's 83rd Convention, June 14-16. The Executive Committee met on May 24 and League staff shared with us some of the sessions and events planned during the Convention. Believe me, you don't want to miss this Convention!

As I write this, I am aware this is my last letter as president of the Arkansas Municipal League. Over the last year, as your League president, I have traveled across Arkansas and across the world. Representing this League and the Natural State is one of the greatest honors of my life. Thank you for the privilege of serving. We've accomplished quite a bit over the past year, and I look forward to joining the ranks of past presidents and offering my knowledge and insight to other city officials.

As city officials, we are faced with difficulties. In my time of serving as the mayor of Stephens, we've seen good times and bad. I charge each of you to remember the next time you are faced with a challenge that "There's always darkness right before the break of day." Keep up the good work and I will see you around. Sincerely,

Harry Brown Mayor, Stephens

President, Arkansas Municipal League

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# Magnolia "steaks" its claim

By Whitnee V. Bullerwell, League staff

riving into Magnolia on a particular Saturday morning, no one knows that an entire year's worth of planning was spent ensuring this day's success. For that matter, unless you are one of the dedicated members of city administration, personnel, or one of the hundreds of volunteers, no one knows how much is riding on an entire week's celebration in Magnolia known as their annual Blossom Festival.

For 29 years now, the City of Magnolia along with its small army of dedicated volunteers have worked so efficiently that they've got this festival's execution down to a science. The Blossom Festival, which is a six-day event, ends on an incredibly high note. The concluding

day is one that is known by folks across the world. For 28 years running, Magnolia's Blossom Festival has included the World Championship Steak Cook-off. It's the only one of its kind, it's right here in Arkansas, and it's a big deal—just stop and ask any of the folks you see on the downtown square.

Mayor Parnell Vann says the Blossom Festival brings 8,000 to 10,000 visitors annually to Magnolia. The festival breathes life into their businesses and serves as a rather large family reunion of sorts. In my role at the League, I've worked with Mayor Vann and I have heard the following from him before. It's one of the reasons I took an instant liking to him.





From left, Miss Magnolia 2017 Jordan Duran; 2017 Cook-off champ Daniel Willie of El Jefe Cookers out of Cameron, Texas; Magnolia Mayor Parnell Vann; Lt. Gov. Tim Griffin, who is a Magnolia native; Cook-off Chair and City Inspector David Nelson; and Festival Director and Assistant to the Mayor Ellie Baker.

"In Magnolia, we meet strangers only once because after we've met you are considered family," Vann says. "And by being family, we expect to see you back at the Blossom Festival next year and years to follow."

The mayor's attitude is contagious and contributes greatly to Magnolia's recipe for success.



For years, I'd wanted to attend the Blossom Festival. I have seen event footage on TV and have Googled it many times. Not only was I fortunate enough to attend this year, I was privileged to be chosen as a steak judge. I had no idea what that meant until I received a judge's packet with extensive rules outlining the various competitions I was responsible for judging—parade, showmanship, rig construction, and the Steak Cook-off. I realized the true magnitude of my judging duties when I was asked to sign a production release from a well-known TV network.

Over the weekend, grillers from all over the United States produced 3,500 mouthwatering ribeye steaks. Of those steaks, a total of 83 Certified Angus Beef brand ribeyes were submitted to six steak judges. For the Steak Cook-Off winners, there's a lot at stake, as a

total of \$10,000 in prize money is offered along with an automatic "in" to compete in the 2017 Food World Championships. And don't forget about the bragging rights that come along with the win and the World Championship title.

Tickets to the festival's steak dinner are sold for a very reasonable \$20, and festival volunteers set up five stations about the square with a sixth station dedicated to "drive-thru" tickets only. The lines at each station are never-ending, and people attending the festival patiently wait as they know their meal will be well worth it.

The aroma of the festival area was amazing. The smoke got a little thick at times, but you won't hear complaints from me. The level of ingenuity put into the 80-plus grills situated around the square was mind-boggling. Many are tiny homes on wheels with more conveniences than imaginable.

This steak judge took her job very seriously and I am still in awe of the amount of time, effort, and attention the competitors put into their respective floats, cooking areas, grill configurations, and—last but not least—the carefully chosen steaks submitted for judging. The winning team, a grilling team from Texas, took home the









Governor's Cup, prize money, and the tremendous bragging rights. Trophies and prize money were also awarded to the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th runners up.

Yes, Magnolia has much to boast about, as this is *the* World Championship Steak Cook-Off. However, you won't find the members of city administration, personnel and volunteers to be boastful. Ellie Baker, Blossom Festival director and assistant to the mayor, is quick to point out that over 200 volunteers pour themselves into this festival to make it a success.

"Committees are formed for every single event," she says. "The committees believe in what they are doing and do whatever it takes to make their specific event the best it can possibly be."

David Nelson, chairman of the World Championship Steak Cook-Off and Magnolia's city inspector, admits that while the weekend Steak Cook-Off is the largest portion of the festival, he believes each of the



festival's events—the sidewalk art show, the car show, the bass tournament, the 5K run, and the kids' carnival, just to name a few—contribute to the Blossom Festival's synergy and overall success. Nelson gives accolades to the competitors, too.

"Believe it or not, the cookers help make the festival and cook-off a success as much as the volunteers do."

For more about the Blossom Festival, visit the event's website at www.blossomfestival.org. As a festival goer and former steak judge, I encourage you to experience this one-of-a-kind event by making the drive to Magnolia next year. Save the date—the next World Championship Steak Cook-Off will be held Saturday, May 19, 2018. Don't miss it!











# 3M Summit brings southern mayors together

¶he Arkansas Coalition for Obesity Prevention sponsored a one-day, multi-state 3M (Mayors Mentoring Mayors) Summit May 12 at the League's North Little Rock headquarters, where mayors and other local leaders from Arkansas, Alabama, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, and Tennessee met to network and share strategies on key issues and mutual challenges, such as improving health outcomes, infrastructure, community outreach, and more.





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**JUNE 2017** 



# IBLA marks 20 years of excellence in Arkansas

By Sherman Banks

his year marked the 20th year—of the 27-year history of the IBLA Foundation—that the IBLA international performers have come to Arkansas to share their talents with audiences across the state. The official name for IBLA is IBLA Grand Prize, which is under the auspices of the IBLA Foundation, a volunteer organization based in New York. All proceeds go toward advancing the careers of talented musicians from around the world and the United States.





IBLA Grand Prize takes place annually in the small city of Ragusa Ibla on the sunbaked island of Sicily, the largest and historically richest in the Mediterranean. The winners are presented to venues around the world, across the USA, and in Carnegie Hall in New York City. The competition is unique in that there is no age limit for participants.



The competition commences each year in the month of July with participants from all over the world in the magnificent baroque quarters of the United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) site of Ragusa Ibla.

As a director on IBLA Grand Prize Foundation Board of Directors and jury member of the competition, I work with mayors and citizens across Arkansas each



year to bring a group of IBLA Grand Prize winners to perform. We have over the years held performances in the cities of Star City, Harrison, Tontitown, Springdale, Little Rock, Jacksonville, Lake Village, Batesville, and North Little Rock. This year we presented the IBLA winners from 2016 with performers from Japan, Georgia, Italy, and Poland.

In addition to performances in Little Rock, North Little Rock, and Jacksonville, this year marked the sixth year the IBLA winners have visited Lake Village, and the second year they have performed in Batesville.

This year we presented the top winner, Kojiro Fujihara from Japan, who is an incredible classical trombonist. Our second top winners

were a magnificent duo from Poland—pianist Julia Wolanska and accordionist Michal Gajda. Also performing were unique percussionists from Italy, The Trikos Trio—Francesco Barone, Giulia Lo Giudice, and Gaspare Renna; and Mario Assenza, a baritone from Italy. From the country of Georgia was Tamara Licheli, a pianist whose fingers floated over the keyboard with such intensity that the audience was mesmerized by her passion. Finally, we had Elia Cecino a fiery 15-year-old pianist, also from Italy. Each presented their talents to over 9,000 students in Lake Village, Batesville, and Little Rock.

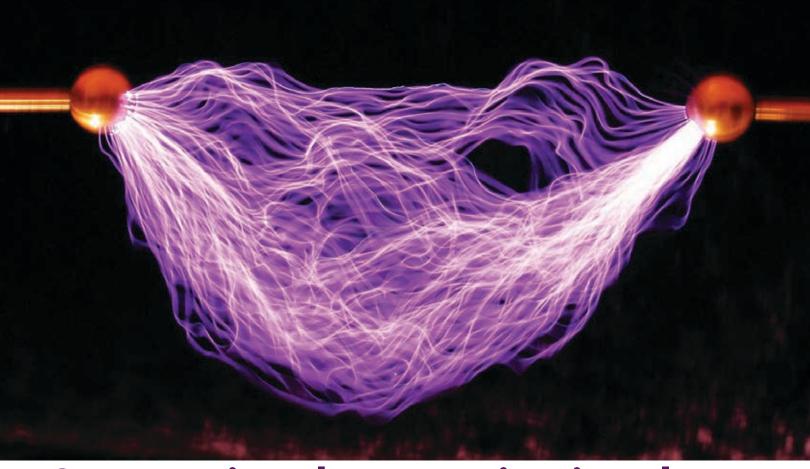
We have over the years, through the Municipal League, been able to reach more and more students and to expose our youth to more styles and genres of music than they might otherwise experience. If you would like for your community to experience this incredible array of international talent, please contact me.



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



JUNE 2017



# Overcoming the organizational communication gap

By Kevin Eikenberry

've been working with people in all levels of organizations for nearly 30 years—from CEOs to middle managers, from frontline employees to first-level leaders. And the single most common concern I've heard across all those people, across all those years is: communication in the organization.

I've worked with organizations where it truly is awful, and with organizations where it is relatively good; and so while the problem might be relative, it is a problem as seen by everyone.

We all want to have better communication in our organizations.

There are lots of reasons we feel this way, not the least of which is that communication is hard when there are just two people, so when there are 10, 100, or 100,000 people involved, it can't help but be complex. This article isn't really about the gap—we all agree it exists—and it isn't about explaining why the gap exists either. This article is about what we all can do about it, regardless of our role in an organization.

#### For leaders

Communicate more. If there is a communication gap, this would be a good place to start. Remember that communication of strategies, decisions, information, and context is a significant part of your job. Be more conscious about what you need to communicate, then communicate it, and communicate it again.

Communicate in different ways. OK, you sent them an email and you feel like you communicated the message. Do you read all the emails you receive thoroughly? Communicate your message in different media and in different ways. Here's just one example: When was the last time you used a story or example to make your point clearer?

Don't assume they know. Leaders often have mulled a decision for a long time. Once they have made it, they often assume everyone else knows. And sometimes they share something once and expect everyone to see all of the connections to other strategies and plans the way

they do. These are both examples of leaders expecting people to read their minds. You hired people to do lots of things, but I'm guessing mind reading wasn't in the job description. Leaders don't mean to make these assumptions, but they do it all the time.

Ask clarifying questions. Since communication is about message sent and message received, you need to make sure it gets received. Ask questions to make sure people understand. Open the lines of communication so people feel comfortable asking questions too. This applies one-on-one and in groups of all sizes. As a leader, you want to be asking questions all the time to ensure improved communication flow.

#### For team members

Ask questions. If you don't feel like you know what is going on, you can either shake your head and complain about "the lack of communication around here," or you can ask questions. If you don't know about something, ask.

Communicate yourself. Guess what? Leaders feel the communication gap too. If you want them to communicate more with you, make sure you aren't perpetuating the problem by being close-lipped yourself, or thinking you don't have time to communicate. Communication is everyone's job in the organization.

Give feedback. When communication has been successful, let people know. When you are unclear, or you received some messages later than you wished, let people know that too. One of the best ways you can improve the communication in your organization is engage in it, and give feedback on how it is going.

## For everyone

Assume positive intent. As a third party to many conversations about organizational communication, I see the assumption of intent as a huge cause of disconnect. If you want better communication with others, assume they are telling the truth. Assume they aren't withholding information for nefarious reasons. Assume that everyone is trying to communicate successfully, even when it doesn't happen. Is that 100 percent accurate? Maybe not. But if you have "decided" there is ill intention first, it makes the flow of communication harder before it even begins. If you can shift the assumption of intention to a more positive place, organizational communication will improve immediately.

Remember it is hard. When we know something is hard, we work at it and give others a break. Yes, we can hold ourselves to a high standard, and for something this important we should; and yet when we remember

it is hard, we will get past the communication misses more easily.

Remember it is everyone's job. Communication requires a sent message that is received and understood. Improving organizational communication is everyone's job, and when everyone realizes that, improvement is possible.

Overcoming the organizational communication gap isn't something for leaders and supervisors to solve—it is a problem that everyone plays a role in so everyone can help improve. If you would like the communication in your organization to improve, read this again. Think about the role you play and how you can do your part to close the gap. When you do, everyone will win.

Kevin is chief potential officer of The Kevin Eikenberry Group, a learning consulting company that helps clients reach their potential through training, consulting and speaking services. Sign up for our free leadership series at kevineikenberry.com/join-13-days. ©2017 All Rights Reserved, The Kevin Eikenberry Group.



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Deasy, center, who works as a planner for a local government in Indonesia, found the League to be "very well organized and informative," she said. She was visiting as part of an exchange program for young, Southeast Asian professionals.

# Exchange program brings Indonesian local government worker to League

he League was honored in May to host Ms. Putu Deasy Utamiyanti, who works as a planning officer for the city of Gianyar on the island of Bali, Indonesia. Deasy (pronounced like "daisy") visited the League as part of the Young Southeast Asian Leaders Initiative and Professional Fellows Program, which seeks to strengthen leadership development and networking in Southeast Asia and Eurasia. Part of the exchange involves visiting local governments and related entities in the United States to compare and contrast governance strategies with the participants' local governments, and to explore civic engagement, economic development, natural resources management, and more.

Deasy is a planning, monitoring, and evaluating officer in Gianyar. She plans, prepares, and oversees development projects that are funded on a regional and national basis, with a focus on economic and environmentally sustainable projects that strengthen Bali's thriving tourism industry.

Deasy was one of four young leaders to participate in the exchange in May. In addition to visiting the League during her trip, Deasy spent time at the Workforce Investment Board and with Herron-Horton Architects and Urban Planners.



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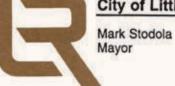


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June 14-16, 2017

Arkansas Municipal League 83<sup>rd</sup> Convention

Dear Delegates,

On behalf of the City of Little Rock Board of Directors, I am proud to welcome you to your capital city for the 83<sup>rd</sup> Convention



of the Arkansas Municipal League. At a time of great partisan divide in our country, it is no surprise that local officials are the most trusted level of government because we are driven to address the issues that are critical to the everyday lives of our neighbors and we strive to do so efficiently. As you all well know, our neighbors will tell us if we are doing a poor job. That is why we gather together each year – so that we can share best practices, build relationships and find common ground that will help us to make our cities the best place they can be for all of our residents.

While you are in Little Rock, I hope you will explore many of the remarkable attractions our city has to offer. You will find world-class museums a short walk from the Statehouse Convention Center, including the William J. Clinton Presidential Center, the Old Statehouse Museum, and the Museum of Discovery. Nearby, you will also find the Historic Arkansas Museum, the Witt Stephens Jr. Central Arkansas Nature Center, the Central High National Historic Site, the Mosaic Templars Cultural Center and the Arkansas Arts Center. In addition, the nearby River Market District, South Main, and Creative Corridor areas have many shops and attractions, as well as vibrant nightlife and delicious restaurants.

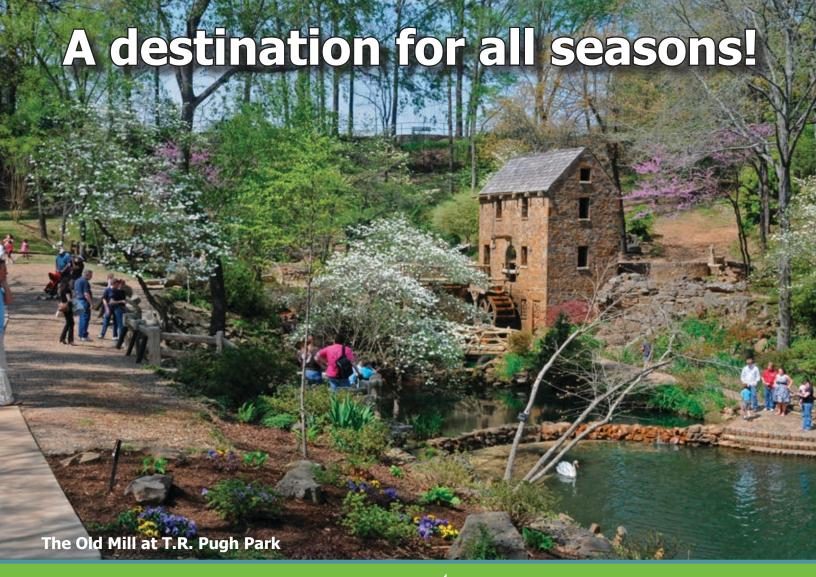
Welcome to Little Rock! As always, I am looking forward to meeting with you, my colleagues, from around our great state.

Mark Stodola

Mark Hodola

Mayor

JUNE 2017



Enjoy the outdoors at The Old Mill from

Gone with the Wind or take a stroll along
the Arkansas River Trail. Shop and dine in
the McCain Mall area or Argenta Arts District,
laugh hysterically at The Joint Comedy Theater
or explore a real World War II submarine & tugboat.

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Arkansas Municipal League 83<sup>rd</sup> Annual Convention June 14-16, 2017

#### Greetings!

As Mayor, it is my pleasure to welcome you to the Arkansas Municipal League 83<sup>rd</sup> Annual Convention. During your stay, we hope you can include some or all of the following points of interest in North Little Rock:

- Argenta Arts & Entertainment District Stroll North Little Rock's Main Street, lined with art galleries, restaurants, The Joint Comedy Theater and the North Little Rock Heritage Center.
- Dickey-Stephens Park home of the Arkansas Travelers and the finest facility in minor league baseball.
   Great family entertainment!
- Arkansas Inland Maritime Museum Tour a real World War II-era submarine, USS Razorback (SS394) and learn about the McClellan-Kerr Arkansas River Navigation System, cruiser USS Arkansas and tugboat USS Hoga.
- River Rail Trolleys allow visitors to travel across the Arkansas River in style and stop for shopping and dining in the Argenta Arts & Entertainment District in North Little Rock and River Market District in Little Rock.
- Burns Park Encompassing 1,700 acres and one of the largest city parks in the nation, Burns Park hosts tennis, baseball, softball, and soccer tournaments.
- The Old Mill at T.R. Pugh Memorial Park a 1930s replica of a 1800s gristmill, presumed to be the last standing structure from Gone with the Wind.

For non-stop shopping and dining, visit the newly-renovated McCain Mall – the largest enclosed shopping center in Central Arkansas. Other dining and shopping opportunities are located in close proximity.

On behalf of the City of North Little Rock, I welcome you and extend best wishes on a fun and successful convention.

Sincerely,

oe A. Smith

Mayor

"An Equal Opportunity Employer"



Boston Mayor Marty Walsh speaks to police and members of the clergy during a meeting to address the city's gun violence at police headquarters in Boston on Aug. 17, 2015.

# How law enforcement and the faith community can work together for cities

By John A. "Jack" Calhoun

hroughout American history, the faith community has played a seminal role in setting our nation's value base, informing fundamental constitutional beliefs, providing basic services—especially in the medical and educational arenas—and leading seismic social changes including the abolition of slavery, women's suffrage, and the Civil Rights Movement.

Faith-based organizations (FBOs) are not only among the largest, most concentrated groups of activists and volunteers in the nation, but in potentially volatile situations, they play an important connecting role between the community and city authorities like mayors, councilmembers, and police. In short, for America's law enforcement community, FBOs can serve as an essential resource, both quantitatively (thanks to the number of volunteers) and qualitatively (as a trusted communication link).

The faith community can serve as a critical link between police and the citizens they protect and serve,

and city leaders can build stronger, safer communities by taking steps to reinforce this connection.

#### **Build a trusted link**

Religious figures can serve as a powerful calming influence, defusing potentially volatile situations and even garnering a public show of support for the police. At the same time, they can serve as law enforcement's most trenchant critics. And they can offer this support or criticism via the media, from the church pulpit, on the street corners, or at city hall.

But they can only do so in an effective manner if trust has been built over time, carefully, consciously, in a planned manner. If police turn to the faith community for support following an officer-involved shooting, for example, but no relationship has been built between the two entities over time, this response can be characterized as exploitation—or, at best, a barely-adhering band aid. This invites only suspicion and hostility.

Conversely, cities with embedded partnerships between the faith community and law enforcement or city officials typically do not experience citizen uprisings after officer-involved shootings. The essentials of this partnership: regularly scheduled meetings over months and years, and when an "incident" occurs, speed and full transparency.

Examples: after a recent shooting in Boston, the Reverend Jeffrey Brown noted that "within 24 hours of the shootings, they [the police] had footage of what happened, and they called the community, the clergy and NAACP representatives to look at the footage together. That is the level of transparency that builds trust."

In 2016, both Charlotte, North Carolina, and Tulsa, Oklahoma, reported officer-involved shootings. The situation in Charlotte resulted in public outcry and heavy criticism of the police—but this didn't occur in Tulsa. Why? The *New York Times* reported that the Reverend Warren Blakney, pastor of one of Tulsa's largest black churches and president of the local NAACP, cited community trust in Mayor Dewey Bartlett. Blakney said that the mayor "has worked hard to establish ties with the black community in north Tulsa, attending Sunday services at African-American churches most weekends."

#### Start with the personal

Relationships between law enforcement and the faith community may eventually have to be formalized, but they usually begin on a personal level. Police worship in local churches or sing in local choirs, and peaceful protests in many cities actively involve the police, either as protectors or fellow marchers.

In Baltimore, clergy often ride along with police on duty, providing an ear for officers struggling with the chronic stress than can develop as a result of their daily work. In Boston, cops and clergy visit troubled students from Boston's public schools. And in Stockton, California, Police Chief Eric Jones shifted town hall meetings to smaller settings, like living rooms, community centers and churches, in an effort to move his department closer to the community. Larger town hall meetings in Stockton had often became raucous and accusatory, but the listening process in these more personal settings confirmed and pinpointed many of the trust gaps and helped move the police force closer to some of its most disenfranchised and suspicious stakeholders.

## Move to larger programs

Community Renewal International, a social services organization in Shreveport, Louisiana, builds large Habitat for Humanity houses in the town's most crimeridden areas. The houses are then staffed by people of faith who serve as mentors, tutors, and directors of

afterschool programs. Crime has dropped almost 50 percent in Shreveport's target areas.

Another example: former Brooklyn, New York, District Attorney Joe Hynes launched his "Youth and Congregations in Partnership" program, which links volunteer mentors from more than 100 churches, mosques and synagogues to certain offenders coming through the courts. According to officials in the district attorney's office, the program has cut recidivism significantly. Hynes also has a larger goal: to start the healing process for offenders and prevent "those who are hurting [from coming] back to hurt."

Finally, members of the faith community in Portland, Oregon, intervene to stop sex trafficking in Halladay Park and help the vulnerable young women who are being trafficked. Because of the faith community's close working relationships with the police, officers will often divert potential arrestees to the interveners as well. The group reports a 50 percent reduction in crime in the park. In gratitude, Portland officials provide the group with raincoats, vests, jackets and umbrellas for their work in the city's rainy climate.

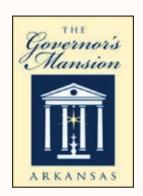
# Incorporate the faith community's calling

In cities across America, the faith community has opened its facilities for sports, afterschool programs and restorative justice. It has mentored and tutored. Faith-based organizations can be found in the streets working with a city's most volatile youth, connecting positive adult role models to disconnected youth, and linking community pain to city programs and policy through advisory councils to police and mayors. In this way, the faith community acts as a voice for social justice, speaking truth to power.

City leaders, and the law enforcement communities they oversee, can amplify this voice and benefit from the faith community's calling to work for social justice and better the world around them. While they employ different strategies, and view their cities from different perspectives, both groups ultimately share the same goal: to build stronger, safer and more caring communities.

John A. "Jack" Calhoun is a public speaker and frequent media guest and editorial contributor. He currently serves as senior consultant to the National League of Cities and is the founder and CEO of Hope Matters. For more than 20 years, Mr. Calhoun was the founding president of the National Crime Prevention Council, prior to which he served under President Carter as the Commissioner of the Administration for Children, Youth and Families.

This article appeared originally on April 27 on the National League of Cities' CitiesSpeak blog, citiesspeak.org, and is reprinted with permission.



The pleasure of your company is requested for

An Elegant Dinner at the

Arkansas Jovernor's Mansion

Thursday, June 15, 2017 � 6:15 until 7:45 in the evening

1800 Center Street **&** Little Rock, Arkansas

\* Limited Seating \*

\$50 per person or \$500 for a table of 10

Preferred Method of Payment to Complete Your Reservation:

http://buytickets.at/arkansasgovernorsmansionassociation/92165

To Pay by Check, Please Call 501-324-9805

\* Dress for the Evening \*
Coat and Tie for Gentlemen~Ladies Accordingly
No denim please

\*Transportation by Garver\*

Buses depart the Marriott starting at 5:45 P.M.

Buses return to the Convention Center starting at 7:45 P.M. to attend Desert Reception and Evening Entertainment

\*Reservations accepted through June 9, 2017, if available\*

# Lake Village's Mayor Bush named to NLC's board



ongtime Lake Village Mayor JoAnne Bush in January started a two-year term on the National League of Cities' board of directors. She was named to the board in November 2016 at the NLC's City Summit in Pittsburgh, and she went through orientation for the position at the beginning of this year.

It is more important to her to be a voice for Arkansas's and the nation's smaller cities, Bush said.

"It's about working for the betterment of the city, and not only my city, but other smaller cities," Bush said.

Bush represents one of the smallest cities—Lake Village has a population of 2,575—that has ever been seated at the NLC board.

One of the most pressing priorities of the board is to try and counter the proposed cuts to programs impor-

tant to cities in the new administration's budget. Cuts to programs like the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) would be devastating, particularly in small cities, Bush said. The board is also



continuing to push for so-called e-fairness legislation at the national level, which would both help save local brick-and-mortar retailers and bring in the sales tax revenue that cities are already owed.

During her term, Bush would like to spread the word that the NLC serves all cities, not just large cities.

"We have to get the word out to the small cities that NLC is not just a big city deal—it's for all cities. I don't care how large a city is; we all have the same problems. We just have them on a different scale."

# Pea Ridge's Crabtree selected to chair Southern Municipal Conference



ea Ridge Mayor Jackie Crabtree has been named chair of the Southern Municipal Conference (SMC), a coalition of municipal leagues from the southern United States. The SMC named Crabtree to the position at the group's 2017 Leadership Meeting, held in late April at Jekyll Island, Ga. He will serve a one-year term as chair.

"I consider this an honor to serve in this position," Crabtree said. "I'm looking forward to working with and learning from the other leagues. It is a privilege to

represent our League in this

capacity."

During the SMC meeting, delegates from across the south discussed numerous issues important to cities, including creating safer cities, workforce development, expanding training opportunities for local officials, federal advocacy strategies, and more.



PHOTOS BY ANDREW MORGAN



## 83rd Annual Convention

Marriott Hotel/Statehouse Convention Center, June 14-16, 2017



# Countdown to Convention.

June 14–16 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 14

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

7:00 p.m.

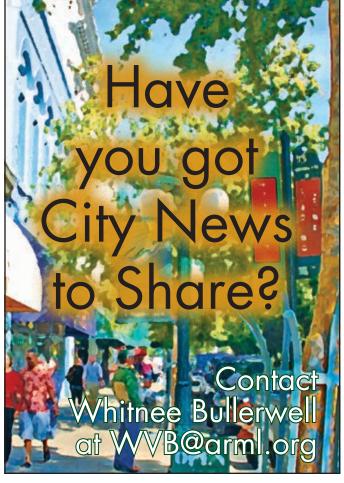
Registration and Exhibit Hall Open Clerks Meeting Continuing Education Certification Training Resolutions Committee Meeting Opening Night Banquet

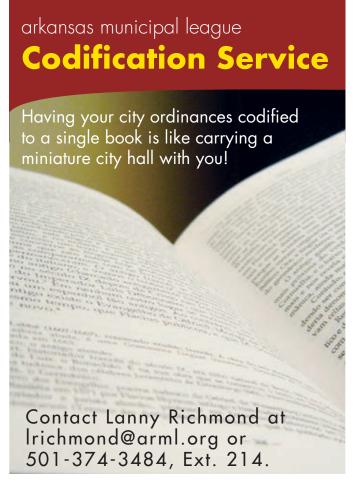
THURSDAY
JUNE 15

7:00 a.m.-8:30 a.m. 7:00 a.m.-5:30 p.m. 7:00 a.m.-5:30 p.m. 8:45 a.m.-12:00 p.m. 12:00 p.m.-1:15 p.m. 1:30 p.m.-5:30 p.m. 8:00 p.m.-10:00 p.m. Host City Breakfast
Registration Open
Exhibits Open
General Sessions
Luncheon
Concurrent Workshops
Desserts and Entertainment

FRIDAY
JUNE 16

7:00 a.m.-8:45 a.m. 7:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. 9:00 a.m.-10:15 a.m. 10:15 a.m.-12:00 p.m. 12:00 p.m. -1:30 p.m. Breakfast
Registration Open
Annual Business Meetings
General Session
Awards and New Officers' Luncheon





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# 83rd Annual Convention

Marriott Hotel/Statehouse Convention Center, June 14-16, 2017

# If you missed the June 1 pre-registration deadline, on-site registration and payment can be completed at the Statehouse Convention Center.

Registration fee after <b>June 1, 2017</b> , and on-site registration for municipal officials	\$175
Registration fee after <b>June 1, 2017</b> , and on-site registration for guests	\$100
Other registrants	\$200

- Registration will be processed ONLY with accompanying payment in full.
   Make checks payable to the Arkansas Municipal League.
- Registration includes meals, activities and a copy of 2017 General Acts Affecting Arkansas Municipalities.
- No daily registration is available.
- Registration must come through the League office. No telephone registrations will be accepted.
- No refunds after June 1, 2017.
- Cancellation letters must be postmarked by **June 1, 2017**.
- Marriott and Capital Hotel 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**

Margat Hotel residuarters hotel) Single/Double	Check-in
Capital Later Capital	
Doublet ed Hold T Single/Double	Check-in
Wyndigh Hatel T Single/Double	

- Cut-off date for hotel reservations is **June 1, 2017**.
- 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 2 Complete the steps and mail with payment to: ARKANSAS MUNICIPAL LEAGUE

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

Complete the steps and **mail with payment** to:
ARKANSAS MUNICIPAL LEAGUE
Attn: 83<sup>rd</sup> Annual Convention
P.O. Box 38
North Little Rock, AR 72115-0038

	City of:		
	,		
	City:		
	•		
·	Phone Number:		
Guests will attend: ☐ Yes ☐ No	Name:		
	Name:		
In Case of Emergency (ICE) Contac	ct Name:IC	E Phone Number:	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •
Step 2: Payment Inform	nation		
• WHAT IS YOUR TOTAL? (see op			
☐ Regular Registration for Delegate	☐ Regular Registration for Guest	Other Registrants	Reg. Registration
<u>\$175</u>	\$100	<u>\$200</u>	Total \$
☐ Credit Card Complete information Credit Card: ☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard Card Number:  Card Holder Name (as it appears on			
City:	. State:Zip:Telephone:		
E-mail address (required for credi	t card payment)		
Step 3: Hotel Reservat			
To obtain hotel reservations, registere that you are with the Arkansas Munic Marriott H&CLD. OUT Re	ed delegates must directly contact participa cipal League to get the negotiated hotel rat	re.	Please mention

## 83rd ANNUAL CONVENTION OF THE ARKANSAS MUNICIPAL LEAGUE JUNE 14 - 16, 2017

1:00 P.M. to 7:00 P.M.	/EDNESDAY - JUNE 14, 20  REGISTRATION  (Be sure to download the League's meeting App onto your smart device. Search for "AML" in your App Store.)	OSAGE & CADDO ROOMS, SCC		OPENING NIGHT BANQUET  Welcome to the 83rd Annual Convention's  Opening Night Banquet. Enjoy a delicious meal and visit with fellow delegates. Speaker Gillam will address the group, and the State and Local Legal Center's Lisa Soronen will update us on U.S. Supreme Court issues. Various legislators	
1:00 P.M. to 6:45 P.M.	MEET YOUR EXHIBITORS/RENEW ACQUAINTANCES  Use this time to meet the exhibitors and see what products and services they have that could benefit your city. Popcorn and cool beverages will be served throughout the afternoon. Also, take the time to renew acquaintances with fellow municipal officials while relaxing in the Exhibit Hall.	GOVERNOR'S HALLS I - III, SCC	7:00 P.M.	and individuals who have made significant contributions to the cities and towns of Arkansas will be recognized.  Presiding: Mayor Harry Brown, Stephens President Arkansas Municipal League Invocating: Mayor Doug Sprouse, Springdale First Vice President	WALLY ALLEN BALLROOM, SCC
1:30 P.M. to 3:30 P.M.	ARKANSAS CITY CLERKS, RECORDERS, AND TREASURERS ASSOCIATION  DISCOVERING YOUR LEADERSHIP STRENGTHS	ARKANSAS BALLROOM, MH		Arkansas Municipal League Speakers: Honorable Jeremy Gillam Speaker of the House State Representative, District 45 Lisa Soronen, Executive Director	
2:30 P.M.	Every municipal leader can learn how to work together in a more professional manner. Attendees will hear Jim Mathis talk about some of the essential tools for managing, leading and communicating. Discover the strengths of your leadership style.  (3 Continuing Education Hours)	governor's	8:30 P.M.	State and Local Legal Center  POST BANQUET RECEPTION  After the opening night banquet, stroll over and enjoy delicious desserts at the historic Capital Hotel.  Sponsored by: Stephens Inc.	CAPITAL HOTEL
5:15 P.M.	Presiding: Mayor Harry Brown, Stephens President Arkansas Municipal League Speaker: Jim Mathis, Best-selling Author J&L Mathis Group, Inc.	HALL IV, SCC	7:00 A.M.	JRSDAY A.M JUNE 15, 2	017 OSAGE ROOM,
	Sponsored by: Raymond James Centennial Bank		to 5:30 P.M.	(Be sure to download the League's meeting App onto your smart device. Search for "AML" in your App Store.)	SCC
5:15 P.M. to 5:30 P.M.	REPORT FROM THE ARKANSAS TREASURER OF STATE Speaker: Honorable Dennis Milligan, Treasurer State of Arkansas	GOVERNOR'S HALL IV, SCC	7:00 A.M. to 5:30 P.M.	EXHIBITS OPEN	GOVERNOR'S HALLS I - III, SCC
3:30 P.M. to 5:00 P.M.	INTERIM JOINT CITY, COUNTY, LOCAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE  City officials are welcome to attend this interim	FULTON ROOM, SCC	7:00 A.M. to 8:30 A.M.	HOST CITY BREAKFAST BUFFET  Sponsored by: City of Little Rock	GOVERNOR'S HALLS I - III, SCC
5:30 P.M.	RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE  Each municipality has a designated representative who is a member of the	COVEDNION'S	7:15 A.M. to 7:30 A.M.	VOLUNTARY PRAYER SESSION  This is a brief time set aside for those who wish to gather to pray for our national, state and local leaders.	ARKANSAS BALLROOM, MH
to 6:30 P.M.	Resolutions Committee.  Presiding: Mayor Doug Sprouse, Springdale First Vice President Arkansas Municipal League	GOVERNOR'S HALL IV, SCC	8:15 A.M.	CONTINUING LEGAL EDUCATION  City attorneys will receive 12 hours of CLE credit for participation in two days of meetings.	LEAGUE HEADQUARTERS

<sup>\*</sup>MH = MARRIOTT HOTEL

<sup>\*</sup>SCC = STATEHOUSE CONVENTION CENTER

	OPENING GENERAL SESSION 1	
	The 83rd Annual Convention begins with the posting of the colors and the singing of the National Anthem, followed by a Host City Welcome from Mayor Mark Stodola of Little Rock. Motivational speaker Neal Petersen's topic will be "No Barriers-Only Solutions-Working Together."	
8:45 A.M. to 10:15 A.M.	Presiding: Mayor Harry Brown, Stephens President Arkansas Municipal League Color Guard by: Little Rock Fire Department Color Guard National Anthem: Officer Allison Walton Little Rock Police Department Host City Welcome Address: Mayor Mark Stodola Little Rock Speakers: Neal Petersen, Best-selling Author and Motivational Speaker	GOVERNOR'S HALL IV, SCC
	Beth Van Duyne, HUD Regional Administrator for Region VI	
	Sponsored by: Arvest Bank Mitchell Williams	
10:15 A.M. to	BREAK  Soft drinks and coffee available in the Exhibit  Hall	GOVERNOR'S HALLS I - III, SCC
10:30 A.M.		
10:30 A.M. to 11:15 A.M.	GENERAL SESSION 2 THE IMPACT OF NEW GUN LAWS AND MEDICAL MARIJUANA  The new gun laws and medical marijuana amendment will be discussed in this session. We will hear from the state's chief law enforcement officer on the new gun laws, followed by information from an expert in the medical marijuana arena.  Presiding: Mayor Doug Sprouse, Springdale First Vice President Arkansas Municipal League  Speakers: Honorable Leslie Rutledge Attorney General State of Arkansas Jeff Sims, President a'TEST Consultants	GOVERNOR'S HALL IV, SCC
11:15 A.M.	GENERAL SESSION 3 REMARKS FROM OUR GOVERNOR AND AN OVERVIEW OF THE 91 <sup>ST</sup> GENERAL ASSEMBLY  The League's Don Zimmerman will summarize the 91st General Assembly and Governor Hutchinson will address the Convention delegates.  Presiding: Mayor Harry Brown, Stephens President Arkansas Municipal League Speakers: Don Zimmerman, Executive Director Arkansas Municipal League Honorable Asa Hutchinson, Governor State of Arkansas	GOVERNOR'S HALL IV, SCC

12:15 P.M.	GOVERNOR'S HALLS I - III, SCO						
	CONCURRENT						
	WORKSHOPS						
	THE BASICS OF BUDGETING: ARE YOU PREPARED FOR A LEGISLATIVE AUDIT?						
1:30 P.M. to 2:45 P.M.	What are the basic building blocks of a municipal budget? Are there things you need to do to prepare for a legislative audit? Were there new acts passed during the last session that might impact the way you budget? The speakers explain.	WALLY ALLEN BALLROOM A, SCC					
	Presiding: Mayor Kenneth Jones, Brookland Speakers: Cindy Frizzell, Finance Director Arkansas Municipal League Marti Steel, Deputy Legislative Auditor Arkansas Division of Legislative Audit						
	2. THE BENEFITS OF INTERNATIONAL CULTURAL EXCHANGE, SISTER CITES AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR WORLDWIDE TRADE						
1:30 P.M. to	The Sister Cities program provides an opportunity for culture exchange between cities around the world. What about opportunities for developing international trade relations? Attend this session and learn more.	POPE ROOM,					
2:45 P.M.	Presiding: Alderman Doug Matthews, Batesville Speakers: Sherman Banks, Consul General for Ghana Dan Hendrix, President and CEO Arkansas World Trade Center						
	Ghana Delegates						
	3. INFORMATION SECURITY AND DATA RECOVERY: WHY IT MATTERS						
1:30 P.M. to	In the event of a disaster what disaster recovery plans do you have in place? Is your IT system "hack proof?" Will your plan pass the new Legislative Audit requirements? Security and recovery are critical in today's IT world. Learn what you can do to protect your valuable data.	CARAWAY ROOMS I-III,					
2:45 P.M.	Presiding: Mayor Mike Watson, Maumelle Speakers: Chris Hartley, IT Director Arkansas Municipal League Britney Whatley, Manager ACOOP	scc					
	Dave Mims, Consultant The League's IT in a Box						

	4. LEGAL TOOLS TO KEEP YOUR CITY CLEAN			CONCURRENT	
1:30 P.M.	Weed lots and neglected property can ruin the appearance of your city. What legal steps can you take to prevent your city from becoming an	WALLY ALLEN		WORKSHOPS	
to 2:45 P.M.	eyesore?  Presiding: Mayor Larry Bryant, Forrest City  Speakers: Legal Staff  Arkansas Municipal League	BALLROOM B, SCC		DEALING WITH WORKPLACE VIOLENCE AND CREATING A SAFE WORKPLACE  What steps can you take to prevent workplace violence? What can you do to create a safe, injury-free workplace? The speakers offer their	
1:30 P.M. to 2:45 P.M.	5. PENSION PROGRAMS: APERS, LOPFI, AND THE ARKANSAS DIAMOND PLAN  Were there new laws passed that might impact municipalities? Listen to representatives from these organizations explain.  Presiding: City Manager Catherine Cook, Hope Speakers: Gail Stone, Executive Director, APERS David B. Clark, Executive Director, LOPFI Chris Howlett, Executive Director of Employee Benefits, Department of Finance and Administration, Arkansas Diamond Plan	WALLY ALLEN BALLROOM C, SCC	3:00 P.M. to 4:15 P.M.	advice.  Presiding: Vice Mayor Kevin Settle, Fort Smith Speakers: David Baxter, Health and Safety Coordinator Arkansas Municipal League Neil Foreman, Director of Loss Control and Marketing Arkansas Municipal League  2. PLANNING AND PREPARING FOR LARGE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS  Planning for large capital improvement projects can be confusing. Are there various	CARAWAY ROOMS HII, SCC
1:30 P.M. to 2:45 P.M.	6. SUBSTANCE ABUSE IN THE WORKPLACE  The new marijuana laws, substance abuse in the workplace and drug testing are topics that will be discussed.  Presiding: Mayor Mark Stodola, Little Rock Speakers: Jeff Sims, President, a'TEST Consultants David Schoen, Legal Counsel Arkansas Municipal League Lanny Richmond, Staff Attorney, Arkansas Municipal League	FULTON ROOM, SCC	3:00 P.M. to 4:15 P.M.	funding sources to consider? What guidelines should you follow to ensure that you avoid the many traps that exist in preparing for capital improvement projects?  Presiding: Finance Director Karen Scott North Little Rock Speakers: Daniel Allen, Vice President Raymond James Michele Allgood, Attorney Mitchell, Williams, Selig, Gates & Woodyard, PLLC	WALLY ALLEN BALLROOM A, SCC
1:30 P.M. to 2:45 P.M. 2:45 P.M.	7. PREPARING FOR THE 2020 CENSUS  The 2020 Census is rapidly approaching. Now is the time to take specific steps to be accurately counted. The speakers explain.  Presiding: Alderman Kenny Elliott, Jacksonville  Speakers: A. J. Kelly, Deputy Secretary of State and General Counsel  State of Arkansas  Deborah (Toni) Pitchford  Intergovernmental Affairs Specialist,  Office of Congressional and  Intergovernmental Affairs,  U.S. Census Bureau  Shelby Johnson, Geographic Information  Officer, Arkansas GIS Office	IZARD ROOM, SCC GOVERNOR'S HALLS I - III, SCC	3:00 P.M. to 4:15 P.M.	Jill Drewyor, Attorney Mitchell, Williams, Selig, Gates & Woodyard, PLLC  3. THE CHALLENGES OF MUNICIPAL HUMAN RESOURCES  There are numerous human resource challenges. This session will consist of a basic review of several important HR issues, including the ADA and FMLA. How should you go about creating a diverse work place? The speakers explain.  Presiding: Clerk/Treasurer Barbara Blackard Clarksville  Speakers: Legal Staff Arkansas Municipal League Minnie Lenox, Human Resources Director Hot Springs Charles Angel, American Fidelity	POPE ROOM, SCC
3:00 P.M.	Hall.		3:00 P.M. to 4:15 P.M.	Assurance Company  4. AVOIDING LAWSUITS: IS IT POSSIBLE?  Lawsuits continue to increase against cities.  Are there actions that cities can take to prevent lawsuits? What are some of the new Acts that deal with guns, marijuana and the FOIA, and how do they affect cities?  Presiding: Mayor Frank Hash, El Dorado  Speakers: Legal Staff  Arkansas Municipal League	WALLY ALLEN BALLROOM B, SCC

<sup>\*</sup>MH = MARRIOTT HOTEL

<sup>\*</sup>SCC = STATEHOUSE CONVENTION CENTER

	5. LAND USE: TRENDS, CONCERNS AND BEST PRACTICES  What were some of the new laws passed this			CONCURRENT WORKSHOPS	
3:00 P.M. to 4:15 P.M.	session that might impact your ability to plan? Are there traps to avoid when considering annexation? Are there trends occurring in municipal planning to be concerned about? These and many other topics will be discussed.  Presiding: City Director Becca Clark, Hot Springs Speakers: Jim vonTungeln, AICP, Planning & Zoning Consultant Arkansas Municipal League Jeff Hawkins, Executive Director NW Arkansas Regional Planning Commission	WALLY ALLEN BALLROOM C, SCC	4:30 P.M. to 5:30 P.M.	MUNICIPAL PARKS AND PLAYGROUNDS: ARE THEY SAFE AND IN COMPLIANCE WITH FEDERAL LAW?  When was the last time you conducted a parks and playground safety audit? This workshop covers the latest recommendations concerning playground safety.  Presiding: Alderman Reedie Ray, Jacksonville Speaker: Clint Pitzer, President ACS Playground Adventures  2. GRANTS AND FUNDING SOURCES	IZARD ROOM, SCC
3:00 P.M. to 4:15 P.M.	6. MANAGING INFORMATION WHEN A CRISIS STRIKES  When crisis strikes, events can quickly spin out of control. It is vital that municipal leaders be prepared to respond to media and citizen demands for information. This workshop is designed to assist you to communicate clearly and credibly during crises such as natural disasters, incidents of violence, and accidents involving hazardous materials. You will learn what steps your city can take to prepare for	FULTON ROOM, SCC	4:30 P.M. to 5:30 P.M.	What is the latest information on State Aid Street funding? Are grants still available? If so how do you go about finding them?  Presiding: Alderman Steven Mays, Pine Bluff Speakers: Steve Napper, Attorney State Aid Street Committee Chad Gallagher, President Legacy Consulting Kevin Smith, Chairman and CEO The Grant Book Company	FULTON ROOM, SCC
	and respond to a crisis.  Presiding: Mayor Kary Story, Pocahontas Speakers: Richard McKeown, Crisis Communication and Reputation Management Counselor			3. SOCIAL MEDIA SUCCESS: HOW YOUR CITY CAN BENEFIT?  Social media is everywhere. Cities and towns can successfully engage citizens using various social media platforms with great success. Join we today and hour about the successor of cities.	
3:00 P.M. to 4:15 P.M.	7. MANAGING YOUR PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT  Drainage control, pavement preservation, and traffic safety seem to be some of the biggest challenges of today's municipal public works departments. Today's speakers offer some ideas and suggestions.  Presiding: Mayor Darrell Kirby, Bay Speakers: Sarah Tamayo, Engineer IV AHTD T <sup>2</sup> John Mathis, Asst. State Maintenance Engineer, AHTD T <sup>2</sup> Mark Earl, Staff Hydraulic Engineer AHTD T <sup>2</sup>	IZARD ROOM, SCC	4:30 P.M. to 5:30 P.M.	us today and hear about the successes of cities and towns using social media. Also, pick up a few tips and tricks to better enhance your city's social media strategy.  Presiding: Mayor Bill Edwards, Centerton Speakers: Matt Burks, Media Specialist Benton Police Department Recorder/Treasurer Nanette Barnes, Avoca Ben Cline, Communications Director Rogers Whitnee Bullerwell, Director of Communications Arkansas Municipal League	POPE ROOM, SCC
4:15 P.M. to 4:30 P.M.	BREAK Soft drinks and coffee available in the Exhibit Hall.	GOVERNOR'S HALLS I - III, SCC		4. ANIMAL CONTROL  Establishing, maintaining and managing an animal control department is an ongoing	
4:30 P.M. to 5:30 P.M.	RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE  Each municipality has a designated representative who is a member of the Resolutions Committee.  Presiding: Mayor Doug Sprouse, Springdale First Vice President Arkansas Municipal League	GOVERNOR'S HALLS IV, SCC	4:30 P.M. to 5:30 P.M.	challenge for municipalities. What can you do to adopt some best practices for your animal control department?  Presiding: Alderman Dorothy Henderson, Warren Speaker: Edwin Creekmore, President Arkansas State Animal Control Association  The Exhibit Hall will close for the day.	CARAWAY ROOMS HII, SCC

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JUNE 2017

	DATE AT THE CONFESSIONIC MANICIONI	
6:15 P.M.	DINNER AT THE GOVERNOR'S MANSION  League members with reservations can board	
0:15 P.M. to	a bus to the Governor's Mansion starting at	ARKANSAS GOVERNOR'S
7:45 P.M.	5:45 p.m. at the Marriott.	MANSION
	Transportation provided by Garver	
6:15 P.M.	DINNER ON YOUR OWN	
to	Visit some of central Arkansas's finest	
8:00 P.M.	restaurants before returning for desserts and entertainment.	
	DESSERTS AND ENTERTAINMENT	
8:00 P.M.	Drop by and enjoy a fantastic reception that includes desserts and entertainment. Music by Kemistri featuring Nicky Parrish will be a thrill for Convention attendees.	
to 10:00 P.M.	Sponsored by: American Fidelity Assurance Company Crews & Associates Simmons Bank Post Winery, Veronica and Paul Post Little Rock Convention and Visitors Bureau	WALLY ALLEN BALLROOM, SCC
	FRIDAY - JUNE 16, 2017	
7:00 A.M.	REGISTRATION	OSAGE ROOM,
to NOON	(Be sure to download the League's meeting App onto your smart device. Search for "AML" in your App Store.)	SCC SCC
7:00 A.M.	EXHIBITS OPEN	
to 10:30 A.M.	(Exhibit Hall will close at 10:30 a.m. for the remainder of the Convention.)	GOVERNOR'S HALLS I - III, SCC
7:00 A.M.	BUFFET BREAKFAST	
to 8:45 A.M.		GOVERNOR'S HALLS I - III, SCC
••••	CONTINUING LEGAL EDUCATION	
8:15 A.M.	City attorneys will receive 12 hours of CLE credit for participation in two days of meetings.	LEAGUE HEADQUARTERS
	ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING	
8:45 A.M. to 10:00 A.M.	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 annual business meetings for the Municipal League Workers' Compensation Trust, Municipal Health Benefit Fund, Municipal Vehicle Program, and Municipal Property Program.	GOVERNOR'S HALL IV, SCC
	(Be sure to download the League's meeting App onto your smart device. Search for "AML" in your App Store.)	
	Presiding: Mayor Harry Brown, Stephens President Arkansas Municipal League	
10:00 A.M. to 10:15 A.M.	BREAK	GOVERNOR'S HALLS I - III, SCC
I VI I J AIIII		1

	GENERAL SESSION ECONOMIC AND BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT	
10:15 A.M.	This session will feature invited speakers with special knowledge on Amendment 97. What was the legislative intent? How do you go about preparing for a project? What traps should you avoid? Speakers explain.	GRAND
to NOON	Presiding: Mayor Doug Sprouse, Springdale First Vice President Arkansas Municipal League Speakers: Honorable Jim Hendren, State Senator District 2	BALLROOM SALON C, MH
	J. Shepherd Russell, III, Attorney Friday, Eldredge & Clark Mark Hayes, Director of Legal Services, Arkansas Municipal League	
	AWARDS AND NEW OFFICERS' LUNCHEON	
NOON to	Municipalities and individuals are honored for their many successes and contributions during the past year. The new League president and officers will be introduced to the Convention delegates.	GRAND BALLROOM SALONS
1:30 P.M.	Presiding: Mayor Harry Brown, Stephens President Arkansas Municipal League	A & B, MH
	Sponsored by: American Fidelity Assurance Company	

# CLE OFFERED DURING LEAGUE'S 83RD CONVENTION

Twelve (12) hours of continuing legal education (CLE) will be available for city attorneys who attend the 83rd Arkansas Municipal League Convention, June 14-16 at the Statehouse Convention Center in Little Rock. The Arkansas City Attorney's Association (ACAA) sponsors the CLE.

Van Buren City Attorney and the current ACAA President Candice Settle urges members to register for the convention as soon as possible.

The 12 hours will be offered June 15 and 16, and the tentative CLE agenda includes topics such as solicitation/panhandling ordinances, the role of the city attorney in civil rights lawsuits, medical marijuana, gun legislation, and a Supreme Court case update among other topics. Additionally, the program will include one hour of ethics.

Held in conjunction with the League's 83rd Convention, all CLE classes will be located at the League's headquarters in North Little Rock. CLE will begin at 8:15 a.m. Thursday, June 15. If you have not pre-registered, you may do so at the Statehouse Convention Center starting at 1 p.m. Wednesday, June 14. Registered city attorneys attending Thursday and Friday classes can pick up registration materials at League headquarters.

To attend the CLE program, registration is required. You may register online at http://tinyurl.com/AML83rd. For registration information, call Whitnee Bullerwell at (501) 374-3484, Ext. 206. For CLE information, call Mark Hayes (501) 978-6102 or Jamie Adams at (501) 978-6124.

#### - CITIES OF DISTINCTION HAS BECOME -

# TRENDSETTER CITY 2017











Purpose To recognize cities/towns of all sizes from around the state who are leaders in innovative programs for improvement and growth. Being a Trendsetter City speaks to the commitment by city leadership and its citizens, and creates a great economic development selling point.

# Winners will be recognized in the following categories

- · Public Safety
- · Infrastructure/Utilities/Water
- Education/Workforce Development
- Wellness and Fitness
- Tourism Development/Creative Culture
- Environmental/Green Management Practices

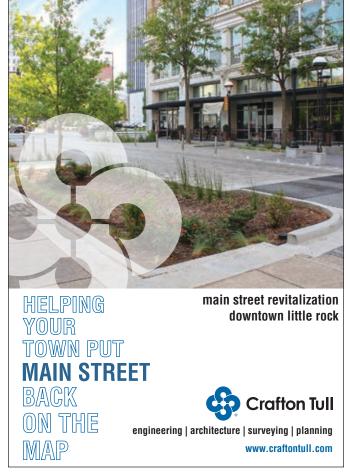
#### Three Population Categories to compete in:

Under 5,000 // Between 5,000 and 20,000 // More than 20,000



For more information contact Bonnie Jacoby at Bonnie@abpg.com or (501) 372-1443





# Why exercise is essential to manage stress and improve health

here are more certainties in life than just death and taxes, and stress is one of them.

Everyone has moments of stress in their lives, but we need to be mindful of what stress is doing to our bodies. Too much or uncontrolled stress can not only leave you feeling frustrated and anxious, but physically unhealthy as well. Given the impact stress can have on your body, both physically and emotionally, managing stress is a critical step to "Cooperizing" your life.

#### The science of stress

Stress has a physical impact on your body, according to Carla Sottovia, PhD, Director of Personal Training Education at Cooper Fitness Center. Stress can raise blood pressure and resting heart rate, increase cortisol levels and lead to weight gain.

"All those things combined or even each one separately could be a major cause of cardiovascular disease," Sottovia says. And, too much stress can affect your sleep, which can also plague you with health problems. Insufficient sleep can leave you groggy, cranky and lacking the energy you need to push you through your day. When you're overtired, you feel even less likely to work out and get your daily physical activity.

And if you're a type A personality—high-energy, controlling, fast-paced, high-stress—you're at an increased risk for suffering a heart attack or developing cardiovascular disease.

#### The danger of stress

"Stress is part of life," says Kenneth Cooper, MD, MPH, founder and chairman of Cooper Aerobics. Stress can increase your chance of suffering a heart attack and pose a serious threat to your health. But, "it's not stress that kills, it's the way you handle it," Cooper notes.

#### **Exercise as stress relief**

Cooper recommends exercise as the best way to manage stress—although other stress management techniques, such as meditation, can also help.

"I've been able to control stress in my life by exercising at the end of the day," he adds.

Sottovia seconds the importance of exercise in managing stress.

"If you can push yourself out of the vicious cycle of stress, fatigue and inactivity, you'll find that exercise is one of the best remedies for stress," Sottovia says.

Walk, run, bike, or do yoga—whatever you enjoy to burn off stress and get your endorphins going to help yourself feel better. Don't let fretting about exercise become yet another daily stressor—make it something that you look forward to. You can also treat yourself to some soothing music, practice guided imagery, or spend some quiet time relaxing in nature to help relieve stress.

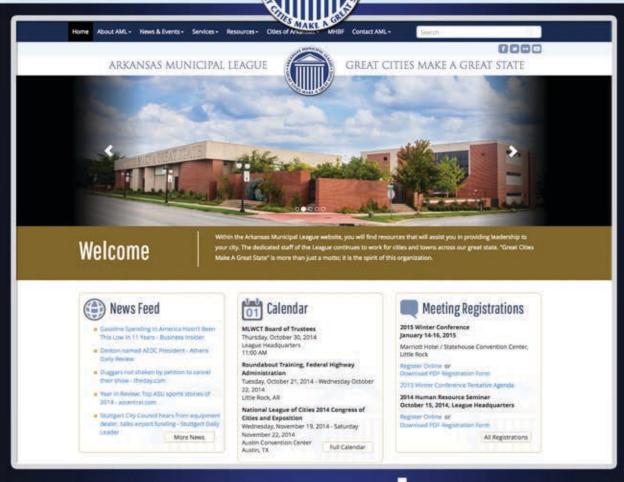
Once you push yourself to exercise, your mind and body will start to feel better. With regular exercise, you may find that your blood pressure and resting heart rate improve, you lose weight and have more energy.

To manage stress, it's important "to find that balance in work and family," Sottovia says. "When you focus just on one thing, everything else gets neglected."

This article was published originally by the Cooper Aerobics Institute, www.cooperaerobics.com, and is reprinted with permission.



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



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**Great Cities Make a Great State!** 

# Density: friend or foe?

By Jim von Tungeln

ike the fabled group of blind individuals describing an elephant, many of those involved in urban planning will respond to the word "density" according to their personal experiences, knowledge, and beliefs. Worse, some will respond without considering any of those.

We're talking here of residential densities. Many urban planners support higher ones in the belief that it supports diversity, efficient delivery of municipal services, neighborhood amenities, and mass transit. They argue in favor.

Some neighbors, on the other hand, see high-density development—usually in the form of apartments—as the source of problems, such as congestion, disorder, and social ills.

Oddly it hasn't been so many decades ago that serious urban planners equated high densities with overcrowding that could, in turn, lead to various social problems. They based this belief on the behavior of white mice when placed in strange and overcrowded conditions. It was true that some situations, such as early attempts at public housing, did contribute to social disorder. Here, poor families from the rural south, where open space was plentiful, and indoor plumbing unheard of, were crammed into high-rise apartments in urban settings.

This experience went down with a bang. Literally. Later research, though, found that humans are not white mice.

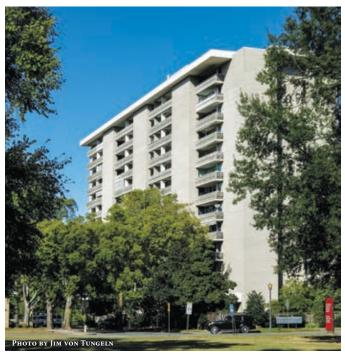
In 1975, Jonathan L. Freedman wrote a book entitled *Crowding and Behavior: The Psychology of High-Density Living.* He used students for study and concluded that crowding does not generally have negative effects on people. He further concluded that crowding, or high density, can have either good or bad effects depending on the situation. In other words, living in a high-density environment may simply amplify what natural psychological tendencies a person already has. He also pointed out that areas such as the Park Avenue neighborhood of New York City, had high densities with almost no internal social ills.

If we may accept for the moment, therefore, that density is simply a measurement of dwelling units per a given space, let's look at the implications for planning in our state.

First let us look at the unincorporated areas. A century ago, these housed farmers, farm laborers, those who supported farmers, the elderly, and other retirees. With the growth of automobile traffic, the residents began to include homeowners who chose to live outside the corporate limits of a city. As rural water associations proliferated, so did rural subdivisions, often near the corporate limits of most cities. Without sewer service, these were limited to one unit per one acre, minimum.



Where high density didn't work: the end of the Pruitt-Igoe public housing project in St Louis.



Where high density does work: Quapaw Tower Condominiums in Little Rock.

Moving into the city, some densities remained low either in high-income areas or areas where sewer service wasn't available. Generally, though, urban densities were once higher than those to which we are now accustomed. Railroad surveyors platted many cities that were located along rail lines. They often platted lots at 25-feet wide, a standard to which they were accustomed.

As a result, it became common practice in our older central cities for individual lots to represent two of the original ones, resulting in platted additions with 50-foot lots. One such area is my old neighborhood in Little Rock's famous Quapaw Quarter area. It is Fulton's addition, located along Broadway south of I-630. Ironically now, it was considered, according to a member of one of its original families, as "out in the country" when first developed.

With 12 lots platted on each block, the density of such neighborhoods could reach six units per acre, although it was common for lots to be fully or partially combined to lower this figure. In larger urban areas such as Chicago, where vacant land was more valuable, single-family developments could reach nine units per acre or higher.

Levittown, New York, represents the first "mass-produced" subdivisions in modern America. Built no doubt to take advantage of the GI Bill's assistance to veteran homebuyers, the planned community accommodated around five units per acre. These could be purchased by (Caucasian) veterans for as little as \$400.00 in up-front costs. This development set the stage for subdivisions all over the country offering homes of 800 square feet or less.

Since the 1960s in our state, modern single-family subdivisions, aimed at attracting upper middle-class prospects, have hovered in density between two and four units per acre. Some call it sprawl, but the density is still far greater than one finds in most extra-urban developments. When apartments, condominiums, and planned unit developments are added to the mix, urban densities can result in much greater efficiency in providing public services. At the same time, the "Strong Towns" movement is promoting more attention to the life-cycle costs of new developments.

A discussion of multi-family developments moves us into the range of urban densities on a scale unknown to most Arkansans. As a general norm, most of our cities anticipate multi-family developments of no more than 20 to 30 units per acre. This standard allows for the familiar "garden apartments."

Larger cities in the country see much higher densities. Cities as diverse as Portland, Oregon, and San Francisco (perhaps our most beloved city) have neighborhoods of between 150 and 200 units per acre. Of course, New York leads the density race



In a gentler age: the South Broadway area of Little Rock's Fulton Addition. The author later occupied the second house from the right.

with neighborhoods with densities approaching 300 units per acre.

Locally, the author's urban home in Little Rock may exist in the highest density project in our state. With 144 units on perhaps two acres of land, this 13-story highrise reaches a density of nearly 70 units per acre. Urban ills? We had a drug-induced family tragedy about 20 years ago and a burglary about five years ago—and they do allow an urban planner to live there. The most recent "dust-up" involved someone spreading crumbs from a cake left in the building's Hospitality Room. The reader may contemplate at will upon whether the last two items are related. At any rate, the place is hardly a poster child for urban blight.

What does the future hold? As stated in a previous column, predictions are hard, especially when they involve the future. (No, not Yogi Berra, but your author.) Given the increasing cost of land and infrastructure, we might do well, though, to assume that future urban development may occur at higher and higher densities.

And what conclusions may we reach from all this? First, we should accept that density is not our enemy, but rather a tool in urban development. The tendency in recent years has been for cities to accommodate various levels of density in a more or less organized fashion. The research shows that good design, and not high density, promotes stable neighborhoods.

Next, though we may think that some levels of urban densities create the phenomenon of sprawl, those densities are far more efficient than unplanned rural densities.

Finally, if a city is in a growth pattern, and leaders expect it to grow in population, planning should be proactive and not reactive. While a portion of such growth may be absorbed by redevelopment at higher densities, and use of existing vacant land, expansion of corporate limits—annexation—must account for the rest.

What leaders of such communities must consider is what they will inherit, in the form of unplanned development, when growth does occur.



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.

# Summaries of Attorney General Opinions

Recent opinions that affect municipal government in Arkansas

From the Office of Attorney General Leslie Rutledge

## City ordinances can't contradict state law

Opinion: 2017-033

Requestor: James Sturch, State Representative
May a city submit a proposed ordinance to the voters
to require that any future tax to be imposed by the
city—whether a new tax or an extension or increase of
an existing tax—must be approved by a two-thirds vote
at an election on the tax? RESPONSE: A two-thirds vote
requirement under such an ordinance is contrary to both
Ark. Code Ann. 14-55-301 and a number of statutes and
constitutional provisions that require a majority vote
for passage of particular city taxes. Because a city cannot
pass any laws contrary to the general laws of the state,
the proposed ordinance would be unconstitutional in the
face of these state laws.

# Issue 3 authority may extend to agencies within the municipal corporation

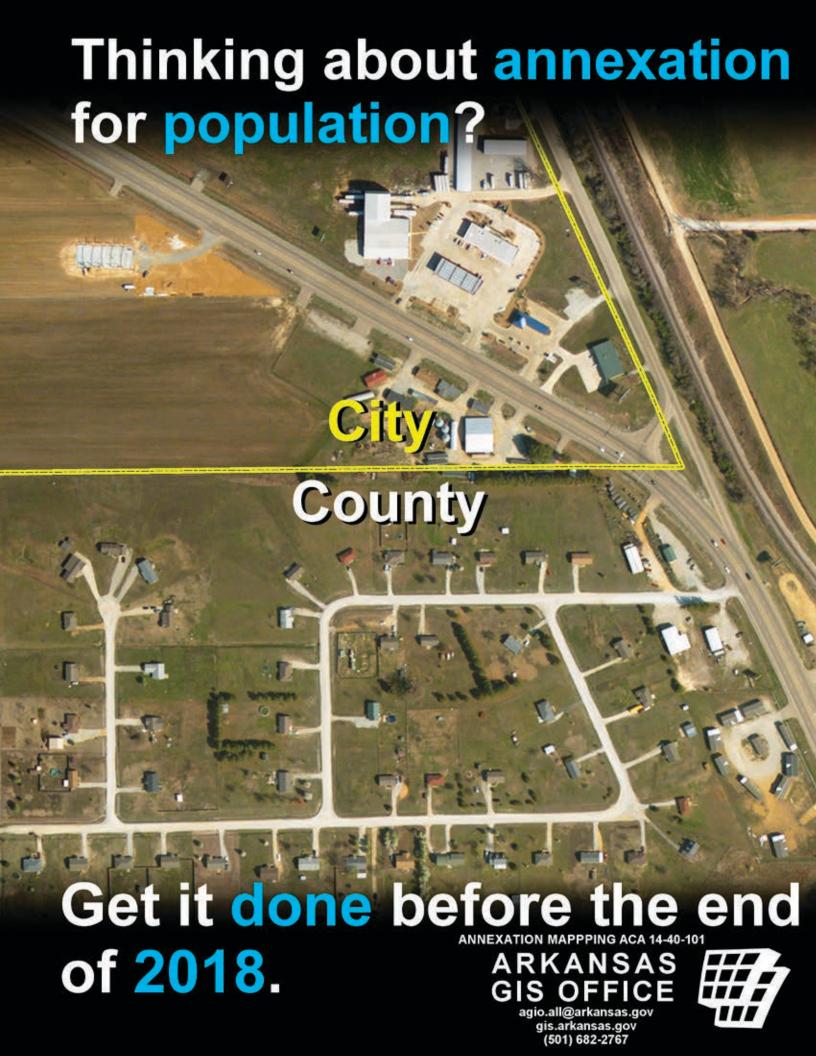
Opinion: 2017-003

Requestors: Jane English, State Senator; Bob Johnson, State Representative

Article 12, section 5 of the Arkansas Constitution, as amended by Issue 3 at the 2016 General Election, provides that a county, city, town, or other municipal corporation may obtain or appropriate money for a corporation, association, institution, or individual to finance economic development projects or provide economic development services. Does this language

permit an entity funded by city revenues such as a museum or an Advertising and Promotion Commission to obtain or appropriate money to a corporation, association, institution, or individual for the purpose of financing economic development projects or providing economic development services? Q2) If the answer to question 1 is "no," may the General Assembly amend subsection (b) of art. 12, Sec. 5 with a 3/4 vote under subsection (d) of art. 12, Sec. 5, to permit an entity funded by city revenues to obtain or appropriate money to a corporation, association, institution, or individual for the purpose of financing economic development projects or providing economic development services? RESPONSE: Q1) In my opinion, a municipal corporation's authority under Ark. Const. art. 12, Sec. 5(b) to obtain or appropriate money for economic development projects or services extends, as a general matter, to a local governmental agency that serves as an arm of the municipal corporation. The question will remain, however, whether financing economic development projects or providing economic development services (as those projects and services are defined by art. 12, Sec. 5(b)), is a proper function of a particular governmental agency, or a proper use of any funds that may be credited to or used by the agency. The answer to the latter question will depend upon both the project or services to be funded and any statutes or other governing authority pertaining to the local governmental agency. I therefore cannot answer this question as regards any particular entity. Q2) This question is moot in light of the above response.

NOTE: The Attorney General's website has been redesigned. To find and read full Attorney General opinions online, go to www.arkansasag.gov/arkansas-lawyer/opinions-department/opinions-search.



# AMD a leading cause of vision loss as we age

By Sami Uwaydat, M.D.

ike the rest of our five senses, our vision is something we use and rely on daily. However, as we age, it seems our body slowly decides not to function as well as it did when we were younger. And often we don't really think about our vision until something is wrong.

One of those eye conditions to be on the lookout for is age-related macular degeneration, or AMD. If you're like most, you are probably saying, "What is AMD?" Simply put, it's a common eye condition that is also the leading cause of vision loss in people age 50 and older. It affects 1.75 million Americans and the numbers are expected to rise as our population grows older. By 2020, the number affected could reach 3 million.

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

### Wet or dry

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

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

Wet AMD occurs when vessels grow under the retina. These vessels can leak fluid or bleed, which causes people to see black spots in the center of their vision or experience distorted vision. The only treatment is injection of medicine in the eye. This helps the vessels shrink and improves vision. However, the vessels do not disappear and injections must be done monthly.

### Age, smoking biggest risk factors

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

There are ways to help prevent AMD, including regular exercise and a healthy diet rich in green, leafy vegetables and fish. Exercise keeps you in good shape, which can reduce factors associated with AMD like obesity, high blood pressure, and diabetes. Eating veggies and fish gives you the antioxidants, vitamins, and Omega-3 fatty acids that help fight the aging of the eye. Fruits, such as blueberries, kiwi, grapes, and avocados, as well as nuts, are also suggested. Over-the-counter vitamins may help if you cannot adopt a healthier diet.

### Get a yearly eye exam

A condition like AMD helps remind us of the importance of a regular eye exam. These yearly, routine examinations allow an ophthalmologist to detect AMD in its early stages and make treatment more productive.

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

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



Sami Uwaydat, M.D., is Assistant Professor and Director of the Retina Service, Department of Ophthalmology in the College of Medicine, University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences.







# Radio system keeps state's airports connected during emergencies

By Jennifer Thompson

taken place across our great state that brought with them devastating flooding events, we at MCE felt it was a great opportunity to discuss a recently created program in Arkansas named the AAOA (Arkansas Airport Operators Association) Disaster Recovery Program. The mission of the Disaster Recovery Program, which was started by Texarkana Regional Airport Director Mark Mellinger, is to assist airports that have been damaged as a result of a disaster, both natural and man-made. The goal of the program is to get Arkansas airports operational as soon as possible following a disaster-type situation in order to maintain or provide service to the local communities.

The Disaster Recovery Program is a system of twoway radios, designed by Mellinger, that have some slight differences from police and fire radio systems to make them specific to Arkansas airports. Mellinger said the idea for the system came from the Arkansas Department of Emergency Management (ADEM) and its desire to put together a disaster plan for situations exactly like the flooding Pocahontas experienced just weeks ago, or in case a disaster like the long-predicted New Madrid earthquake were to happen.

In these types of disaster situations, airports could potentially be called upon to receive disaster relief supplies and/or evacuate the local population. Additionally, some Arkansas airports are part of the Arkansas Air Operators Plan, which outlines how the state would/should respond events like a major earthquake.

The first phase of the AAOA Disaster Recovery Program was the establishment of the AAOA Emergency Communication Network. According to Mellinger, this allowed key airports in Arkansas to be linked together with a communication system that was reliable and had a redundant backup. Airports can not only call for help with this system, they can also coordinate proper responses and teams within AAOA and other state and federal agencies. Also, as part of the Air Ops plan, airports would be asked to give assessment reports via the communication network.

Two legs make up the emergency communications network, the first of which is the Arkansas Wireless Information Network (AWIN). With the assistance of a grant from the Arkansas Department of Aeronautics

(ADA), AAOA was able to purchase a number of portable AWIN radios and deploy them throughout the state.

"The system relies upon an AWIN system, which is a state-wide system with airport channels included in it for these types of disaster situations," Mellinger said.

AWIN is a 700/800 MHz radio system that is operated by the State of Arkansas, providing voice communications statewide through a network of radio repeaters and microwave links. The system is a digital statewide radio system, operated by the Arkansas Department of Information Systems. It consists of numerous radio repeater towers and microwave links deployed throughout the state. Almost all state agencies, as well as a number of the larger cities and counties in the state use the system. It performs like a cell phone by roaming from one tower to the next. With a portable AWIN radio, Mellinger said he can sit in his office in Texarkana and talk with the West Memphis Airport and its operators strictly through this system.

"The AWIN system provides very clear communication," he said. "Every Wednesday at 9:30 a.m., we try to have a radio net to exercise the system. The AWIN radios at Little Rock and Northwest Arkansas are base stations setup in their respective communication centers."

He added, "Twenty AWIN-capable radios have been deployed to the following airports: West Memphis, Monticello, ADA, Walnut Ridge, Batesville, Mountain Home, Russellville, Pine Bluff, Texarkana, Fayetteville, Stuttgart, Little Rock, Searcy, Jonesboro, Newport, Harrison, Conway, Hot Springs, Fort Smith and the Northwest Arkansas Regional Airport (XNA)."

The second leg of the Emergency Communication Network is a High Frequency (HF) radio Automatic Link Establishment (ALE) network. HF radio does not rely on any infrastructure other than electric power. It is simply a radio-to-radio system. By using a technology called Near Vertical Incidence Skywave (NVIS) the radio can reliably communicate statewide. Also, ALE makes the actual operation of the radio very easy. The same ADA grant that the AAOA received for the AWIN radios was also used to purchase the HF equipment.

The HF radios are not amateur (Ham) radios. They are commercial-grade, ruggedized HF radios that are much easier to use. With the NVIS technology, the radio signal is transmitted straight up in the air until it

reaches the upper atmosphere (or Ionosphere), where it is reflected back down in an umbrella shaped pattern. The size of this umbrella can be as big as the state of Arkansas.

Normally, HF signals are transmitted at a much lower angle, toward the horizon, allowing for long distance communication. However, this creates a dead/skip zone near the transmitter. The NVIS signal does not have this dead area, or any other low-coverage areas such as in a valley or behind a mountain. This signal is created without the use of repeater towers.

The ionization of the upper atmosphere is what allows this to happen. Every day, the sun shines on the upper atmosphere and ionizes the particles there. The degree of ionization is dependent on what is happening on the sun's surface, i.e. solar storms, sunspots, etc. What frequencies are reflected back, and what frequencies pass through, are dependent on the degree of ionization. This can change by the hour sometimes, Mellinger said. This is where the ALE comes in. ALE automatically determines which frequency to use and then establishes a link between two radios. The operator simply has to push a few buttons on the radio and he/she will be talking to the airport being called in a matter of seconds.

The Airport HF network also has the ability to send emails over the air.

"For example," Mellinger said, "if a disaster in Arkansas disables the Internet in a specific area, say the Little Rock area, the Little Rock Airport can send an email over the air to another HF radio in Texarkana, where the Internet still works. Texarkana will have an Internet gateway station which allows emails received by radio to be forwarded via the Internet to their final destination(s). The ability to send small files and have access to chat functions are also included.

"Currently four HF radios with voice and data capability are deployed to the following airports: Texarkana, XNA, Hot Springs and Little Rock (not yet in place)," Mellinger said. "Future deployments include the following: Pine Bluff, Newport, National Guard Joint Operations Center, TXK HF Phone Patch, West Memphis, Walnut Ridge and the Little Rock Air Force Base."

The HF radios are designed to be a backup for AWIN. These radios do not have any existing infrastructure requirements to work properly. It is simply a

radio-to-radio system that does not use any repeaters or relay links. This HF use is normally difficult to obtain. However, Mellinger was able to apply for a Federal Communications Commission (FCC) license for specific frequencies between three and 10 MHz.

Though the build out of this system is close to being finished, a few elements are still required for the system to be complete. Mellinger said, for the system to be exhaustive, he still needs to procure six additional radios (at \$25,000 each), and an HF phone patch (at \$14,000).



Jennifer Thompson is the Marketing Coordinator for McClelland Consulting Engineers, Inc. in Fayetteville. Contact Jennifer at jthompson@mce.us.com.





Restoring the landmark Hotel Pines in downtown Pine Bluff is one of the first priorities of Pine Bluff Rising, a nonprofit group aiming to combat blight in the city.

# Group organizes to fight blight in Pine Bluff

By Shelby Fiegel

rkansas may be known as The Natural State and filled to the brim with natural wonders, but many Arkansas cities and towns struggle with a not-so-pleasant issue that tends to put a stain on our otherwise beautiful communities: blight. Blight is an issue in even the most successful communities and can be a persistent problem. For most cities, blight ranks among the top community and economic development issues, and local leaders are at a loss on how to combat it.

One Arkansas city recognized blight as a top issue in its revitalization efforts. In Pine Bluff a group has organized called Pine Bluff Rising to address this issue,

among others. Pine Bluff Rising is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit established by citizens who are committed to instituting positive change. Community leaders Caleb McMahon, director of economic development at the Jefferson County Alliance; Tom Reilley, founder of Highland Pellets; William Carpenter, senior vice president of Energy Security Partners; and Dr. Ryan Watley, University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff professor, assistant director of development for athletics, and CEO of Go Forward Pine Bluff, shared a vision for their community and banded together to kick start Pine Bluff Rising to raise money to achieve community goals and generate citizen buy-in.



The historic downtown area was hit hard by economic downturns in the 1980s and 1990s and by population decline. Downtown Pine Bluff now consists of dilapidated buildings and blight with approximately an occupancy rate of just 10-20 percent. Pine Bluff Rising has pinpointed this area as a focal point for their efforts.

McMahon explained that the group believes the heart of downtown is focused around the Hotel Pines, a Pine Bluff landmark that was an economic driver from 1903 until it was shut down in early 1970s, but is now an eye sore. Knowing that restoring the Hotel Pines to its former glory could be a shot in the arm for the community, specifically downtown, Pine Bluff Rising has recently purchased the building and is currently seeking information on remodeling it.

Watley said, "The best approach to combat blight within a community is to ensure the community's code is enforced. When codes are not effectively controlling blight, an executable plan for repurposing property in correlation with sound economic develop offers a great opportunity to gather the necessary resources to bring that plan to fruition. Pine Bluff Rising envisions the Hotel Pines not only serving as a point of destination for tourists, but intertwining unique opportunities for workers with its dynamic hospitality services."

Along with ensuring code is enforced, McMahon said that communities who want to combat blight must use a multi-faceted approach. In every community,

especially rural cities, needs are vast so leaders must be prepared to complete projects as opportunity arises. Also, cities must research and take advantage of state, federal, and private resources. Cities can utilize historic tax credits, work with groups such as Arkansas Capital, Department of Arkansas Heritage, and the Delta Regional Authority, and apply for grants. Cities can also utilize unique resources within the community. Find citizens and local groups who will take on projects. To combat community issues effectively, citizens play a vital role in accomplishing local goals.

"People are the greatest resource in Pine Bluff," Carpenter said. "One of our goals at Pine Bluff Rising is to engage people in the process of community revitalization and empower them to realize positive change in their neighborhoods. When milestones are achieved, we also celebrate and share that success with the entire community."

"Every person, family unit and business is part of the ecosystem of their community," Reilley said. "Giving back implies that you have taken something and there is a zero sum game that needs balancing. Leadership exists in every one of us and examples of service by our youth to our business leaders are all critical elements to a healthy society. If you value your community and your fellow man then offering service is not a choice, it is an obligation."

Finally, every community must gather around a plan and a shared vision to be successful. In Pine Bluff, the community has adopted the Go Forward Pine Bluff strategic plan, and though Pine Bluff Rising is not a direct affiliate of the plan, the group plans on following the vision that has been outlined in it.



To follow Pine Bluff Rising's journey and for more information about the group, you can follow them on Facebook at www.facebook.com/PineBluffRising or on Twitter at @PineBluffRising.



Shelby Fiegel is assistant director of the Center for Community and Economic Development at the University of Central Arkansas. Contact Shelby at sfiegel@uca.edu or visit the Center's website at www.uca.edu/cced.

# TEWSLETTER

**JUNE 2017** 

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

## The dangers of opioids

here has been a huge increase in media attention concerning opioid drugs, and this information is important to know. This class of drugs has some important uses in medicine; however, the abuse or illegal use of opioid drugs can be deadly.

Drugs in the workplace are a problem. In the employee hiring process, it has been noted that workers having three or more jobs in the past five years are about twice as likely to be current or past year users of illicit drugs compared with those that have had two or fewer jobs. Since 70 percent of the estimated 14.8 million Americans who use illegal drugs are employed, the problem of drug abuse is of critical concern. Marijuana is the most prevalent abused illegal drug, followed by opiates, cocaine, and amphetamines. With opiates standing in second place in the list of abused drugs, this class of drugs is dangerous in the workplace.

The primary use of an opioid medication is pain control, and the effects are mostly pleasurable. Opioid drugs also may produce observable behaviors. Some effects of the drug are unpleasant: shaking, nausea, constipation, diarrhea, cramps, slurred speech, confusion, slowed reflexes, poor concentration, and sleepiness. Most of these effects would be difficult to manage at work. Other effects that may occur include euphoria, drowsiness, respiratory depression, and psychological dependence. Opioid drugs are highly addictive.

Knowing the common names of the medications that are opiates is important. These include morphine, codeine, oxycodone and hydrocodone, and hydromorphone. Long-acting opioid drugs include morphine, hydromorphone, oxycodone, and fentanyl. Some brand names of opioid drugs include: Roxanol, OxyR, Oxyfast. Endocondone, Percoset, Tylox, Endocet, Roxicet, Roxilox, Vicodin, Lorcet, Lortab, Zydone, Hydrocet, Norco, Dilaudid, Hydrostat, MSContin, and the Duragesic patch.

Treatment for opioid abuse is very difficult and involves methadone, an opioid drug. It is used for pain management and maintenance therapy for addiction. Methadone is a slow-acting opiate and it also can be abused.

In an emergency situation when a person has stopped breathing due to an opioid overdose, Naloxone (Narcan) is used. It blocks the effects of opioids.

Opiate medications detected on a drug test include: morphine, codeine, oxycodone, and hydromorphone. These drugs are narcotic analgesics. Illegal opiates are heroin, cocaine, and crack, and they will be detected on a drug test. Narcotic drugs may be swallowed, smoked, or injected. The detection time in urine drug testing is up to three days. Opiates appear in several forms, including white, brown, or black powder; injectable liquids; or tablets and capsules in various sizes and colors.

Employers are finding an increased number of employees using opioid drugs at work. The cost impact to a workplace from impaired employees will show in absenteeism, poor work performance, confusion, excessive medical use, and accidents with injuries (to themselves or others). The bottom line is this: Drug use or abuse at work is costly.

Opioid abuse has become a national concern with discussions on how to control the epidemic and how to increase the availability of treatment. A solution is warranted and there is a need to keep this topic on the "urgent list." Treatment facilities are limited and costs for treatment continue to escalate. The opioid addiction treatment problem is further complicated by the fact the addiction cycle is hard to break and the recidivism rate is high.

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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# Urban Forest Strike Team ready to assist post-disaster

By Alison Litchy

wenty-three foresters from nine southern states participated recently in a mock disaster exercise. The participants are task specialists, trained to provide disaster assistance, risk assessment, and Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Public Assistance information to communities following natural disasters.

The Urban Forest Strike Team (UFST) is a disaster response and recovery project initiated in 2007 by the Urban & Community Forestry Programs in Virginia and North Carolina and is supported by the Southern Group of State Foresters. UFST has responded to more than 11 disasters in 11 states in the eastern U.S. Local communities, FEMA regional debris managers, and disaster management consultants have directly benefited from UFST assessments, data collection, and risk/damage reports developed for their use within FEMA Public Assistance. This most recent training was in Mobile, Ala. The training took place where Alabama Forestry Commission and Alabama Office of Emergency Management worked together on Mock Hurricane Alex.



Members of the regional Urban Forestry Strike Team collect information about trees in a Mobile, Alabama, park during a mock emergency exercise.

The UFST assesses public trees after a disaster. The team recommends which trees to keep, prune, or remove. Seven public urban areas were selected for this disaster training. The teams are divided into five different crews, team leaders, and tech support. First thing in the morning the crews of two or three are sent to the

"priority" areas that are most affected by the hurricane. With no damaged trees (because it is a mock disaster), the crews will walk to a specific tree, record species, diameter, and assess the damage based on a series of photos of a damaged tree of a similar size.

It has been a few years since a UFST deployment to a disaster has been made. Because there has not been a recent large natural disaster, there are task specialists with the training but none of the field experience. These mock disasters keep task specialists trained and ready for a real deployment.

Communities receive a list of priority trees as a result of the assessment. Priority trees are the ones with this highest risk rating.

"It might be years before municipalities could actually get to those trees, and there would be a risk of harm to people who utilize the parks," said Gretchen Riley, a task specialist with Texas A&M Forest Service.

Because of the assessment, communities with limited resources know what they need to focus on first after a storm event.

During our mock disaster training, 524 trees were inventoried. Data collected at each tree includes: public or private tree, species, diameter, tree part (what is damaged), FEMA guide (remove or prune), likelihood of failure, likelihood of impact, consequence of failure, mitigation, pre-storm defects, hangers (attached broken limbs), and additional notes for that tree. This information together can give the community a good evaluation of the overall health and the risk rating that a specific tree has. The results are instant and immediately shareable. They are collected using the computer application Collector by GIS on tablets or other smart devices. This is then added to a web map on GIS online. This creates a shareable link that the community can reference.

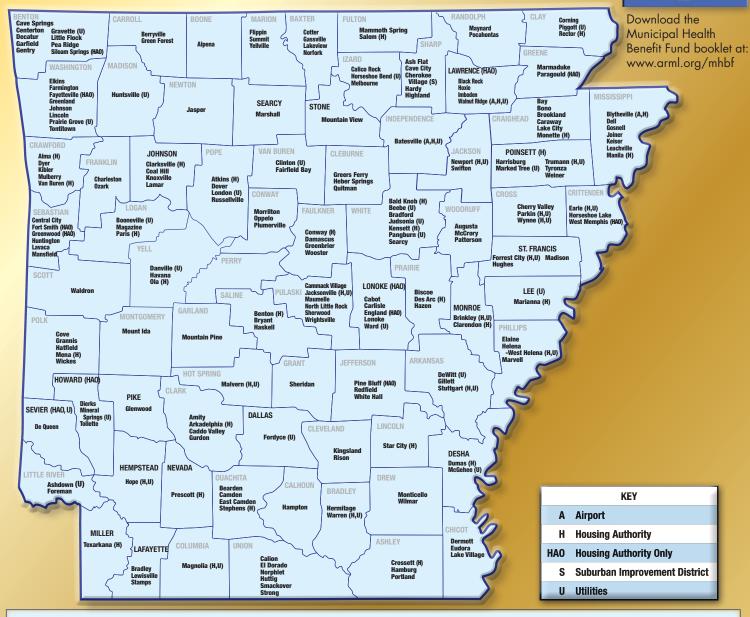
We also gathered additional information during the training, such as the average diameter off all trees inventoried (19 inches). The three most common species collected were longleaf pine, loblolly pine, and water oak.

For more information on the strike team visit the website: ufst.org.



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

# Check out the Municipal Health Benefit Fund. MHBF provides coverage to 406 entities. And that number is growing! For further information, call (501) 978-6137.



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Boston Mountain Solid Waste Prairie Grove
Central Arkansas Planning & Development District Lonoke
Eighth Judicial Drug Task Force De Queen
Fifth Judicial District Prosecuting Attorney Russellville
Fifth Judicial District Russellville
Gillham Lake Regional Water AssociationGillham
Grand Prairie/Bayou Two WaterLonoke and Prairie Counties
Holiday Island Suburban Improvement District Carroll County
Ladd Water Users Association
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#### Other Municipal Entities Covered by MHBF

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Local Police & Fire Retirement System Little	Rock
Magnolia Regional Medical Center Mag	nolia
Mena Regional Health System	<b>V</b> lena
Montgomery County Nursing Home Moun	ıt Ida
NE AR Region Solid Waste Management District Parag	jould
North Little Rock - Library North Little	Rock
North Little Rock - Sewer/Waste Water North Little	Rock
Northeast Public Water	lome
Northwest AR Conservation AuthorityRo	gers
Northwest AR Economic Development DistrictHar	rison
Ozark Mountain Regional Public WaterDiamond	City
Ozark Regional Transit	zark

Piggott Community HospitalPiggott
Regional Recycling & Waste Reduction District . Pulaski County
SE AR Economic Development District Pine Bluff
Sevier County Water Association De Queen
Third Judicial District Drug Task ForceJackson County
Thirteenth Judicial District Drug Task Force Camden
Upper SW Regional Solid Waste Management District . Nashville
Waldron Housing Authority
White River Regional Housing Melbourne
Yorktown Water Association

Municipal Health Benefit Fund

# MHBF Tips: June is National Safety Month

njuries are a leading cause of disability for people of all ages, and they are the leading cause of death for Americans ages one to 44.1 However, there are many things that you can do to keep you and your family safe. Everyone can get involved to help prevent injuries.

This June, the Municipal Health Benefit Fund encourages you to learn more about important safety issues like prescription painkiller abuse, transportation safety, and slips, trips, and falls. The health and safety of you and your family should be a priority every day. Developing habits to ensure your safety could prevent you or a loved one from being hurt.

Prescription painkillers are opioid medications used to manage pain of moderate to high severity. They can be safe and beneficial if taken as prescribed, but when they are misused they have powerful addictive potential and can cause dangerous depressant effects. Prescription drug abuse has become a national health concern because after marijuana and alcohol, prescription drugs are the most commonly abused substances by Americans age 14 and older. To protect yourself and your family, make sure that you take medications only as prescribed. Do not share your medication with others. Properly store prescription medications to ensure that they are out of reach of children and others. In addition, make sure that you dispose of medications appropriately. While this may not be a traditional "safety" issue, the misuse of prescription painkillers has become a national epidemic and deserves attention.

Another safe practice is to always wear your seatbelt. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, motor vehicle crashes are a leading cause of death among those aged one to 54 in the U.S. Statistics from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration demonstrate that more than half of teens and adults that died in crashes in 2014 were unrestrained at the time of the crash. Make wearing a seatbelt a habit, no matter how short the trip. Make sure children are properly buckled in a car seat, booster seat, or seat belt, whichever is appropriate for their age, height, and weight. All children age 12 and under should sit properly buckled in the back seat, and never place a rear-facing child safety seat in front of an air bag. You are your family are worth the extra second that it takes to properly fasten your seat belt.



Each day in the United States, over eight people are killed and 1,161 injured in crashes that are reported to involve a distracted driver.<sup>2</sup> Distracted driving is driving while doing another activity that takes your attention away from driving. There are three main types of distraction:

- Visual: taking your eyes off the road;
- Manual: taking your hands off the wheel; and
- Cognitive: taking your mind off driving.

Distracted driving activities include using a cell phone, texting, eating, and smoking. Texting while driving is especially dangerous because it combines all three types of distraction. Please take every precaution to protect you and your passengers, as well as others on the road. Distractions can wait until you safely reach your destination.

Every day, 28 people in the United States die in motor vehicle crashes that involve an alcohol-impaired driver. This amounts to one death every 53 minutes.<sup>3</sup> Don't become a statistic. Before drinking, designate a non-drinking driver when with a group. Don't let your

The National Safety Council. June 2016 Toolkit – National Safety Month.

National Center for Statistics and Analysis, Distracting Driving: 2013 Data in Traffic Safety Research Notes. DOT HS 812 132. April 2015, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration: Washington, D.C.

<sup>3</sup> Department of Transportation (US), National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA). Traffic Safety Facts 2014 data: alcohol-impaired driving. Washington, D.C.: NHTSA; 2015 [cited 2016 Feb 5].

friends drive impaired. If you have been drinking or are impaired in any way, get a ride home or call a taxi. If you're hosting a party where alcohol will be served, remind your guests to plan ahead and designate their sober driver; offer alcohol-fee beverages, and make sure all guests leave with a sober driver.

While only one percent off all trips taken in the U.S. are by bicycle, bicyclists face a higher risk of crash-related injury and deaths than occupants of motor vehicles do.<sup>4</sup> Bicycle helmets reduce the risk of head and brain injuries in the event of a crash. If you are a bicyclist, wearing fluorescent clothing can make you more visible from further away both during the day and at night. Active lighting including front white lights, rear red lights, or other lighting on your bicycle may improve your visibility and prevent accidents. It is important when you are riding your bicycle that you obey traffic laws and ride in bicycle lanes where available. Teaching your children these important guidelines will ensure their safety as well.

A slip, trip or fall at work or home can lead to injuries. To help prevent slips and trips, following are some simple steps you can take:

- Clean up spills immediately;
- Keep walkways and hallways free of debris, clutter and obstacles:
- Close cabinets and drawers when not in use;
- Make sure that you home and workplace are properly lighted; and
- Pay attention to your surroundings.

There are so many safety topics that they cannot be covered in this small space. The most important thing to remember is that most accidents and injuries can be prevented by taking a few simple precautions. Make your safety and the safety of your family a high priority. You can learn more by going to the National Safety Council's website, www.nsc.org.

# Are Your Bad Debt Accounts Adding Up?

Having No Success With Collection Agencies...

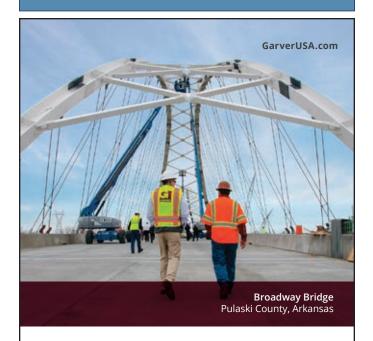
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Beck LF, Dellinger AM, O'Neil ME. Motor vehicle crash injury rates by mode of travel, United States: using exposure-based methods to quantify differences. AM J Epi 2007; 166:212-8.



# Race for Cure debuts to huge crowd in Jonesboro

ONESBORO—Candyce Cooper was speaking with a friend just beyond the starting line of the inaugural Susan G. Komen Northeast Arkansas Race for the Cure. First runners, then walkers, came streaming by. Minute after minute after minute. Those at the front made the turn on the footpath outside the Arkansas State University football stadium, headed toward the Convocation Center and out of sight, but more were just getting started.

"You don't think about what the numbers will look like when you're planning the details," said Cooper, the Jonesboro-based race director. "But I had no idea how far back the line went. I told my friend, 'I'm going to need a minute,' and I cried for about 30 seconds.""

Cooper worked with a team of more than 100 volunteers for more than half a year to stage the first Race for the Cure in Jonesboro on May 6. At one time, the group had hoped to draw 1,500 participants, said committee member Amanda Herget, of Jonesboro. But when more than 4,200 showed up on a crisp but sunny Saturday morning, the hard work of volunteer leaders was validated.

"The beautiful part to me was seeing everybody in the community step up," Herget said. "This was the largest 5K event ever in Jonesboro. I think we had 450 one time."

People came from around the 12-county region.

"Paragould, Wynne, Newport and Cherokee Village really stepped up," Herget said. "It was way beyond our expectation."

Even two weeks before fundraising closed on June 5, the race had grossed more than \$405,000. More than \$100,000 of that was raised by participants.

"Especially for a first-time event, this was an almost flawless race," said Sherrye McBride, executive director of the Susan G. Komen Arkansas affiliate in Little Rock. "One of what we consider the biggest successes was how well this committee worked as a team and just made this first-time event so successful."

McBride said a requirement from Komen's national headquarters is that expenses amount to 25 percent or less than total revenue.

"This event, it's going to be under 10 percent," she said.

While fundraising is a critical mission of the Komen races, the message is equally important.



"We never want to forget the awareness part," McBride said. "It helps women remember to get that mammogram, to be aware of what they need to do for their breast health. Early detection is what saves lives."

Soon a date will be announced for next year's race, and Cooper said if she is race director, one goal will be to grow volunteer participation around the entirety of Northeast Arkansas. In this



inaugural year, she didn't have time to do as much outreach as she would like.

"It's important to remember it's all of Northeast Arkansas," Cooper said. "The only thing I'd try to do differently is spend more time reaching out to more sponsors and committee members from around Northeast Arkansas. Now that people know what it is, I think we'll get more."

Jonesboro Mayor Harold Perrin said he was surprised by the size of the crowd, but not the charitable giving.

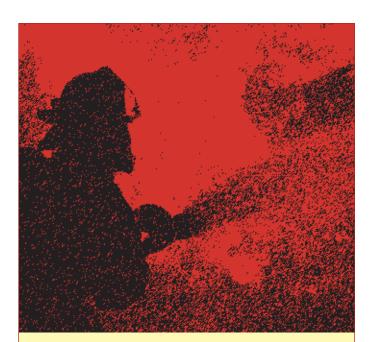
"I've lived in Northeast Arkansas all my life, and I've always been humbled seeing how well people take care of one another," Perrin said.

Perrin was a "Big Wig," donning a pink wig to symbolically embrace the cause of breast cancer awareness. Lights around the city's Municipal Building were covered with pink filters, creating a glow throughout May that sent the same message.

Of course, Arkansas State University offered unparalleled support to the cause, helping organizers, providing the school's football stadium and parking lots, as well as directing traffic.

"Our expenses were at a minimum, and a lot of that was attributable to the support we got from Arkansas State University," McBride said. "They gave us a lot of the infrastructure."

Equally critical was the support of Presenting Sponsor Barton's Lumber Co. and Founding Sponsor St. Bernards Healthcare.



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# Protect your loved ones' financial security.

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

League hosts grant workshop

he League on May 9 hosted 35 city officials and employees at a one-day workshop aimed at helping cities prepare for and write successful grant applications and explore what grants are available to municipalities. Chad Gallagher, head of Legacy Consulting, and Kevin Smith, director of the Arkansas Grant Book, led the workshop, where they covered topics such as grant writing tips, grant management and administration, and using The Arkansas Grant Book and the federal grants.gov.



# County equalization boards to meet in July

ounty equalization boards will meet from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. July 18, 2017 at the Wyndham Riverfront, North Little Rock to equalize the assessed value for all acreage lands, city and town lots, other real property and personal property. "Equalization" means to adjust the valuation of property in order to bring about a uniform tax rate (A.C.A. § 26-27-315; *Black's Law Dictionary*). The boards will meet as often as necessary during this time to complete their work (A.C.A. § 26-27-309). If a county's ratio of assessed-to-market value is out of compliance, the equalization board may meet after Oct. 1, but no later than the third Monday in November (A.C.A. § 26-27-309 & 311).

County equalization boards have two responsibilities: (1) to review and equalize overall county assessments as assessed by the assessor, and (2) to hear assessment appeals by property owners. The board begins the review of assessments on Aug. 1, when the county assessor delivers the completed assessment records to the county clerk, who serves as the secretary for the board. Assessment appeals from landowners begin no later than the second Monday in August (A.C.A. § 26-27-317).

Cities and incorporated towns have a part to play in deciding who sits as a member of the county equalization board. Cities and incorporated towns select one member of a five-member board (counties with a population less than 79,000) and two members of a nine-member board (counties with a population greater than 79,000) (A.C.A. § 26-27-303 and 304).

To select county equalization board members, city and incorporated town representatives within the county shall hold a meeting during the month of May each year in which the terms of any of the municipally-appointed members of the county equalization board shall expire (A.C.A. § 26-27-304(b)(2) (A)). The mayor of the city or town or his or her designee shall serve as the representative of his or her city or town (*Id.*). The mayor of the county seat shall be the chair of the meeting, and if there are dual county seats, the mayor of the larger of the two seats shall be the chair of the meeting (*Id.*). Those at the meeting shall select the member of the board via majority vote, and each city or town shall be entitled to one vote (*Id.*). No action shall be taken unless a quorum is present. A majority of all of the representatives of all cities and incorporated towns in the county shall constitute a quorum (*Id.*).

Information for this article comes from "Arkansas Property Tax Equalization and Appeal System," a publication of the Assessment Coordination Department. For more information, contact the Department at (501) 324-9240, or visit www.arkansas.gov/acd.





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# Training is key for winning grants

By Chad Gallagher

popular motivational saying goes: "If you want to be more powerful in life, educate yourself." Since truth is no respecter of sector nor industry, this statement applies to community development and writing and winning grants as well.

Among community leaders, municipal officials, and those elected to serve in various positions, we often see natural talent for leadership. Some people have a knack for getting others to follow them. Some speak with ease and eloquence. Others are cool under the most intense of pressures. These skills can certainly come in handy in running a city, and might prove essential in winning some elections, but leading a great city can be learned. The same is true for community development.

We certainly know that experience is a powerful teacher, but there are other ways, including tapping the knowledge of others. City leaders in Arkansas have access to a wide range of leadership development opportunities and solution-focused programs for a wide range of issues facing our cities. Winrock International and the Delta Regional Authority are two entities offering extensive community development training and help.

The state's universities are also rich resources for municipal leaders. UALR's Institute for Economic Advancement is a tremendous tool. ASU's Delta Center, led by Andrea Allen, is a source of help and guidance for communities in the Delta, while UCA has its own Community Development Institute in Conway. These are just a few of the major programs offered through universities. Two-year colleges and private universities across the state also regularly offer resources designed empower our cities.

Most state agencies offer training sessions for each of their grant programs. Some even offer one-on-one technical guidance for your grant application. The Department of Heritage makes a great effort in hosting workshops for potential grant applicants and on-site visits as well. The Department of Rural Services, Health, the Department of Environmental Quality, and many more provide similar training opportunities for cities and community organizations.

Importantly, the Arkansas Municipal League is considered a national leader in offering training and education opportunities (even certification!) for its members. The League provides extensive training to municipal staff and elected officials on legal matters, environmental issues, economic development, tax issues, human resources, municipal finances, and much more. Neglecting to take advantage of the League's services and training opportunities is akin to having millions in the bank while living in poverty. The League is a great resource for you and your team on many fronts.

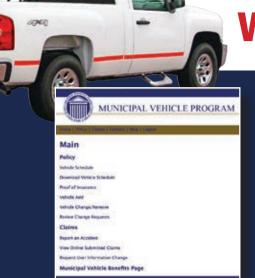
Just last month, Kevin Smith of the Arkansas Grant Book and I conducted a one-day grant writing seminar at the League's headquarters in North Little Rock. The workshop was free to members and lunch was even provided. Those in attendance received a day's worth of interaction and dialogue about successful grant writing, along with a host of information. If you'd like to host a grant workshop for municipalities in your area please let us know. Simply drop us a line by email or give us a call.



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.



# Visit the Municipal Vehicle Program's New Interactive Full Service Web Portal:



www.arml.org/mvp

Manage your municipal fleet's insurance needs online at www.arml.org/mvp. Members can make changes to your municipal policy, add and delete vehicles and file and view claims. Create an MVP interactive account by emailing dcarter@arml.org your:

- City Name and/or Account Number
- First and last name
- Phone number

ARKANSAS MUNICIPAL LEAGUE



MUNICIPAL PROPERTY PROGRAM

# Visit the Municipal Property Program's New Interactive Full Service Web Portal: <a href="https://www.arml.org/mpp">www.arml.org/mpp</a>

Manage your municipal property insurance needs online at www.arml.org/mpp. Members can make changes to your municipal policy, add and delete properties and file and view claims. Create an MPP interactive account by emailing dcarter@arml.org your:



For more information including a free quote on either of these programs, contact Dale Carter at League headquarters, (501) 978-6123.

### Changes to 2017 Directory, Arkansas Municipal Officials

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

Avoca

Delete R/T Diane Bowen
Add R/T Nanette Barnes
Delete AL Nanette Barnes
Add AL Harry Simons

Bella Vista

Delete PC Ken Farmer Add PC James Graves

**Bethel Heights** 

Delete AL Matt Gehrlt Add AL Jacob Meckem

**Brinkley** 

Delete CA Ralph Clifton Add CA (Vacant)

**Cherokee Village** 

Delete BI Phil Caves Add BI Darryl Matson

Clarkedale

Delete AL Mike Sample Add AL Jerry Lesley

Conway

Add GA Candy Jones

**Decatur** 

Delete PC Terry Lucker Add PC Joseph Savage

**DeValls Bluff** 

Delete AL (Vacant)
Add AL Wanda Atkins

**Dyess** 

Delete Mail P.O. Box 92 Add Mail 108 Center Drive

**Edmondson** 

Delete AL Alonzo Buckley Add AL Ira Ewing

Eudora

Add CEO David Jones
Add CA Katie Harris-Elliot

Gould

Delete R/T Kisha Bailey-James Add R/T Sheila Mangrum

Helena-West Helena

Delete PC Virgil Green Add PC James Smith

Delete AL Christopher Franklin

Add AL (Vacant)

2017 DIRECTORY OF ARKANSAS
MUNICIPAL OFFICIALS
ARKANSAS MUNICIPAL LEAGUE

PRO De la band for both de TILLI MET a mi fit bound for both place for the tilling of t

**Hot Springs** 

Delete M (Vacant)
Add M Pat McCabe
Delete DR Rick Ramick
Add DR (Vacant)

Jasper

Delete DPW Tyler Brasel Add DPW (Vacant)

Delete R Stephanie Middleton

Add R (Vacant)

Lakeview (Baxter)

Delete AL (Vacant) Add AL David Taylor

Leachville

Delete M Ralph Wells Add /A/M Lisa Baldridge Add CA Gina Knight

**Little Flock** 

Delete PC Korey Christian Add PC Jesse Martinez

Oakhaven

Delete AL Shawn Rigler Add AL (Vacant)

Russellville

Add AL Phillis Carruth

**Tuckerman** 

Add WEB www.tuckermanar.net



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My check of \$ is enclosed, payable to: The	is enclosed, payable to: The Arkansas Municipal League.							
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Title								
Mailing Address:								
City		Zip						
Clip and mail to: Arkansas Municipal League								
2017 Directory								
P.O. Box 38								



### New funds available to Delta region

The Delta Regional Authority announced a new funding mechanism to help cultivate home-grown arts and culture projects in the Delta region, the Northwest Arkansas Democrat-Gazette reported May 25. The federal economic development organization revealed the availability of \$460,000 for applicants interested in developing cultural projects aimed at strengthening the economic potential of their communities.

The Creative Placemaking Initiative will offer the grant funding in conjunction with a group of national organizations that will offer workshops and expertise to community leaders interested in obtaining funding. National partners in the program include the National Endowment for the Arts, ArtPlace America, the Rural Policy Research Institute, the National Association of Counties and, among others, the National Association of Development Organizations.

According to data collected by the National Endowment for the Arts, more than 34,000 people work in industries related to arts and culture in Arkansas, earning a combined \$1.54 billion in 2014. The growth that year ranked above the national average.

Top arts and cultural industries in the state that year included government, retail, broadcasting and film, according to federal data. Additionally, 28 million visitors spent \$7.2 billion in tourism in Arkansas in 2015, delivering \$374 million in state taxes and \$137 million in local taxes, according to data provided by the Delta Regional Authority.

The initiative aims to address quality-of-life issues in Delta communities in an effort to improve business retention and attraction and help curb population attrition.

"We really see this as another tool in their tool kit when they're thinking about industrial recruitment," said Federal Co-Chairman Chris Masingill of the Delta Regional Authority. "We know this strategy works, and we want our local leaders and community developers to engage more with bringing that into their strategy."

Existing examples of "creative placemaking projects"—defined by Masingill as the "integration of arts and culture into community development activity"—include the Johnny Cash Boyhood Home in Dyess and the Arts and Entertainment District in downtown El Dorado.

The Delta Regional Authority and National Endowment for the Arts will hold regional workshops this summer in six locations within the eight-state Delta region. The workshops are designed to more "deeply inform" community leaders and economic development districts how to implement "placemaking" strategies in their communities.

One of the six workshops will take place June 29 to 30 in Wilson. Another will take place July 6 to 7 in Greenville, Miss., just across the Mississippi River from Lake Village.

Successful applicants can receive grants up to \$30,000 and 50 hours of technical assistance to help kickstart projects. Only residents living within the authority's 252 counties, which include 42 in Arkansas, are eligible to apply.

Workshop registration and grant applications can be found at dra.gov/creativeplacemaking.

## **Obituaries**

**DEAN RANDALL ADAMS SR.**, 55, an 11-year employee with the Cherokee Village Street Department, died May 21.

RALPH D. WELLS, 80, seven-term mayor and former alderman of Leachville, died May 25.

## Maumelle named a Playful City USA

Maumelle has been named a 2017 Playful City USA, national nonprofit KaBOOM! has announced. Maumelle is the only community in the state of Arkansas to receive this award for 2017. Playful City USA honors cities and towns across the country for putting the needs of families first so kids can learn, grow and develop important life skills. These communities are transforming ordinary places into playful spaces and using play as a solution to the challenges facing their residents. In total, these communities feature more than 14,000 safe and engaging play spaces that serve more than 4 million kids.

The basketball court recently built at the Maumelle Police and Fire Stations' property was the highlight of Maumelle's 2017 application for Playful City USA. The purpose of the court, funded by a donation from the Maumelle Lions Club, is to give area kids a safe place to play, while also giving them the opportunity to connect and interact with police officers and firefighters.

Cities are hotbeds for innovation, and communities across the country are creating inventive ways to attract and retain residents. Playful City USA honorees are taking action to ensure kids have great places to play, all with the ultimate goal of making play the easy choice for all kids, no matter where they live.

"We are thrilled to recognize Maumelle for putting kids first," said KaBOOM! CEO James Siegal. "The well-being of our communities starts with the well-being of our kids, and play is critical for them to thrive. It is our collective responsibility to ensure that all kids get the child-hood they deserve filled with play."

To see the full list of Playful City USA communities and to learn more about the program, visit kaboom.org/playfulcityusa.

## FAIRS & FESTIVALS

### June 15-17

46th Smackover Oil Town Festival
Smackover

(870) 725-3571; www.smackoverar.com

### June 22-24

Archey Fork Festival
Clinton

(501) 745-7200; www.clintonarchamber.com

#### June 23-24

20th Buffalo River Elk Festival

Jasper

(870) 446-6471; www.buffaloriverelkfestival.com

37th Brickfest

Malvern

(501) 458-1115; www.malvernbrickfest.com

### June 24

28th PurpleHull Pea Festival & World Championship Rotary Tiller Race

**Emerson** 

(870) 547-3500; www.purplehull.com

### **MEETING CALENDAR**

### June 14-16

Arkansas Municipal League's 83rd Convention

Statehouse Convention Center Little Rock, Arkansas

### November 15-18

National League of Cities City Summit 2017

Charlotte Convention Center Charlotte, NC

## 2017 State Turnback Funds

Actual Totals Per Capita									
	STR	EET	SEVERAN	ICE TAX	GENI	ERAL			
MONTH	2016	2017	2016	2017	2016	2017			
January	\$5.0284	\$5.3276	\$0.2297	\$0.3041	\$2.1382	\$2.1473			
February	\$5.1992	\$5.5378	\$0.1524	\$0.1894	\$1.0775	\$1.0884			
March	\$4.6255	\$4.7222	\$0.1655	\$0.3450	\$1.0778	\$1.0886			
April	\$5.5340	\$5.3517	\$0.2342	\$0.3611	\$1.0777	\$1.0886			
May	\$5.4590	\$5.4824	\$0.0745	\$0.2602	\$1.0773	\$1.0864			
June	\$5.2768		\$0.0968		\$1.0778				
July	\$5.6734		\$0.0987		\$2.8803				
August	\$5.0337		\$0.1292		\$1.2006				
September	\$5.3389		\$0.1482		\$1.0906				
October	\$5.5217		\$0.2562		\$1.0896				
November	\$5.3393		\$0.2306		\$1.0881				
December	\$4.9184		\$0.2078		\$1.0884				
Total Year	\$62.9483	\$26.4217	\$2.0238	\$1.4598	\$15.9639	\$6.4994			

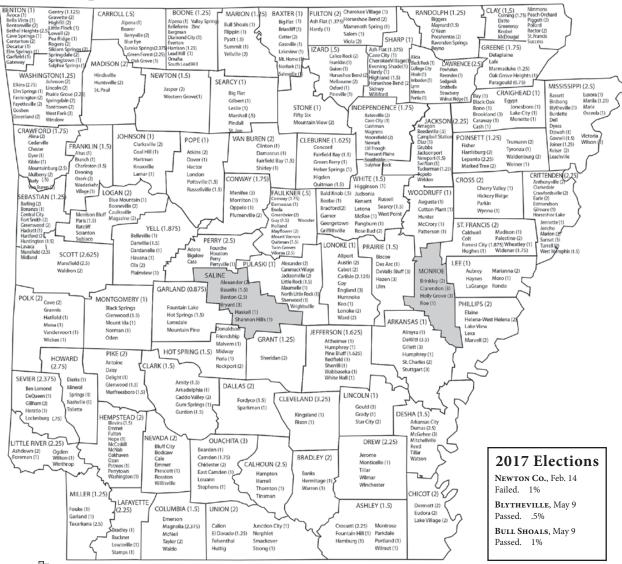
Actual	Total	c Dar	Month
ACTUCI		s rer	MOULT

	Actour foldis i et Mollin										
	STR	EET	SEVERAN	ICE TAX	GENERAL						
MONTH	2016	2017	2016	2017	2016	2017					
January	\$9,482,577.19	\$10,065,525.00	\$433,179.54	\$574,575.98	* \$4,032,277.00	*\$4,056,819.92					
February	\$9,804,689.33	\$10,462,690.50	\$287,481.18	\$357,751.63	\$2,031,997.39	\$2,056,417.62					
March	\$8,722,769.73	\$8,921,686.11	\$312,010.76	\$651,783.55	\$2,032,596.84	\$2,056,718.50					
April	\$10,436,025.60	\$10,110,987.00	\$441,661.71	\$682,243.26	\$2,032,297.66	\$2,056,718.50					
May	\$10,294,480.80	\$10,363,642.30	\$140,536.93	\$491,893.79	\$2,031,495.51	\$2,053,761.87					
June	\$9,950,873.55		\$182,493.78		\$2,032,597.66						
July	\$10,698,830.40		\$186,206.19		** \$5,431,589.73						
August	\$9,492,433.07		\$243,594.47		\$2,264,157.25						
September	\$10,068,067.87		\$279,548.09		\$2,056,681.01						
October	\$10,421,889.30		\$483,529.74		\$2,056,531.47						
November	\$10,087,659.40		\$435,692.77		\$2,055,823.30						
December	\$9,292,326.92		\$392,523.22		\$2,056,318.09						
Total Year	\$118,752,623.16	\$49,924,530.91	\$3,818,458.38	\$2,758,248.21	\$30,114,362.91	\$12,280,436.41					

<sup>\*</sup> Includes \$2 million appropriation from the Property Tax Relief Fund

<sup>\*\*</sup> Includes \$3,517,035.84 supplemental for July 2016

## Local Option Sales and Use Tax in Arkansas



KEY: Counties not collecting sales tax

**Source:** Rachel Garrett. Office of State Treasurer

See also: www.dfa.arkansas.gov

Oourc	Source: Racher Garrent, Office of State Treasurer See also: www.ala.arkansas.gov								
Sales and Use Tax Year-to-Date 2017 with 2016 Comparison (shaded gray)									
Month	Munici	pal Tax	Count	ty Tax	Tota	l Tax	Interest		
January	\$51,749,675	\$49,037,009	\$46,139,133	\$43,720,229	\$97,888,807	\$92,757,238	\$15,903	\$15,812	
February	\$60,007,416	\$59,477,239	\$52,583,090	\$51,693,904	\$112,590,506	\$111,171,143	\$17,386	\$20,455	
March	\$48,225,282	\$45,484,389	\$42,723,485	\$41,503,958	\$90,948,767	\$86,988,347	\$18,863	\$17,357	
April	\$50,349,075	\$51,278,433	\$44,591,728	\$46,543,122	\$94,940,803	\$97,821,554	\$15,747	\$19,032	
May	\$55,441,606	\$51,716,750	\$48,861,910	\$46,509,945	\$104,303,516	\$98,226,695	\$17,059	\$16,799	
June		\$48,045,270		\$42,836,823		\$90,882,093		\$17,947	
July		\$52,527,961		\$47,321,806		\$99,849,766		\$17,750	
August		\$52,254,925		\$47,594,177		\$99,849,102		\$17,169	
September		\$53,746,167		\$49,430,573		\$103,176,740		\$18,913	
October		\$52,105,594		\$47,384,899		\$99,490,493		\$17,666	
November		\$53,632,182		\$48,831,434		\$102,463,617		\$17,523	
December		\$51,969,068		\$46,917,820		\$98,886,888		\$17,198	
Total	\$265,773,053	\$621,274,986	\$234,899,345	\$560,288,690	\$500,672,398	\$1,181,563,676	\$84,959	\$213,621	
Averages	\$53,154,611	\$51,772,916	\$46,979,869	\$46,690,724	\$100,134,480	\$98,463,640	\$16,992	\$17,802	

•		•	and May 2017 Municipal/Count	y Levy Receip	- '	,			
CITY SALES AND US		LAST YEAR		9,168.35	Mulberry 28,526.82		Hamburg		27,393.01
Alexander		81,547.27 197,818.82		4,396.19 18,766.74	Murfreesboro	29,884.16 107,312.13	Montrose		3,394.16 2,655.89
Almyra		6,615.85		46,641.98	Newport 159,343.51	189,330.80	Portland		4,122.85
Alpena	6,008.90	4,542.95		228.13	Norfork 4,096.00	5,146.66	Wilmot		5,273.42
Altheimer	2,465.56	1,956.97		10,139.21	Norman 2,165.36	1,997.21	Baxter County		315,334.41
Altus		5,594.50 10,862.45		3,853.87 757.85	North Little Rock 1,501,385.68 Oak Grove 1,456.18	1,434,085.90 744.50	Big Flat	2 255 99	1,367.87 3,104.02
Anthonyville		315.38		65,022.92	Oak Grove Heights 5,493.50	744.30 NA	Cotter		12,758.06
Arkadelphia	169,318.45	164,552.43	Gosnell	16,021.64	0la 15,615.91	14,963.18	Gassville	28,668.34	27,331.17
Ash Flat		91,587.82		5,242.35	Oppelo	3,258.39	Lakeview		9,746.10
Ashdown		128,172.85 54,095.41		3,216.03 66,730.69	Osceola	107,547.23 1,277.84	Mountain Home Norfork		163,724.00 6,721.00
Augusta		29,838.96		72,028.70	Ozark	82,845.70	Salesville		5,918.69
Austin	34,214.59	30,908.03	Greenbrier	164,684.40	Palestine 23,895.37	18,911.12	Benton County	755,063.30	721,049.20
Avoca		7,098.66	Greenland	18,298.99	Pangburn	5,912.35	Avoca		8,282.65
Bald Knob		34,871.03 55,608.54		207,908.26 16,116.31	Paragould	320,033.17 75,781.68	Bella Vista		450,216.58 599,151.61
Batesville		621,859.30		7,710.51	Patmos	49.49	Bethel Heights		40,259.13
Bauxite	13,598.33	13,527.78	Gum Springs	163.47	Patterson 1,257.66	1,397.69	Cave Springs	34,320.25	32,774.19
Bay		9,597.43		21,000.30	Pea Ridge 55,295.26	51,201.85	Centerton		161,494.79
Bearden Beebe		11,636.79 106,286.88		3,811.19 5,243.80	Perla 4,841.48 Perryville 21,921.35	2,588.87 22,545.75	Decatur		28,836.54 2,325.25
Beedeville		164.62	Hamburg	28,248.06	Piggott 69,371.50	62,852.04	Garfield		8,520.27
Bella Vista	176,586.41	137,916.09	Hardy	15,993.30	Pine Bluff 1,024,471.57	963,898.28	Gateway	7,198.19	6,873.92
Belleville		2,090.24		50,494.94	Pineville	1,658.18	Gentry		58,131.34
Benton Bentonville		1,335,732.91 1,865,087.30		463,959.19 1,785.96	Plainview	3,333.09 11,738.11	Gravette	10 361 84	52,835.87 9,895.06
Berryville		238,352.14		21,064.09	Pocahontas 247,026.54	302,365.52	Little Flock	45,943.99	43,874.31
Bethel Heights	100,386.86	98,560.83	Hatfield 4,703.95	4,267.38	Portia 2,551.61	2,652.55	Lowell	130,225.00	124,358.63
Big Flat		10 707 92		2,360.95	Portland 5,743.74 Pottsville	4,274.66 31,011.78	Pea Ridge		81,366.90
Blevins		10,707.83 1,973.85		50,496.12 137,852.41	Prairie Grove	82,717.84	Siloam Springs		949,857.53 255,251.72
Blue Mountain	194.14	217.64		227,170.16	Prescott57,064.72	58,359.69	Springdale		111,204.82
Blytheville	257,202.62	242,854.77		5,409.59	Pyatt	456.73	Springtown	1,546.28	1,476.62
Bonanza		2,571.28 10,556.17		1,302.64 60,053.12	Quitman	19,593.11 3,418.24	Sulphur Springs Boone County		8,673.03 393,728.24
Booneville		110,124.56		31,005.06	Rector	29,807.65	Alpena		4,154.69
Bradford	13,026.69	15,029.08	Holly Grove 6,389.98	8,099.10	Redfield	22,515.72	Bellefonte	6,035.34	5,912.94
Bradley		2,656.24		180,625.19	Rison	12,663.78	Bergman		5,717.58
Branch Briarcliff		1,739.81 1,523.19		5,536.14 21,547.53	Rockport	15,615.97 455.24	Diamond City Everton	1 768 06	10,184.84 1,732.21
Brinkley		116,537.36		1,707,631.98	Rogers3,065,906.36		Harrison		168,570.90
Brookland	63,157.16	18,531.76	Hoxie	18,338.87	Rose Bud	25,323.78	Lead Hill	3,602.60	3,529.53
Bryant		1,135,189.41		6,291.33	Rudy 10,545.36	NA 1000 100 00	Omaha	2,246.64	2,201.07
Bull Shoals Cabot		13,774.22 716,479.82		2,929.04 2,952.98	Russellville 1,107,726.48 Salem 21,875.29	1,020,128.09 23,456.64	South Lead Hill Valley Springs	2 432 75	1,328.46 2,383.41
Caddo Valley		50,278.97		137,574.18	Salesville 3,836.82	4,179.47	Zinc		1,341.48
Calico Rock	24,438.52	25,236.59	Imboden 6,561.13	7,776.75	Searcy	781,735.17	Bradley County	134,282.80	122,501.02
Camden	318,816.48	307,376.53		637,772.54 30,600.22	Shannon Hills	12,236.62	Banks Hermitage		945.89
Caraway	50.551.53	5,354.84 49,515.56		136.82	Sherrill	199,571.91 1,027.12	Warren		6,331.39 45,792.00
Cash	2,086.63	NA NA	Johnson	48,307.35	Sherwood 433,906.93	386,715.49	Calhoun County		77,368.93
Cave City	18,972.03	18,966.49		2,582.12	Shirley	2,498.95	Hampton		21,930.30
Cave Springs Centerton		29,262.71 205,376.06		1,458,000.76 NA	Siloam Springs 673,013.52 Sparkman 2,853.26	617,417.03 3,139.49	Harrell		4,207.18 6,741.42
Charleston		29,671.62		7,847.15	Springdale		Tinsman		894.44
Cherokee Village	15,854.36	15,739.21	Keiser 4,948.99	4,607.25	Springtown	4,017.50	Carroll County		152,551.97
Cherry Valley		3,246.77		1,421.22	St. Charles	1,610.07	Beaver		558.47
Chidester Clarendon		2,466.27 50,931.80		2,707.88 1,903.28	Stamps	13,069.51 76,526.81	Blue Eye		167.54 189,814.88
Clarksville	382,529.41	365,491.80	Lake City	12,489.00	Stephens 5,113.93	5,331.86	Dermott		19,820.55
Clinton		82,356.16		60,875.88	Strong 9,931.25	13,552.57	Eudora		15,566.92
Coal Hill		2,451.19		4,170.76 10,964.92	Stuttgart	494,710.15 1,294.70	Lake Village Clark County		17,666.30 396,216.92
Corning		75,959.62	Lead Hill	6,228.75	Summit	4,949.17	Clay County	91.738.12	90,409.33
Cotter	12,891.37	13,392.02	Lepanto	26,670.53	Sunset	2,916.25	Corning		24,403.51
Cotton Plant		1,500.10		3,064.10	Swifton 3,542.40	3,614.19	Datto		1,083.96
Cove	2 956 65	14,121.18 6,777.86		9,448.05 44,212.15	Taylor	8,231.48 361,103.08	Greenway		2,265.47 3,110.96
Crossett	296,038.25	290,169.28	Little Flock	10,931.85	Texarkana Special 189,683.65	179,441.21	McDougal		2,016.16
Damascus		4,805.05	Little Rock 6,609,569.33	5,957,981.08	Thornton	1,472.13	Nimmons		747.93
Danville		45,971.18 159,048.02		4,725.76 145,010.39	Tontitown	115,150.72 78,861.30	Peach Orchard		1,463.34 27,814.37
Decatur		22,285.12	Lowell	320,126.56	Tuckerman	13,253.97	Piggott		2,406.39
Delight	4,497.52	4,592.54	Luxora	4,300.13	Turrell 3,881.19	4,018.76	Rector	14,496.54	14,286.57
De Queen		105,322.19		1,123.38 9,386.57	Tyronza 2,994.03 Van Buren 653,559.11	3,353.89 619,454.47	St. Francis		2,709.90 1,615.09
Des Arc		27,295.90 16,925.67		447,101.02	Vandervoort	333.91	Cleburne County		310,384.38
DeValls Bluff		13,974.36		162,414.89	Vilonia	84,854.89	Concord		2,304.30
DeWitt		185,501.81		7,817.26	Viola 5,783.31	3,880.26	Fairfield Bay		1,728.23
Diamond City Diaz	2 755 05	2,112.44 2,402.47		30,327.74 28,190.79	Wabbaseka	774.66 4,623.43	Greers Ferry Heber Springs		8,414.48 67,665.28
Dierks		24,622.18		72,701.34	Waldron98,539.16	47,019.58	Higden		1,133.26
Dover	20,375.24	23,890.21	Marion237,321.67	216,403.01	Walnut Ridge 78,178.41	68,784.69	Quitman	7,938.22	6,912.91
Dumas		147,480.54		55,340.79	Ward		Cleveland County		92,442.24
Dyer		2,262.19 16,604.10		14,591.89 14,616.76	Warren	68,392.61 1,650.57	Kingsland		1,562.36 4,697.57
East Camden		3,919.10		17,973.55	Weiner	10,707.56	Columbia County		356,595.80
El Dorado	540,285.84	543,052.81	Maumelle 197,896.58	243,159.26	West Fork 58,539.17	35,687.48	Emerson	732.84	635.27
Elkins		79,559.51		63,007.91	West Memphis 613,424.10		Magnolia		19,985.11
Elm Springs England		5,651.72 66,450.02		8,099.52 18,093.43	Western Grove 4,129.51 Wheatley 3,285.87	4,105.27 4,271.69	McNeil		890.76 977.07
Etowah		623.50	McGehee 183,183.26	161,897.75	White Hall 68,323.14	70,072.06	Waldo	2,732.22	2,368.46
Eudora	37,141.63	22,651.99	McRae	3,810.00	Wickes 5,832.91	4,455.88	Conway County	321,432.91	296,607.77
Eureka Springs Evening Shade		177,684.28 4,297.86		65,140.76 132,701.34	Widener	2,698.82 2,026.72	Menifee		3,137.30 70,298.49
Fairfield Bay		30,280.49	Menifee 12,231.52	5,605.11	Wilmot	1,722.35	Oppelo		8,113.36
Farmington	133,154.46	119,690.61	Mineral Springs 5,304.68	4,839.47	Wilson 6,316.74	NA	Plumerville	9,299.03	8,580.84
Fayetteville	3,583,662.88		Monette	14,532.28	Wilton	600.10	Craighead County		295,593.90
Flippin		46,994.40 82,197.59		194,948.94 5,016.79	Wynne	130,420.81 38,745.13	Bay Black Oak		30,075.40 4,375.21
Foreman	14,446.90	9,427.82	Moro 2,795.40	2,741.54			Bono	37,029.23	35,586.16
Forrest City	336,232.06	309,371.06		141,560.74	COUNTY SALES AND USE AMOUNT	LAST YEAR	Brookland		32,880.88
Fort Smith Fouke		3,440,280.69 8,699.87		20,326.23 399,133.53	Arkansas County 264,860.16 Ashley County 226,223.73		Caraway		21,358.38 5,711.15
Fountain Hill		406.40		171,264.48	Crossett		Egypt		1,870.32
Franklin		2,224.77		12,861.91	Fountain Hill 1,749.45		Jonesboro	.1,168,792.65	1,123,243.46
64								CITY & TO	NWO

Lake City		34,767.89	Moorefield		1,708.36	Blytheville		176,796.31	Waldron 29,692.97	27,305.58
Monette		25,065.61 648,246.67	Newark Oil Trough		14,664.45 3.242.14	Burdette		2,161.85 2,524.04	Searcy County	35,847.59 5.85
Alma		47,176.39	Pleasant Plains		4,351.95	Dyess		4,640.62	Gilbert	163.85
Cedarville		12,135.80	Southside		28,144.27	Etowah		3,972.82	Leslie 3,009.96	2,580.61
Chester Dyer		1,384.21 7,626.23	Sulphur Rock Izard County		5,686.21 44,950.76	Gosnell		40,158.34 6,519.51	Marshall 9,248.29 Pindall	7,929.07 655.39
Kibler		8,366.21	Jackson County		258,821.22	Keiser		8,590.81	St. Joe	772.42
Mountainburg		5,493.32	Amagon		928.31	Leachville		22,557.94	Sebastian County 860,968.68	800,096.27
Mulberry Rudy		14,408.00 531.05	Beedeville Campbell Station		1,013.56 2,415.50	Luxora		13,333.29 37,826.71	Barling	73,124.96
Van Buren		198,412.48	Diaz		12,484.84	Marie		950.76	Bonanza 9,732.38 Central City 8,496.79	9,044.28 7,896.05
Crittenden County	1,338,331.56	1,274,950.41	Grubbs	3,727.86	3,656.41	Osceola	92,676.57	87,798.27	Fort Smith 1,459,163.08	1,355,997.00
Anthonyville Clarkedale		1,035.04	Jacksonport		2,008.18 74.634.33	Victoria		418.79 10,220.69	Greenwood 151,520.47	140,807.63
Crawfordsville		2,385.10 3,079.42	Swifton		7,559.11	Monroe County		10,220.09 NA	Hackett	12,772.10 10,098.13
Earle	16,290.74	15,519.24	Tuckerman	17,982.58	17,637.91	Montgomery County	43,294.52	40,698.60	Huntington 10,747.93	9,988.03
Edmondson Gilmore		2,745.12	Tupelo		1,705.06	Black Springs		526.00	Lavaca	36,004.10
Horseshoe Lake		1,521.71 1,877.22	Jefferson County		710.45 717,043.96	Mount Ida		223.15 5,716.93	Mansfield 12,237.41	11,372.20
Jennette		665.39	Altheimer	10,611.65	10,331.25	Norman	2,136.47	2,008.36	Midland 5,500.91 Sevier County 288,794.27	5,111.98 267,636.88
Jericho		765.03	Humphrey	3,321.53	3,233.76	Oden		1,232.66	Ben Lomond 1,315.56	1,219.18
Marion		79,364.13 1,145.62	Pine Bluff		515,333.96 13,617.51	Nevada County		111,100.93 1,022.83	DeQueen	55,443.17
Turrell	3,735.26	3,558.37	Sherrill		881.94	Bodcaw	1,130.24	1,138.31	Gillham	1,345.30 8,778.08
West Memphis		168,725.11	Wabbaseka		2,677.30	Cale		651.64	Lockesburg 6,704.81	6,213.60
Cross County Cherry Valley		244,936.61 6,291.33	White Hall Johnson County		58,018.78 117,190.39	Emmet		3,918.10 27,187.52	Sharp County	80,213.45
Hickory Ridge		2,628.64	Clarksville		86,080.30	Rosston		2,152.89	Ash Flat 9,148.38	9,594.68
Parkin		10,678.83	Coal Hill		9,491.53	Willisville		1,253.80	Cave City	17,055.03 37,967.50
Wynne		80,859.52 143,695.74	Hartman		4,867.69 6,856.04	Newton County Jasper		58,298.14 2,332.93	Evening Shade 4,032.75	4,229.49
Desha County		105,695.47	Lamar		15,053.27	Western Grove		1,922.41	Hardy 6,814.61	7,147.05
Arkansas City		4,090.57	Lafayette County		68,180.27	Ouachita County		609,185.27	Highland 9,755.16 Horseshoe Bend	10,231.06 78.32
Dumas		52,596.26 47,153.34	Bradley		3,213.24 1,407.07	Bearden		9,349.89 117,919.00	Sidney 1,689.65	1,772.08
Mitchellville		4,023.51	Lewisville		6,549.28	Chidester	2,847.75	2,797.22	Williford	734.28
Reed	2,004.50	1,922.35	Stamps	9,523.18	8,662.43	East Camden	9,173.88	9,011.13	St. Francis County 159,585.46	135,631.02
Tillar		234.70 2,358.23	Lawrence County		219,638.00 789.70	Louann		1,587.35 8,623.98	Caldwell	8,924.16 6,078.08
Drew County		433,368.69	Alicia		4,215.97	Stephens	. 107.938.41	105,215.79	Forrest City 290,810.70	247,158.78
Jerome	502.56	470.99	College City	NA	2,897.68	Adona		937.64	Hughes27,262.92	23,170.64
Monticello		114,330.74	Hoxie		17,704.53	Bigelow		1,413.20	Madison	12,365.18 10,950.18
Tillar Wilmar	6 584 76	2,463.66 6,171.23	Imboden		4,311.50 1,834.14	Casa Fourche		767.16 278.15	Wheatley	5,708.24
Winchester		2,016.82	Minturn		694.17	Houston		776.14	Widener 5,165.02	4,389.68
Faulkner County		729,688.65	Portia		2,783.05	Perry		1,211.31	Stone County	86,221.53
Enola		2,221.89 3,661.52	Powhatan		458.53 2,993.21	Perryville		6,550.05 99,388.13	Fifty Six 1,546.08 Mountain View 24,558.57	1,574.61 25,011.80
Mount Vernon		953.18	Sedgwick		968.02	Phillips County Elaine		11,125.69	Union County 513,136.86	458,526.29
Twin Groves	2,276.19	2,202.17	Smithville	501.32	496.75	Helena-West Helena .	. 202,176.68	176,297.67	Calion 14,959.59	13,367.53
Wooster		5,653.35	Strawberry		1,923.30	Lake View		7,749.50	El Dorado 636,962.08	569,173.44
Franklin County Altus		145,472.30 5,699.34	Walnut Ridge Lee County		31,142.12 29,794.89	Lexa		5,003.06 20,746.96	Felsenthal	3,275.47 18,321.70
Branch	4,781.21	2,759.44	Aubrey		923.28	Pike County	. 164,344.26	147,642.62	Junction City 18,289.53	16,343.07
Charleston		18,962.72	Haynes		814.66	Antoine		946.84	Norphlet	20,620.53
Denning		3,541.41 27,699.70	LaGrange		483.37 22,348.88	Daisy		930.66 2,257.85	Smackover 60,711.36 Strong 17,273.83	54,250.16 15,435.47
Wiederkehr Village		285.72	Moro		1,173.11	Glenwood		17,690.57	Van Buren County 296,646.63	139,282.70
Fulton County	99,083.28	103,849.79	Rondo	1,114.67	1,075.36	Murfreesboro		13,280.07	Clinton 26,351.04	12,372.44
Ash Flat		410.86 3,194.22	Lincoln County Gould		52,223.92 4,133.86	Poinsett County Fisher		117,423.13 1,756.26	Damascus 2,531.81	1,188.74
Hardy		169.18	Grady		2,217.57	Harrisburg		18,129.62	Fairfield Bay 21,824.17 Shirley 2,947.02	10,246.97 1,383.70
Horseshoe Bend	65.33	68.48	Star City	11,133.23	11,231.05	Lepanto	14,914.05	14,908.50	Washington County 1,464,030.54	
Mammoth Spring .	3,754.75	3,935.38	Little River County		188,504.89	Marked Tree		20,208.77	Elkins 43,995.89	39,713.83
Salem Viola		6,585.81 1,357.43	Ashdown Foreman		38,450.37 8,230.64	Trumann Tyronza		57,460.33 6,001.20	Elm Springs	26,335.91
Garland County	1,194,301.40	2,053,344.85	Ogden		1,465.40	Waldenburg		480.41	Farmington	89,596.09 1,103,528.69
Fountain Lake	7,549.34	6,970.93	Wilton		3,044.77	Weiner		5,638.92	Goshen 17,794.41	16,062.51
Hot Springs Lonsdale		209,026.84 1,302.72	Winthrop Logan County		1,563.08 97,929.31	Polk County	7 473 94	241,515.26 7,244.50	Greenland	19,406.99
Mountain Pine	11,556.66	10,671.20	Blue Mountain		964.90	Grannis		10,506.44	Johnson	50,302.19 33,729.76
Grant County	179,535.02	180,569.29	Booneville		31,047.91	Hatfield		7,832.42	Prairie Grove73,536.94	66,379.70
Greene County Delaplaine	506,580.65 1 306 71	521,065.65 1,344.07	Caulksville		1,657.44 6,590.87	Mena		108,800.40 1,649.92	Springdale 1,066,584.66	962,775.54
Lafe		5,306.77	Morrison Bluff		498.01	Wickes	14,752.25	14,299.38	Tontitown	36,894.27 34,749.61
Marmaduke	12,515.12	12,872.97	Paris	28,451.79	27,484.01	Pope County	. 374,762.85	353,501.44	Winslow 6,496.38	5,864.09
Oak Grove Heights Paragould		10,300.69 302,566.96	Ratcliff		1,571.85 1,743.04	Atkins		42,454.52 19,397.32	White County 887,210.99	797,099.37
Hempstead County .		378,256.89	Subiaco	4,607.69	4,450.99	Hector		6,334.39	Bald Knob	31,019.66
Blevins	3,531.19	3,531.86	Lonoke County	267,940.17	255,864.05	London		14,625.41	Beebe	78,325.45 8,127.00
Emmet		482.13 2,253.66	Allport Austin		1,034.61 18,335.12	Pottsville		39,948.91 393,013.99	Garner	3,040.93
Hope		113,187.79	Cabot		213,903.78	Prairie County		57,510.87	Georgetown 1,477.83	1,327.73
McCaskill	1,076.17	1,076.38	Carlisle	20,858.63	19,918.53	Biscoe	4,430.29	2,389.84	Griffithville 2,681.55 Higginson 7,401.07	2,409.19 6,649.37
McNab		762.43	Coy		863.68	Des Arc	20,955.40	11,304.01	Judsonia24,062.42	21,618.47
Oakhaven		706.37 953.04	England		25,415.47 2,555.04	DeValls Bluff	17 916 44	4,075.24 9,664.70	Kensett 19,640.85	17,645.98
Patmos		717.58	Keo		2,303.14	Ulm		1,119.20	Letona 3,039.09	2,730.42
Perrytown		3,049.74	Lonoke		38,190.68	Pulaski County		866,234.60	McRae 8,128.07 Pangburn 7,162.71	7,302.52 6,435.21
Washington Hot Spring County		2,018.22 301,503.06	Ward		36,589.28 203,018.45	Alexander		4,193.29 13,645.97	Rose Bud 5,744.47	5,161.02
Donaldson		2,439.29	Hindsville		428.31	Jacksonville	. 536,814.58	503,976.83	Russell 2,574.29	2,312.82
Friendship	1,515.15	1,426.29	Huntsville	16,304.71	16,472.34	Little Rock	3,662,618.26	3,438,570.41	Searcy	244,752.32
Malvern		83,616.46	St. Paul		793.43	Maumelle		304,955.38	West Point 2,204.83 Woodruff County 19,082.63	1,980.89 17,221.12
Midway Perla		3,152.43 1,953.05	Marion County Bull Shoals		83,512.39 14,387.24	North Little Rock 1 Sherwood		1,107,029.06 524,570.15	Augusta 19,737.86	17,812.44
Rockport	6,499.66	6,118.47	Flippin	10,492.62	9,997.29	Wrightsville	40,009.37	37,561.94	Cotton Plant 5,825.32	5,257.06
Howard County		332,160.54	Pyatt	1,711.34	1,630.55	Randolph County	. 117,770.54	162,203.18	Hunter	850.53 14,005.33
Dierks Mineral Springs		16,272.10 17,349.25	Summit		4,456.36 8,883.19	Biggers Maynard		3,932.61 4,827.93	Patterson 4,057.08	3,661.31
Nashville	77,468.69	66,452.79	Miller County	331,195.75	336,325.59	0'Kean	1,596.36	2,198.64	Yell County 242,393.44	257,737.78
Tollette		3,446.86	Fouke	8,715.68	8,850.67	Pocahontas		74,889.60	Belleville 2,836.91	2,782.46
Independence County Batesville		603,951.47 127,790.20	Garland Texarkana		8,850.67 199,140.15	Ravenden Springs Reyno		1,337.31 5,167.93	Danville	15,199.43 29,938.28
Cave City	2,115.83	2,020.10	Mississippi County	944,017.87	894,326.72	Saline County	NA	NA	Havana 2,412.34	2,366.04
Cushman	5,903.42	5,636.34	Bassett	2,066.91	1,958.12	Scott County		145,060.95	Ola 8,240.54	8,082.39
Magness	2,038.25 117	2,518.89	Birdsong	409.80	464.06	Mansfield	1 ,423.24	6,826.40	Plainview 3,911.20	3,836.14 65

JUNE 2017

### **MUNICIPAL MART**

To place a classified ad in City & Town, please email the League at <a href="citytown@arml.org">citytown@arml.org</a> 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.

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT II—The City of Maumelle is accepting applications for the position of Administrative Assistant II in the Police Department. The position files, indexes, and manages arrest and fingerprint records, warrants, police reports, and related documents in accordance with departmental standards and legal requirements. Handles sensitive and confidential information with privacy and on a "need to know only basis." Requires HS diploma or GED and three years related experience and/ or training or equivalent combination of education and experience; and 12 to 18 months management experience. Starting salary is \$24,511. Open until filled. A City of Maumelle Employment Application must be completed. Please go to the City of Maumelle web page (www.maumelle.org) and click on the Human Resources Department site and complete the online application. You may contact the Maumelle Human Resources office by phone at (501) 851-2784 ext. 242, or at the office location 550 Edgewood Drive. Suite 555 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Friday for an application or assistance. EOE. This ad is available from the Title VI Coordinator in large print, on audio, and in Braille at (501) 851-2784, ext. 242 or at rhilton@maumelle.org.

**DIRECTOR OF FINANCE**—The City of Maumelle is accepting applications for the position of Director of Finance. This position reports directly to the City Clerk-Treasurer and the Mayor. The general purpose of the position is to perform responsible management and administrative work directing and coordinating the varied functions of the City's Finance Department. Education and experience: Applicants must possess a minimum of a Bachelor's Degree from a four-year college or university and 5 years related experience and/or training, or equivalent combination of education and experience. Must have 4 years managerial experience. Note: Online applications and resumes will not be accepted by themselves. A City of Maumelle Employment Application must be completed. Please go to the City of Maumelle web page (www.maumelle.org) and click on the Human Resources Department site and complete the online application. You may contact the Maumelle Human Resources office by phone at (501) 851-2784 ext. 242, or at the office location 550 Edgewood Drive, Suite 555 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Friday for an application or assistance. EOE. This ad is available from the Title VI Coordinator in large print, on audio, and in Braille at (501) 851-2784, ext. 242 or at rhilton@maumelle.org.

DIRECTOR OF PARKS AND RECREATION—The City of Benton is currently taking applications for Parks Director. Job function is to plan, coordinate, schedule, and manage all department services, programs, and operations to ensure a quality parks system and programs. Employee must possess a valid Arkansas driver's license. Associate or Bachelor's degree preferred but training and experience can be considered. Complete job description and application for employment available at www.bentonar.org. Position is open until filled. Salary DOE. EOE.

FINANCE DIRECTOR—The City of Greenwood has an open position for Director of Finance. Applicants must possess a Bachelor's degree in Accounting and a minimum of four years managerial experience. This position is required to perform responsible management and administrative direction coordinating the varied functions of the city's Finance Department. Work involves administering the central accounting system with data processing functions, financial reporting, performance of general accounting processes and develops and oversees the city budget for all departments. Experience in Governmental Fund Accounting will be a plus. Applicants must submit a resume along with application and have verifiable professional references. This position is salaried and pay will be commensurate to experience. A comprehensive benefits package includes paid health, vision and dental insurance (w/ optional dependent coverage); retirement, paid vacation, sick leave and holidays. Applications can be picked up at the Greenwood City Hall, 30 Bell Road, Monday-Friday 8 a.m. - 5 p.m., or by contacting the Mayor's Office at (479) 996-2742. Applications can also be accessed at www.greenwoodar.org/Government/JobOpportunities. Completed applications are to be mailed to: City of Greenwood, HR Department, P.O. Box 1450, Greenwood, AR 72936. EOE.

OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR—The City of Maumelle is seeking a highly qualified and motivated individual to serve as Office Administrator for the Parks and Recreation Department and a positive image of the community center. The successful candidate will oversee daily operations for the community center, all related personnel and staffing responsibilities and daily bookkeeping, payroll, as well as other Human Resource functions. Assist with all community functions, maintain management information systems, updates, software, website and servers, maintain bookkeeping, payroll, daily accounting account payables/receivables, supervise staff including hiring determining workload and delegating assignments, schedules, employee meetings, training, monitoring and evaluating performance and initiating corrective or disciplinary actions, responsible for Facility rentals and community events, overseeing membership sales, reports, monthly auto drafts, requisitions, and complete other duties and tasks as assigned. This job requires a Bachelor's degree from a four-year college or university or three years related experience and/or training or equivalent combination of education and experience, and two years managerial experience. Starting Salary: \$34,329. Open until filled. A City of Maumelle Employment Application must be completed. Please go to the City of Maumelle web page (www.maumelle.org) and click on the Human Resources Department site and complete the online application. You may contact the Maumelle Human Resources office by phone at (501) 851-2784 ext. 242, or at the office location 550 Edgewood Drive, Suite 555 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Friday for an application or assistance. EOE. This ad is available from the Title VI Coordinator in large print, on audio, and in Braille at (501) 851-2784, ext. 242 or at rhilton@maumelle.org.

PRINCIPAL PLANNER—The City of Republic, Mo., seeks a Principal Planner to develop and implement comprehensive plans for the physical development of the community and to administer the various land use regulations of the city. Education and experience: Must have a Bachelor's Degree in Urban Planning, Geography, or related field plus three to five years of previous planning experience in municipality setting. Master's degree and prior supervisory experience is preferred. Licensing/certification requirements: Must possess a Missouri DL; American Institute of Certified Planners or equivalent certification preferred; Certified Floodplain Manager certification preferred. Pay range: \$22.80-\$30.27/hour DOQ. Open until filled. Application and complete job description available at www.republicmo.com. Application must be completed and submitted to HR, City Hall, 213 N. Main, Republic, MO 65738. EOE.

FOR SALE—The City of Marshall has for sale the following cars and equipment: 2008 Dodge Charger, fully equipped police vehicle. Two Solid Waste trash trucks: 1996 Peterbuilt Model 377 with a 25 YRD Leach rear load packer and a 1996 Freightliner with a 25 YRD McNeilus rear load packer. If interested phone Marshall City Hall at (870) 448-2543 or email marshallarwater@gmail.com for more information.

FOR SALE—Rison has for sale a 2008 Dodge Durango with 152,370 miles. Good shape. Used as a police patrol unit. KBB values the vehicle at \$4,224, will work with another city on price. Contact: Mayor Vernon Dollar at judgevern2003@yahoo.com or call (870) 814-8775. We would like to sell this vehicle to another department that needs a vehicle.

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