

City & Town

MAY 2018 VOL. 74, NO. 05

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE ARKANSAS MUNICIPAL LEAGUE



**Batesville
Dives into
Summer!**

How do you think new money becomes old money?



Ashley Dixon

*Personal Trust Administrator
Simmons Bank, Trust Department*



John Monroe

*Senior Vice President, Trust Officer
Simmons Bank, Trust Department*



Gene Jennings

*Senior Vice President
Simmons Bank, Trust Department*



Chuck Tlapak

*Senior Vice President,
Chief Investment Officer
Simmons Bank, Trust Department*

At Simmons, our Investment Management services help you get the most out of your money. Our wealth management professionals have on average more than 20 years of experience and are responsible for over \$4 billion in assets. We will manage your portfolio with a diligent approach and in-depth knowledge of the marketplace. We'll devise clear strategies to help protect and grow your assets. That way, you can continue to work towards the future you've always envisioned.

Put our experience to work for your legacy.

Speak with one of our wealth management experts and start planning your tomorrow.

Trust | Investments | Insurance | Private Banking

Simmons Wealth Management is a marketing name for certain business operations of Simmons Bank (Member FDIC and an Equal Housing Lender) ("Bank") and its affiliates, including securities and other investments, which are offered through Simmons First Investment Group, Inc. (Member FINRA and SIPC); insurance offered through Simmons First Insurance Services, Inc. and Simmons First Insurance Services of TN, LLC; and the trust and private banking operations of the Bank.

Investment Products Are: Not FDIC Insured | Not Bank Guaranteed | May Lose Value



Cover photo by Andrew Morgan.



ON THE COVER—Batesville’s new community center and aquatic park is approaching its one-year anniversary and getting ready for a summer of fun. Check out everything the facility has to offer inside beginning on page 6. Read also about Little Rock Mayor Mark Stodola’s first six months as president of the National League of Cities, New Orleans Mayor Mitch Landrieu’s thoughts on curbing violence in America’s cities, the IBLA Grand Prize-winning musicians who visited Arkansas, and much more. And be sure to check the expanded agenda for the League’s 84th Convention in June.—atm

Features

- 6 Batesville community and aquatic center preps for summer fun**
It’s been almost a year since Batesville’s 125,000-square-foot community center and aquatic park opened its doors, and with membership at 6,500 and counting, it’s preparing for a great summer of splashy fun.
- 8 League calls for cities to sign up on opioid litigation**
With 305 cities representing more than 90 percent of Arkansas’s population having signed the engagement letter for the joint opioid litigation filed by the League, the AAC, and APERMA, participation is strong, but more cities and towns are needed. If your municipality hasn’t yet submitted an engagement letter, please consider doing so now.
- 10 NOLA Mayor Mitch Landrieu addresses LR summit on violence**
Like Little Rock and many cities across this nation, New Orleans has had to grapple with acts of senseless violence, and Mayor Mitch Landrieu is passionate about creating policies that curb violence and help lift struggling neighborhoods.
- 16 Mayor Stodola reflects on first six months as NLC president**
As he approaches the halfway point in his historic National League of Cities presidency, Little Rock Mayor Mark Stodola talks infrastructure, workforce development, and other NLC federal advocacy priorities during his tenure.

City & Town Contents

Arkansas Municipal League Officers.....	5
a'TEST.....	36
Attorney General Opinions.....	42
Directory Changes.....	55
Economic Development.....	22
Engineering.....	46
Fairs & Festivals.....	58
Grant Money Matters.....	40
Meeting Calendar.....	41
Municipal Mart.....	56
Municipal Notes.....	54
Obituaries.....	54
Planning to Succeed.....	18
President's Letter.....	4
Sales Tax Map.....	51
Sales Tax Receipts.....	52
Turnback Estimates.....	50
Urban Forestry.....	48
Your Health.....	34

Publisher Don Zimmerman	Communications Director Whitnee V. Bullerwell
Editor Andrew T. Morgan	Graphic Designer Mark R. Potter
Advertising Assistant Tricia Zello	Email: citytown@arml.org



www.arml.org

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

Dear Friends,
Although spring is finally here, I'm sure many of you are gearing up for summer projects. In Springdale, we are working hard on our 2018 Bond Program. We recently wrapped up the public comment period for potential street projects, and this month we are asking the public to give us feedback on the animal shelter improvements. It takes a lot of hard work from our dedicated employees to implement these large improvement projects, and the feedback from our residents helps to ensure that we are actualizing the community's vision for our future.



In the past eight months, on top of working feverishly on the bond, we have been running a youth council program in Springdale. The program was started in fall of 2017, and the inaugural class graduated from the program in April. This is a free and competitive program open to 10th-12th grade students. The Springdale Youth Council teaches young people the importance of civic engagement, political participation, and how local government functions. The students have monthly meetings, go on tours, present to the city council, are mentored by city officials, perform community service, job shadow government departments, and hold an event to benefit the community. The class of 2018 hosted a fun run in our downtown that resulted in more than 1,000 pounds of food donated to the House of Hope Rescue Mission. I strongly recommend looking into starting a similar program in your city if possible. The Springdale Mayor's Office would be glad to offer guidance if you have any questions about getting a youth council started.

While it's important to educate our future leaders, it's also important that we continue to educate ourselves. This is the perfect time to register for the 84th Convention that will be held June 13-15 at the Statehouse Convention Center. The early-bird reduced rate for delegates and guests expires on June 1, and we are fast approaching that deadline.

The League is offering three hours of continuing education for city officials who wish to achieve their continuing certification and 12 hours of continuing legal education (CLE) for city attorneys at the same time. The CLE location will be League headquarters.

More information can be found on the League's website at www.arml.org.

Best Wishes,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Doug Sprouse". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Doug Sprouse
Mayor, Springdale
President, Arkansas Municipal League

ARKANSAS MUNICIPAL LEAGUE OFFICERS

Mayor Doug Sprouse, **Springdale** President
Mayor Joe Smith, **North Little Rock** First Vice President
Mayor Joe Dillard, **Mountain Home** Vice President, District 1
Council Member Debi Ross, **North Little Rock** Vice President, District 2
Mayor Lioneld Jordan, **Fayetteville** Vice President, District 3
Mayor Jerry Boen, **Lamar** Vice President, District 4
Don A. Zimmerman Executive Director

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE: Mayor Darrell Kirby, **Bay**; Mayor Bob McCaslin, **Bentonville**; Mayor Tim McKinney, **Berryville**; Mayor James Sanders, **Blytheville**; Clerk/Treasurer Barbara Blackard, **Clarksville**; Mayor Scott McCormick, **Crossett**; Mayor Johnny Brigham, **Dumas**; Mayor Frank Hash, **El Dorado**; Mayor Paul Wellenberger, **Fairfield Bay**; Mayor Larry Bryant, **Forrest City**; Vice Mayor Kevin Settle, **Fort Smith**; Mayor Kevin Johnston, **Gentry**; City Manager Catherine Cook, **Hope**; Council Member Reedie Ray, **Jacksonville**; Council Member James Moore, **Magnolia**; Mayor Jimmy Williams, **Marianna**; Mayor Michael Watson, **Maumelle**; Mayor Gary Baxter, **Mulberry**; Mayor Sonny Hudson, **Prairie Grove**; Mayor Greg Hines, **Rogers**; Mayor Mike Kemp, **Shannon Hills**; Mayor Virginia Young, **Sherwood**; Council Member Dorothy Henderson, **Warren**; Mayor Bob Stacy, **Wynne**

PAST PRESIDENTS ADVISORY COUNCIL: Mayor Rick Elumbaugh, **Batesville**; Mayor JoAnne Bush, **Lake Village**; Mayor Mark Stodola, **Little Rock**; Mayor Frank Fogleman, **Marion**; Council Member Murry Witcher, **North Little Rock**; Mayor Mike Gaskill, **Paragould**; Mayor Jackie Crabtree, **Pea Ridge**; Mayor Robert Patrick, **St. Charles**; Mayor Harry Brown, **Stephens**

LARGE FIRST CLASS CITIES ADVISORY COUNCIL: Mayor David Morris, **Searcy**, Chair; Mayor James Calhoun, **Arkadelphia**; Clerk/Treasurer Denise Johnston, **Batesville**; Mayor Jill Dabbs, **Bryant**; Council Members Ann Gilliam, Eddie Long, Norma Naquin, and Ron Waymack, **Cabot**; Chief of Staff Jack Bell, **Conway**; Council Member Dianne Hammond, **El Dorado**; Chief of Staff Don Marr and Communications Director Susan Norton, **Fayetteville**; City Administrator Carl Geffken, **Fort Smith**; Mayor Dan Sherrell, **Harrison**; Assistant City Manager Lance Spicer, **Hot Springs**; Mayor Gary Fletcher and Council Member Kenny Elliott, **Jacksonville**; Council Members Chris Gibson and John Street, **Jonesboro**; Intergovernmental Relations Manager Emily Cox, **Little Rock**; Clerk/Treasurer Diane Whitbey and Council Members Steve Baxter and Beth White, **North Little Rock**; Council Member Josh Agee, **Paragould**; Council Member Marina Brooks, **Sherwood**; Mayor John Mark Turner, **Siloam Springs**; Clerk/Treasurer Phyllis Thomas, **Van Buren**

FIRST CLASS CITIES ADVISORY COUNCIL: Mayor Billy Ray McKelvey, **De Queen**, Chair; Council Member Lorene Pearson, **Ashdown**; City Director Bruce Farrar, **Barling**; Clerk/Treasurer Carol Westergren, **Beebe**; Mayor Danny Shaw, **Bono**; Mayor Kenneth Jones, **Brookland**; Mayor Bill Edwards and Council Member Wayne Low, **Centerton**; Council Member Judy Weaver, **Clarksville**; Council Member C.T. Foster, **Crossett**; Council Members Anthony Scott and Edmond Shelton, **Dermott**; Mayor Ralph Relyea, **DeWitt**; Mayor Stephen Tisdale, **Eudora**; Clerk/Treasurer Linda Simpson, **Lake City**; Clerk/Treasurer Ruth Keith, **Leachville**; Council Member Loye Free, **Marianna**; Mayor Doyle Fowler, **McCrory**; Assistant to the Mayor Becky Horton and Council Member James Turner, **Mena**; Council Member John Payne, **Morrilton**; Council Member Tyler Dunegan, **Osceola**; Mayor Jim Poole, **Piggott**; Clerk/Treasurer Mitri Greenhill, **Stuttgart**; Clerk/Treasurer Pam Cawthon, **Tuckerman**; Mayor Art Brooke, **Ward**

SECOND CLASS CITIES ADVISORY COUNCIL: Mayor Bill Groom, **Greenland**, Chair; Mayor Veronica Post, **Altus**; Council Member Larry Hall, **Bay**; Mayor Ronnie Guthrie, **Calico Rock**; Mayor Barry Riley, **Caraway**; Mayor Patrick Johnson, **Dover**; Council Member Doyle Scroggins, **Fairfield Bay**; Mayor Jeff Braim and Council Member Anita Seaman, **Gassville**; Mayor Essie Cableton, Recorder/Treasurer Sheila Mangrum and Council Member Retha Spencer, **Gould**; Recorder/Treasurer Jennifer Hill, **Haskell**; Recorder/Treasurer Mary Ruth Wiles, **Highland**; Mayor Steve Dixon, **Marmaduke**; Mayor Bobby Neal and Recorder/Treasurer Rick East, **Smackover**; Mayor James Firestone, **Vilonia**; Council Member A.C. Loring, **Wrightsville**

SMALL CITIES AND TOWNS ADVISORY COUNCIL: Mayor Dennis Behling, **Lakeview**, Chair; Mayor Bobby Box, **Chidester**; Mayor Michael Cravens, **Elaine**; Council Member Ulrica Trotter, **Fountain Hill**; Mayor Michael Lester, **Gum Springs**; Recorder/Treasurer Birdia Thompson, **Jennette**; Recorder/Treasurer Shirley Rose and Council Member Louvenia Davis, **Lake View**; Mayor Joe Inman, **Lead Hill**; Mayor Marion Hoosier, **McCaskill**; Recorder/Treasurer Bobby Brown, **McDougal**; Mayor Terrie Triplet, **McNeil**; Mayor Robert "Bob" Sullivan, **McRae**; Mayor Carl Lee Griswold, **Mitchellville**; Council Member Don Sappington, **Norfolk**; Mayor Lisa Hackett, **Shirley**; Mayor Phillip Freeman and Recorder/Treasurer Rita Fite, **Sparkman**; Council Member Janelle Riddle, **St. Paul**; Assistant to Mayor Pamela Dawkins, **Strong**

PUBLIC SAFETY ADVISORY COUNCIL: Council Member Sam Angel, **Lake Village**, Chair; Council Member Jim Wozniak, **Bella Vista**; Council Member Stanley Parks, **Blytheville**; Council Member Doug Warner, **Cabot**; Fire Chief Robert Medford and Police Chief Boyd Woody, **Camden**; Police Chief Kevin Weathers, **Clarksville**; Police Chief Tim Mayfield, **Gassville**; Retired Fire Chief John Neal, **Harrison**; City Director Mark Ross and Police Chief J.R. Wilson, Jr., **Hope**; City Manager David Frasher and City Director Karen Garcia and Police Chief Jason Stachey, **Hot Springs**; Mayor Jon Milligan, **Lake City**; Assistant Police Chief Alice Fulk, **Little Rock**; Council Member Dean Bitner, **Lowell**; Council Member Jess Holt, **Maumelle**; Fire Chief Kevin Lang, **Paragould**; Council Member Steven Mays and Finance Director Steve Miller, **Pine Bluff**; Mayor Kary Story, **Pocahontas**; Council Member Doug Bartholomew, **Prairie Grove**; Council Member Ken Keplinger, **Sherwood**; Police Chief Chad Henson, **Trumann**; Council Member James Pulliaum, **West Memphis**

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COUNCIL: Mayor Harold Perrin, **Jonesboro**, Chair; Council Members Damon Bivins and Kevin Davis, **Cabot**; Council Member Robin Reed, **Centerton**; Mayor Mark Simpson, **Clarksville**; Mayor Robert "Butch" Berry, **Eureka Springs**; Council Members Adella Gray and John La Tour, **Fayetteville**; Clerk/Treasurer Derene Cochran and Council Member Louise Fields, **Forrest City**; Council Member Naomi Lassen, **Gassville**; Mayor Doug Kinslow, **Greenwood**; Mayor Roger Gardner, **Mountain View**; Mayor Allen Lipsmeyer, **Morrilton**; Council Member Howard Austin, **Prescott**; Mayor Randy Horton, **Russellville**; Council Member Betty Cook, **Sheridan**; Council Member Beverly Williams, **Sherwood**; City Administrator Phillip Patterson and City Director Bob Coleman, **Siloam Springs**; Mayor Ruth Penney Bell, **Texarkana**; Deputy Operations Director Charles Gastineau, **Ward**; Council Member Joel Tolefree, **Warren**

MUNICIPAL HEALTH BENEFIT FUND BOARD OF TRUSTEES: Clerk/Treasurer Mitri Greenhill, **Stuttgart**, District 1; Mayor Gary Fletcher, **Jacksonville**, District 2; Mayor Randy Horton, **Russellville**, District 3; Mayor Marie Trisollini, **Camden**, District 4; Mayor Parnell Vann, **Magnolia**, At-Large Member

MUNICIPAL LEAGUE WORKERS' COMPENSATION TRUST BOARD OF TRUSTEES: Mayor William Johnson, **West Memphis**, District 1; Human Resources Director Lisa Mabry-Williams, **Conway**, District 2; Clerk/Treasurer Sondra Smith, **Fayetteville**, District 3; Mayor Bryan Martin, **Warren**, District 4; City Attorney Howard Cain, **Huntsville**, At-Large Member and Group Manager

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

Batesville celebrates center's first-year success

By Andrew Morgan, League staff

Batesville's community and aquatic center at Fitzhugh Park will soon celebrate its first anniversary, and it's been a wildly successful inaugural year, Mayor Rick Elumbaugh says.

With more than 125,000 square feet of amenities, the center has something for everyone. It has reached every socio-economic group in the city, Independence County, and surrounding counties, Elumbaugh says.

"We have over 6,500 members in a city that has a 10,248 population."

The gymnasium features three full-size basketball courts, which can be converted to six volleyball courts. It also houses a racquetball court and a 1/8-mile walking track. With an industrial kitchen in the same building, it can also accommodate large meetings, dinners, expos, and other special events.

The main community center building is the new home of the Batesville Parks and Recreation Department. It also features more than 5,000 square feet dedicated to fitness, including weight training, treadmills, spin cycles, space for group fitness activities, and more.

The indoor aquatic center features a 10-lane pool that can be used in two directions—25 yards one way, 25 meters the other—for competitive swimming events. It also includes a heated therapy pool, indoor splash pad, dressing rooms, and party rooms.

Adjacent to the indoor aquatic center is the outdoor water park, which will soon be filled with children and families swimming, splashing, relaxing, and beating the heat. It features two large slides, a diving area, a four-lane swimming area, a 440-foot lazy river, a zero-depth pool for young children, a splash pad with a raised whirlpool, a zip line, and a tanning deck.

The center also features several meeting rooms that can accommodate small groups of 10 up to groups of 200.

The center almost didn't happen. In 2010 a proposed temporary one-cent sales tax to expand the city's sports facilities and build a community center failed at the polls by less than 100 votes.

"At that time, I had to do a little soul searching," Elumbaugh says. "If it had lost by several hundred votes, I would have said okay, it's time to put this on the shelf and we'll go on and build our community in another way."



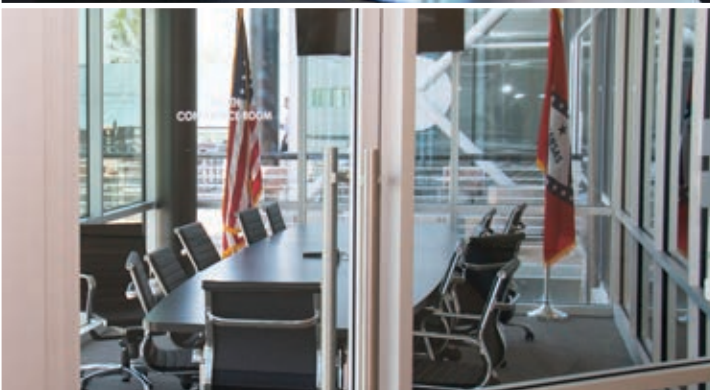
With an aquatic fitness class exercising behind him, Batesville Mayor Rick Elumbaugh puts his foot on the "log" used for log rolling, just one of the many ways the new community and aquatic center's more than 6,500 members can have fun and improve their health.

But with the vote so close, Elumbaugh regrouped, worked to build broad community support, and the city put it before the voters again in 2012. This time it passed with 60 percent of the vote.

"There's always a reason why something fails, and I think it was probably best that we came back with what we did because we ended up getting a better facility, and the rest is history," Elumbaugh.

The community response to the new facilities has been unbelievable, he says. And not only is the center fun, it is already improving folks' health and wellbeing.

"Some local physicians have said they've had patients come in whose health has improved, people who've been borderline diabetics have changed their lifestyle," Elumbaugh says. "And it's all because they have access—affordable access—to these facilities." 🏊



League pushes to increase participation in opioid litigation

Arkansas is making news across the globe with regard to our unique and unified approach in tackling the state's opioid epidemic.

Cities, towns, and counties across Arkansas are being adversely affected by opioids to the extent that the abuse of these drugs is changing the face of local government— particularly public safety—as we know it. As a result, the Arkansas Municipal League, the Association of Arkansas Counties (AAC), and the Arkansas Public Entities Risk Management Association (APERMA) have jointly filed litigation against opioid makers and distributors.



Media outlets have referred to the joint opioid litigation as “one state’s brainchild to make big pharma indemnify for the opioid epidemic it’s created in Arkansas.” The League fully agrees with that statement as this litigation brings together 310 Arkansas cities and towns and all 75 counties in the state. At this time, the 310 cities that have signed opioid engagement letters represent more than 90 percent of the people living in the cities and towns of Arkansas.

This litigation is unprecedented; therefore, the League strongly encourages cities and towns that have not yet signed an opioid engagement letter to do so now.

It is the common goal of the League, AAC, and APERMA to have a jury in Arkansas regulate how much money the companies should reimburse cities,



towns, and counties in order to fund mental health clinics, drug courts, opioid abuse treatment clinics, and other prevention/treatment programs across the state.

Our Arkansas case collates cities, towns, and counties in a single civil case, which makes it unique among cases filed against opioid manufacturers throughout the country. This litigation is powerful and historic for Arkansas, and we want as many cities and towns to join this lawsuit as possible. **The 310 cities and towns that have signed engagement letters are listed here in green, and the 190 cities and towns that have not yet signed engagement letters are listed in red.**

Let’s do all that we can to increase the number of cities and towns participating in this litigation. Please sign the opioid engagement letter and return to the League as soon as possible. The letter is available as a downloadable PDF on the Municipal Legal Defense Program’s home page on the League’s website, www.arml.org/mldp.

If you have further questions, please contact League General Counsel Mark Hayes at mhayes@arml.org or call (501) 978-6102. Complete the first and last pages of the engagement letter and email to via jadams@arml.org or fax to the attention of Jamie Adams at (501) 978-6566. ☎

Cities/towns that **HAVE SIGNED** and **HAVE NOT SIGNED** engagement letters in the opioid litigation.

Alicia	Camden	Evening Shade	Highland	Marie	Perla	Summit
Allport	Cammack Village	Everton	Hindsville	Marion	Perry	Sunset
Alma	Campbell Station	Fairfield Bay	Holland	Marked Tree	Perrytown	Swifton
Almyra	Caraway	Fargo	Holly Grove	Marmaduke	Perryville	Taylor
Alpena	Carlisle	Farmington	Hope	Marshall	Piggott	Texarkana
Alzheimer	Carthage	Fayetteville	Horatio	Marvell	Pindall	Thornton
Altus	Casa	Felsenthal	Horseshoe Bend	Maumelle	Pine Bluff	Tillar
Amagon	Cash	Fifty-Six	Horseshoe Lake	Mayflower	Pineville	Tinsman
Amity	Caulksville	Fisher	Hot Springs	Maynard	Plainview	Tollette
Anthonyville	Cave City	Flippin	Houston	McCaskill	Pleasant Plains	Tonitown
Antoine	Cave Springs	Fordyce	Hoxie	McCrary	Plumerville	Traskwood
Arkadelphia	Cedarville	Foreman	Hughes	McDougal	Pocahontas	Trumann
Arkansas City	Centerton	Forrest City	Humnoke	McGehee	Pollard	Tuckerman
Ash Flat	Central City	Fort Smith	Humphrey	McNab	Portia	Tull
Ashdown	Charleston	Fouke	Hunter	McNeil	Portland	Tupelo
Atkins	Cherokee Village	Fountain Hill	Huntington	McRae	Pottsville	Turrell
Aubrey	Cherry Valley	Huntsville Lake	Huntsville	Melbourne	Powhatan	Twin Groves
Augusta	Chester	Fourche	Huttig	Mena	Poyen	Tyronza
Austin	Chidester	Franklin	Imboden	Menifee	Prairie Grove	Ulm
Avoca	Clarendon	Friendship	Jacksonport	Midland	Prattsville	Valley Springs
Bald Knob	Clarkedale	Fulton	Jacksonville	Midway	Prescott	Van Buren
Banks	Clarksville	Garfield	Jasper	Mineral Springs	Pyatt	Vandervoort
Barling	Clinton	Garland	Jennette	Minturn	Quitman	Victoria
Bassett	Coal Hill	Garner	Jericho	Mitchellville	Ratcliff	Vilonia
Batesville	Colt	Gassville	Jerome	Monette	Ravenden	Viola
Bauxite	Concord	Gateway	Johnson	Monticello	Ravenden Springs	Wabbaseka
Bay	Conway	Gentry	Joiner	Montrose	Rector	Waldenburg
Bearden	Corning	Georgetown	Jonesboro	Moorefield	Redfield	Waldo
Beaver	Cotter	Gilbert	Judsonia	Moro	Reed	Waldran
Beebe	Cotton Plant	Gillett	Junction City	Morrilton	Reyno	Walnut Ridge
Beedeville	Cove	Gillham	Keiser	Morrison Bluff	Rison	Ward
Bella Vista	Coy	Gilmore	Kensett	Mount Ida	Rockport	Warren
Belleville	Crawfordsville	Glenwood	Keo	Mount Pleasant	Roe	Washington
Bellevue	Crossett	Goshen	Kibler	Mount Vernon	Rogers	Watson
Ben Lomond	Cushman	Gosnell	Kingsland	Mountain Home	Rondo	Weiner
Benton	Daisy	Gould	Knobel	Mountain Pine	Rose Bud	Weldon
Bentonville	Damascus	Grady	Knoxville	Mountain View	Rosston	West Fork
Bergman	Danville	Grannis	La Grange	Mountainburg	Rudy	West Memphis
Berryville	Dardanelle	Gravette	Lafe	Mulberry	Russell	West Point
Bethel Heights	Datto	Green Forest	Lake City	Murfreesboro	Russellville	Western Grove
Big Flat	Decatur	Greenbrier	Lake View	Nashville	Salem	Wheatley
Bigelow	Delaplaine	Greenland	Lake Village	Newark	Salesville	Whelen Springs
Biggers	Delight	Greenway	Lakeview	Newport	Scranton	White Hall
Birdsong	Dell	Greenwood	Lamar	Nimmons	Searcy	Wickes
Biscoe	Denning	Greers Ferry	Lavaca	Norfolk	Sedgwick	Widener
Black Oak	De Queen	Griffithville	Leachville	Norman	Shannon Hills	Wiederkehr Village
Black Rock	Dermott	Grubbs	Lead Hill	Norphlet	Sheridan	Williford
Black Springs	Des Arc	Guion	Leola	North Little Rock	Sherill	Willisville
Blevins	DeValls Bluff	Gum Springs	Lepanto	O'Kean	Sherwood	Wilmar
Blue Eye	DeWitt	Gurdon	Leslie	Oak Grove	Shirley	Wilmot
Blue Mountain	Diamond City	Guy	Letona	Oak Grove Heights	Sidney	Wilson
Bluff City	Diaz	Hackett	Lewisville	Oakhaven	Siloam Springs	Wilton
Blytheville	Dierks	Hamburg	Lexa	Oden	Smackover	Winchester
Bodcaw	Donaldson	Hampton	Lincoln	Ogden	Smithville	Winslow
Bonanza	Dover	Hardy	Little Flock	Oil Trough	South Lead Hill	Winthrop
Bono	Dumas	Harrell	Little Rock	Okolona	Southside	Wooster
Booneville	Dyer	Harrisburg	Lockesburg	Ola	Sparkman	Wrightsville
Bradford	Dyess	Harrison	London	Omaha	Springdale	Wynne
Bradley	Earle	Hartford	Lonoke	Oppelo	Springtown	Yellville
Branch	East Camden	Hartman	Lonsdale	Osceola	St. Charles	Zinc
Briarcliff	Edmondson	Haskell	Louann	Oxford	St. Francis	
Brinkley	Egypt	Hatfield	Lowell	Ozan	St. Joe	
Brookland	El Dorado	Havana	Luxora	Ozark	St. Paul	
Bryant	Elaine	Haynes	Lynn	Palestine	Stamps	
Buckner	Elkins	Hazen	Madison	Pangburn	Star City	
Bull Shoals	Elm Springs	Heber Springs	Magazine	Paragould	Stevens	
Burdette	Emerson	Hector	Magness	Paris	Strawberry	
Cabot	Emmet	Helena-West Helena	Magnolia	Parkdale	Strong	
Caddo Valley	England	Hermitage	Malvern	Parkin	Stuttgart	
Caldwell	Enola	Hickory Ridge	Mammoth Spring	Patmos	Subiaco	
Cale	Etowah	Higden	Manila	Patterson	Success	
Calico Rock	Eudora	Higginson	Mansfield	Pea Ridge	Sulphur Rock	
Calion	Eureka Springs	Highfill	Marianna	Peach Orchard	Sulphur Springs	

NOLA Mayor Mitch Landrieu talks violence prevention at LR summit

By Andrew Morgan, League staff

Little Rock Mayor Mark Stodola and the Clinton School of Public Service presented a community safety summit on April 6 to discuss efforts to bring stakeholders together to solve the issue of violence in America's cities. The event was held at the Heifer International Village in Little Rock. New Orleans Mayor Mitch Landrieu was the keynote speaker. Landrieu is this year's president of the U.S. Conference of Mayors. Stodola is the current president of the National League of Cities.



The murder rate in New Orleans has dropped 30 percent since launching NOLA for Life, a broad violence reduction initiative, Mayor Mitch Landrieu said at an April community safety summit in Little Rock.

While New Orleans is thriving in many important areas—the population continues to grow, unemployment is historically low, and millions of dollars in new investment are coming to the city—curbing violence remains a challenge there as it does in many cities across the country, Landrieu said. He described for the audience the details of several senseless acts of violence in recent years that have ripped families apart and horrified citizens.

“Violence, guns, politics, and policy have been intertwined with my life since I was a baby boy,” Landrieu said.

He related a story from 1973, when he was in seventh grade. His father, Moon Landrieu, who was then mayor of New Orleans, received the call that Mark Essex,

who had already killed and wounded several police officers but evaded capture, was firing on police, firemen, and citizens in the Howard Johnson's near city hall. Landrieu climbed unnoticed into the back of his father's car when he raced to the scene, he said, and witnessed the gun battle. Sharpshooters were finally able to kill Essex, but not before he had shot 19 people, including 10 policemen.

In another incident, Landrieu popped into a convenience store and came face to face with an armed robber, who turned his gun on the young man.

“I can remember that steel revolver,” he said. “I can see it right now in my mind's eye. It was very big and it was very blue, and the hole was perfect.”

He couldn't imagine that 45 years later he'd be in the same office where he watched his father deal with that mass murderer, he said.

“As mayor of the great city of New Orleans I feel one hundred percent responsible for creating a city of peace so that a 13-year-old never feels threatened like I did in that convenience store that day.”

Landrieu said he still holds hope in democracy and our nation's ability to overcome the seemingly insurmountable problem of violence, but we've become numb to much of it, and chaos rules the national political landscape. That breeds dysfunction and despair, he said, and makes us less secure.

We cannot address violence without enacting widespread and sensible gun control measures, Landrieu said. He praised the Parkland, Fla., teens and other young people across the country who are forcing a conversation on this issue.

“They're assuming the mantle of leadership because the adults will not,” he said. “Hopefully this time our country's leaders will stand with the vast majority of Americans who agree with this very simple premise: Not every American needs access to every kind of weapon at any time to do anything they want.”

Ninety-seven percent of Americans agree with that, he said. Gun policy must be driven by facts and evidence-based solutions.

“Too much violence is caused when the wrong people have the wrong guns—at the wrong time—that are designed to kill. That's fairly simple and common sense.” Cities must engage with partners in every part of the city, businesses, schools, churches, and all stakeholders to strategize and address violence. New Orleans works

on the issue every day, he said, and launched NOLA for Life, a comprehensive murder reduction strategy that focuses on prevention, enforcement, and rehabilitation. In its first year since inception, the city's murder rate has dropped 30 percent, Landrieu said. In that same time frame the city has spent \$60 million keeping people in jail. That's money that could be going to "teaching kids how to swim, or teaching kids STEM, or teaching kids music, which is what they need to help make us better people," he said.

It will also take a broad cultural change to combat the cycle of violence, one that addresses racism and white supremacy, Landrieu said.

"We need to start to see ourselves in those who don't look like us, who don't live in the same neighborhoods as us," he said. "We need to acknowledge that, although we've made progress, we have a long way to go."

This May, Mayor Landrieu will receive the John F. Kennedy Profile in Courage Award for removing four Confederate statues from places of prominence in New Orleans, which earned him both praise and pushback. He has written a book about the experience,

titled *In the Shadow of Statues: A White Southerner Confronts History*.

Little Rock faces some of the same challenges as New Orleans when it comes to ending violence and building resilient neighborhoods, Mayor Mark Stodola said. The NOLA for Life program impressed Little Rock's administration, which borrowed the name and many of the strategies for its Little Rock for Life program.

"It's multi-faceted," Stodola said. "We know that the long-term issues are rooted in making our communities better, our neighborhoods better. They're rooted in education and opportunity and taking care of our children. Those kinds of things—good jobs and good education—we know are ultimately going to improve the entire community, and we know Mayor Landrieu has done that."

The summit also featured several panel discussions with local government leaders, community groups, and other stakeholders covering topics such as securing resources for violence prevention efforts and utilizing data to track outcomes. 🏛️



From left, local news anchor Donna Terrell moderates a discussion with New Orleans Mayor Mitch Landrieu and Little Rock Mayor Mark Stodola. Landrieu is the current president of the U.S. Conference of Mayors and Stodola is this year's National League of Cities president.

Fourteen cities work with NLC to combat childhood hunger

By Patrick Hain

In an effort to build citywide campaigns to reduce hunger in local communities, the National League of Cities (NLC) is bringing 14 cities to Kansas City, Mo., in late May to participate in the CHAMPS Cities Combating Hunger Leadership Academy, with these cities becoming eligible for grants and technical assistance to meet their goals.

Cities participating in the Leadership Academy were chosen because of the commitment of their leadership to reduce hunger and to strengthen or expand afterschool or summer meal programs, coupled with their potential to develop strong citywide campaigns that encourage the entire community to act to address hunger. Several of these cities will integrate ongoing work centered on healthy eating, resident wellness, and addressing inter-generational poverty into their anti-hunger campaigns. The list of cities includes:

- Allentown, Pa.
- Denton, Texas
- Durham, N.C.
- Henderson, Nev.
- Inglewood, Calif.
- Jackson, Miss.
- **Little Rock, Ark.**
- Mesa, Ariz.
- Miami, Fla.
- Miami Gardens, Fla.
- St. Louis, Mo.
- Spokane, Wash.
- Waco, Texas
- Winston-Salem, N.C.

“The CHAMPS Cities Combating Hunger project is yet another example of how cities are taking the lead on the most important issues that impact America,” said NLC President Mark Stodola, mayor of Little Rock. “Improving health and nutrition are among my top priorities and I am glad for this opportunity for Little Rock to learn and implement successful strategies from other cities to reduce childhood hunger, together.”

At the Leadership Academy, participating cities will gain access to, and guidance from field experts and broaden their relationships with peers in cities across the country working to address hunger. Sessions will provide guidance on how cities can utilize federal nutrition programs to expand access to meals, as well as strategies to engage elected officials, families, and the whole community in anti-hunger efforts.



Since 2012, the Walmart Foundation has supported NLC, working in close partnership with the Food Research and Action Center (FRAC), to help local leaders reduce childhood hunger in their communities by expanding participation in out-of-school meal programs. This work is part of Walmart and Walmart Foundations’ commitment to provide 4 billion meals to people by 2020. In the last six years, NLC and FRAC have helped 71 cities in more than 20 states provide over 12 million nutritious meals to children through the CHAMPS project.

Over the next two years, with continued support from the Walmart Foundation, NLC and FRAC will expand on this work and help a group of cities create anti-hunger campaigns with a focus on the role that city leadership can play in addressing hunger. These campaigns will, at their core, allow cities to expand or strengthen their out-of-school meal programs.

For more information about city-led anti-hunger campaigns, contact Patrick Hain at (202) 626-3099 or hain@nlc.org.

Patrick Hain is principal associate for financial empowerment in the NLC Institute for Youth, Education, and Families.

Friday 4:22 pm



THIS MOMENT BROUGHT TO YOU BY YOUR HOMETOWN. What makes a place unique, memorable, or special? It's paying attention to the details and being invested in what the locals cherish. Whether it's making sure the recycling is collected on time every week or sponsoring your favorite festival or parade. A better life starts in the city limits. From small towns to big cities, Arkansas's municipal communities improve our quality of life, every day. *Great Cities Make a Great State.*



greatcitiesgreatstate.com



The League's David Baxter leads a defensive driving class in Russellville.

League training programs help cities better serve citizens

By David Baxter

While working my way through the Arkansas Law Enforcement Training Academy and then as an Arkansas municipal police officer, I learned the value of education. Later in my law enforcement career, I had the opportunity to serve the citizens of North Little Rock as a police officer. It was there that I spent 12 years as a patrolman, training officer, SWAT team member, and community-based police officer. The North Little Rock police department is very proactive in professional development and encourages its officers to continue to develop both personally and professionally. This influence further instilled in me the love of education and the importance of professional development. While professional development is necessary and often mandated for Arkansas police departments, all municipal employees can benefit from educational opportunities.


Professional development training presents a prime opportunity to expand the knowledge and skills of all your employees. Training should be viewed as an investment. When you create a municipal culture of learning, you invest in your municipality and in your employees, and both your employees and the citizens reap the rewards. Perhaps the ultimate outcome of well-planned continuing professional development is that it safeguards the public, the municipality, employees, and the employees' careers. This investment can also show results in additional ways.

Professional development has been shown to help develop leadership skills, improve motivation, instill loyalty, foster better attitudes, and other aspects that successful workers and managers usually display. Employee production naturally increases when they feel more invested in the municipality and its citywide goals. Employees also become more aware of safety practices and proper procedures on tasks they do every day and may take for granted. Training also builds employees'

confidence because they have a stronger understanding of their tasks and responsibilities.

Another reward that your city may reap is a better overall image. This is because the citizens you serve will feel like you have their best interest at heart by taking the time to make sure employees can meet the ever-changing demands of your municipality.

Here at the League, we understand the importance of education and professional development for the cities and towns of Arkansas. We are committed to providing educational opportunities for municipal employees at all levels. We offer the Voluntary Certification Program for Municipal Officials, which has a curriculum of core courses and continuing education courses focused on municipal basics such as budget preparation and personnel matters. Additionally, we also offer an expanded list of professional development classes on a variety of topics that are both timely and relevant in today's municipalities. These programs include Defensive Driving for both police officers and non-police employees, Respect and Understanding in the Arkansas Municipal Workplace, Providing Exceptional Customer Service in the Arkansas Municipal Workplace, Workplace Violence Prevention, and #AMLMoves wellness training.

The League's professional development programs have had outstanding participation over the years. When looking at the participation in all the professional development training, it is encouraging to see cities, small and large, take advantage of these educational opportunities. For the year 2017 alone, the League trained 2,400 municipal employees and officials. So start developing your employees today! To learn more about these training opportunities and to schedule one for your city or department, contact League Health and Safety and Operations Manager David Baxter at (501) 374-3484 Ext. 110, or email dbaxter@arml.org. 



How to reduce stress caused by unsolicited communication

By Matt Alderton

Do you clam up when you're working on a document and hear the familiar "ding" of a new email arriving in your inbox? Does your heart skip a beat when your phone vibrates in the middle of a workday because your friend or significant other sent you a text message? Do you wince when your phone rings, or a coworker stops by your desk for a visit?

If you do, you're not alone. As it turns out, lots of people feel anxious about unsolicited communication. And it's not because they're anti-social. It's because they're busy. Really, really busy.

"You want to connect with people and maintain a relationship, so why does communication from them or requests like going out to lunch feel like a threat?" asks *Harvard Business Review* contributor Elizabeth Grace Saunders. "As a time management coach, I've found that these reactions happen because one of the main keys to managing your own time is managing expectations with others. In a society where people have the ability to communicate instantly, a quick response can become an expectation. But it's an expectation that we can't always meet, especially when we're trying to get work done. This gap between expectations and what we can actually do can lead to a lot of guilt, especially when it comes to the people closest to us. When left unaddressed, this guilt can manifest in a fight-or-flight response—we snap

at people who interrupt or simply ignore attempts at connection."

If you want spontaneous communications to bring delight instead of dread, try to build some breathing room into your schedule.

"A lack of margin in your schedule can make you cranky," Saunders says. "Instead of welcoming human connection, you shrink away from it because you're concerned it will stand in the way of keeping up with work. If this is the reason you feel irritated by people reaching out during the workday, block out times in your calendar and privately label that time 'margin.' To others, these blocks look like time commitments and reduce the likelihood of back-to-back meetings. But for you, they create space for extra work that pops up throughout the week, give you a chance to clear your head, and provide a slot for simple things like catching up on texts."

And above all else, try to keep some perspective.

"Step back and recognize that if you only had one week left to live, you'd likely immediately leave work and spend every moment possible with the people who might feel like they're getting in your way now," Saunders concludes.

This article originally appeared in Successful Meetings magazine (www.successfulmeetings.com) and is reprinted with permission.

LR Mayor Mark Stodola reflects on first six months as NLC president

By Andrew Morgan, League staff

This month marks the halfway point in Little Rock Mayor Mark Stodola's term as president of the National League of Cities (NLC). He took office at the NLC City Summit, held in November 2017 in Charlotte, N.C., and his term will end at this year's City Summit in Los Angeles. Mayor Stodola is the first ever Arkansas municipal official to serve as NLC president, and the first six months have been productive, he said.



PHOTO BY JASON DIXON.

Little Rock Mayor Mark Stodola addresses a meeting at the 2017 NLC City Summit in Charlotte, N.C.

His and the NLC's priorities for this year are focused on two key areas that have the potential for bipartisan support in Washington: improving our nation's infrastructure and expanding access to workforce training.

"Both projects are critically important to municipalities throughout the country, so I'm really excited the NLC has adopted my direction on this," Stodola said. "The infrastructure issue is, of course, something the League has been working on for quite some time, and clearly it's something that's on the agenda nationally. It's on the president's agenda. I don't know that it's exactly on the Congressional agenda, which has been some of the consequence of our dialogue."



PHOTO BY COREY WAINAINA

Tech leaders and city leaders came together for the NLC's Future of Cities meeting in February in the Bay Area.

That's why, he said, that during the NLC's Congressional City Conference in March in Washington, D.C., city leaders advocated so strongly on that issue. The conference also featured visits from five of the administration's cabinet members, each of whom mentioned the importance of infrastructure.

The sweeping tax legislation Congress passed in 2017 includes some possibilities for new and innovative infrastructure funding, especially for so-called Opportunity Zones, an initiative designed to inject long-term private investment into low-income areas. The bigger picture, Stodola said, will be determined by how



PHOTO BY BRYAN GRIFFITH.

SAPAA holds drug-testing training at League



Jeff Sims with a7TEST Consultants, Inc.

Congress budgets about \$1.5 trillion for infrastructure improvements.

“It’s pretty clear that the thought is that Congress comes up with some amount of money—the number that’s been thrown around is \$200 billion—but the rest of the money to get to that \$1.5 trillion...is largely made up through the public and the private sector.”

The federal government wants to know that cities have a plan for funding projects on their end, Stodola said, so he’s been working both locally and with city leaders nationally on funding via public-private partnerships and other strategies.

Expanding access to workforce education, to help prepare Americans for good jobs in a rapidly changing economy, is another top priority for the NLC, and its one where Stodola believes the League has made inroads, both in Washington and among other stakeholders such as the U.S. Chamber of Commerce.

“We have a tremendous number of employers who have jobs, but they need certain skillsets that don’t necessarily require a four-year degree,” Stodola said.

Expanding access to training programs to fill jobs like these is one area that our nation’s leaders on both sides of the aisle tend to agree on.

“We have a great opportunity to continue the dialogue in this area,” he said.

Stodola looks forward to discussing these and other important issues at the Arkansas Municipal League’s 84th Convention in June.

“It’s been very exciting for me to be president and have the opportunity to lead the organization this year,” Stodola said. “I spoke at the International Municipal Lawyer’s Association about the issue of preemption, something that we should be very interested in here in Arkansas and around the country. There are 47 states where cities have been impacted by issues of preemption. Arkansas has been hit pretty hard. Everything from minimum wage to paid leave, anti-discrimination, home sharing, ride sharing, tax and expenditure limitations are all things that we’ve looked at where states have preempted cities from handling, and there are further efforts in legislatures to increase the number of areas of preemption, so it’s a real big problem that we’re trying to educate people on.” 🏛️

The Substance Abuse Program Administrators Association (SAPAA) held a session of its training institute on April 24 at the League’s North Little Rock headquarters. The training helps keep drug-testing agents, third-party administrators, medical review officers, and in-house program administrators up to date on DOT regulation changes, collection challenges, and other issues important to workplace drug testing.

Jeff Sims, president of a7TEST Consultants, Inc., covered several topics during the meeting, including DOT changes, avoiding common OSHA citations, and the importance of educating employees on drug-free workplace policies.

“It’s one thing to write a big policy at the corporate level, but it’s another thing to actually articulate it to the employees,” Sims said.

Too often, he said, supervisors haven’t properly disseminated the information to their workforce.

“I’ll ask, when was the last time you had an employee meeting to talk about the policy you just updated? Chances are 80 percent of the time they’ll say no, we haven’t told them what their responsibility was.”

Covering the policy and getting employee signatures is essential, Sims said. 🏛️

Unpredictability: When the chaos theory comes to city hall

By Jim von Tungeln

Anyone connected with municipal government for any length of time has witnessed it. Heading for what should be a quiet and uneventful board or council meeting, one turns a corner and doesn't see a parking space within four blocks of city hall. And why is that crowd there with pitchforks and torches? This isn't normal, but what is it?

The operative term here is unpredictable. These are situations that are unexpected and can't be explained except in hindsight. Consider the mayor of one of our state's major cities who came to city hall once to open the doors for a routine city council meeting.

"I couldn't get to the doors for the angry crowd," he later reported. "Nothing on the agenda appeared the least bit controversial. The main item on it was to approve the adding of an optional premium channel to the local TV cable system."

It turns out that was the cause of the commotion. In order to build support, the cable company had offered a free night of said premium channel in order to

allow residents to see first-hand what a deal it offered. Unfortunately, nobody bothered to check the schedule for the night of the free broadcast.

Yes. It just so happened that the steamiest, "R-rated" movie in the company's archives played that evening, with half of the quiet, conservative, "G-rated" community watching. According to those at the scene, the results were not pretty.

Unanticipated controversy can cause chaos with planning commission meetings as well. Unfortunately, planning commissioners are not as experienced in dealing with them as elected officials. They may be drawn into making comments or taking actions that can create problems. It is important that they are trained to anticipate such events and handle them as effectively as possible.

Unexpected controversies can erupt because of potential issues overlooked by both staff and the commissioners. Citizens and neighbors may have encountered problems long ago that lay half-buried in collective



PHOTO BY NICK COWLE.

All public meetings are calm before they start and after they finish.

memories. All it takes is a development proposal or re-zoning request to awaken fears and concerns that only longtime residents remember.

Then there is the angry crowd whipped into a frenzy over a non-controversial re-zoning request by an individual who was outbid for the property. In times such as these that harbor an innate distrust of government, it is easier to build anger than it once was. All it takes is a made-up story, and time to knock on doors.

Although rare, there have been cases when political opportunism created the desire to create a controversy where none appeared before. And don't discount revenge. One unexplained outcry at a planning commission years ago was ultimately traced to an incident between two lifelong residents back in third grade.

There is always the chance that an external event like a traffic accident, fire, or other public safety emergency may change the public's attitude about a planning commission case overnight. The populace can turn against development in general after a severe flood event. Consider the job of a city attorney in defending the refusal of a planning commission to approve a valid development because citizens were angry about flooding in a different drainage basin.

In any of these cases, planning commissioners may suffer from being blindsided and moved either toward inaction or decisions that may prove errant in the long run. How might they be prepared to deal with such surprises? Since most cities now have placed term limits on planning commissioners, those with experience in handling such cases may be rare.

This speaks to the need for an organized planning commission. The first step requires a clear set of bylaws that govern the procedures of the commission in accordance with the statute stating "The [city's] planning commission shall adopt rules and regulations for the discharge of its duties and the transaction of business."

These bylaws, from a reading of sample ones from around the state, may outline exactly how and when citizens may be heard at a planning commission meeting. A strong commission chair and a clear and explicit set of bylaws may go a long way in preventing any unruly crowd from disrupting a commission meeting. A strong, educated, and well-advised planning commission chair may save her or his city thousands of dollars by avoiding legal battles caused by hasty reactions to citizen input. Ask any city attorney.

This discussion does not directly relate to planning commission cases that are known to be controversial and in which commissioners expect a contentious crowd. The discussion herein specifically deals with disruptive but unanticipated inputs. Some of the principles may,

however, apply to all cases before the commission. It never hurts a city to have a trained planning commission, a strong commission chair, and bylaws that are both clear and explicit.

But back to the unexpected. One should understand that there are few occasions in which planning commissions must take immediate action. Years ago, it wasn't uncommon for planning commissions to review material, listen to input, and take a case "under advisement" for later decisions.

This offers a number of advantages. In many cases, it pays to, in the words of a famous Texas governor, "let the coffee cool" on an issue. Unfounded controversy tends to dissipate in the bright light of day. Conversely, decisions made in the heat of the moment may cause deep regret after calm contemplation. Sometimes, it takes time for folks to change their mind.

Second, taking the time to obtain, assemble, and review all pertinent facts concerning an issue allows the planning commission better to do the job entrusted to it by the council and for the people.

Finally, while the coffee is cooling, the planning commission and staff have time to seek legal input. One would be hard pressed to find a city attorney that wouldn't recommend seeking legal advice before, not after, a questionable decision is made.

Finally, city government must deal with the fact that the general public may now know less about the complexities of public administration than ever before. One sees less coverage of planning commission meetings by local media as time goes by. This refers to legitimate media. Bloggers and producers of amateur online newspapers often know very little about either public administration or the standards of legitimate and ethical journalism. They tend to thrive on controversy, not factual reporting.

Planning commissioners may ultimately face a situation where they, themselves, must educate the public through sources such as websites, news releases, and newsletters.

As always, cities must remember the value in training planning commissioners and especially planning commission chairs, in the complexities involved in their mandate. Such training may not eliminate chaotic commission meetings, but it may help to better handle them.



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 e-mail address is uplan@swbell.net

IBLA celebrates another year of musical excellence

By Sherman Banks

The sun-baked island of Sicily, where the IBLA Grand Prize takes place, has produced another year of extraordinary performers. Musicians from around the globe compete in the internationally recognized festival that was created to play a meaningful role in the discovery and support of talented musicians.



From left, Giulio De Felice and Cristiano Arata.

Winners of the competition perform on a world tour in such prestigious venues as Lincoln Center and Carnegie Hall in New York, the Tokyo Opera City Hall, Tchaikovsky Bolshoi Hall in Moscow, and in other prestigious venues in Canada, Europe, Russia, and the United States.

As part of their world tour, the musically gifted winners of the IBLA Grand Prize competition have performed annually in Arkansas in public schools and community concerts for the last 19 years. The competition winners will once again grace Arkansas stages during their 2018 World tour.

IBLA Grand Prize winners this year offer Arkansas audiences their unique talents. Chieko Arake of Japan plays the alto saxophone with vibrancy. Ami Walsh from Finland has a soprano voice that will bring joy to your heart. A duo from Italy, Cristiano Arata, who plays a 200-year-old guitar, and Giulio De Felice, who plays the wooden flute, perform as one. A classical guitarist from Italy, Giuseppe Buscemi, plays both lead and backup, which is not an easy feat. Chinese pianist Luowen Huang's fingers trip lightly over the keyboard with expert precision. Italian pianist Salvatore Vaccarella plays Debussy's "What the West Wind Saw" with such precision that you could hear the wind whistle through the canyon as it roared from the storm. Another young lady from Japan, Momoko Arima, plays the violin with eloquence. Another dynamic duo, Valentina Vargiu



Chieko Arake on saxophone accompanied by pianist Tamara Licheli.

PHOTOS BY ANDREW MORGAN.



Soprano Ami Walsh accompanied by Tamara Licheli.

from Italy on piano and Ghenadie Rotari from Moldova on accordion, keeps the audience mesmerized. Finally, Tamara Licheli, pianist from the country Georgia, plays with such passion that she awakens the soul.

The IBLA Grand Prize winners this year performed in Little Rock, Jacksonville, Springdale, Batesville, and Lake Village. I estimate that we presented master classes to approximately 1,500 students this year. The interaction between the students and performers is always the highlight of our travels around the state.

If you would like for your city to experience the rhythm, harmony, and balance that comes from these world-class performances, please contact Sherman Banks at (501) 786-2639 or email sbanks@aristotle.net.



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.



Giuseppe Buscemi.

IT in a Box

A complete IT solution for city governments.

Cybersecurity and Computer Maintenance

24x7 Helpdesk

Data Backup and Disaster Recovery

Records / Document Management and Email

Policy & Compliance

Who guarantees IT services based on your expectations?

WE DO!

Website

Video Archiving

Vendor Management and Procurement

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

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

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

Powered by **Sophicity**



Paris makes headway on action plan

By Shelby Fiegel and Brittany Lutz

In August of 2014, the City of Paris decided that it was time to start taking the future into their own hands. To begin this process, Paris enlisted the help of the University of Central Arkansas Center for Community and Economic Development and the University of Arkansas Cooperative Extension Service. Through a six-month period of brainstorming, research and communication the community created the Paris Action Plan, a 10-year blueprint for growth and development of the city.

The Paris Action Plan identifies three areas of focus for the city that serve as a foundation for all of the short and long-term goals outlined within the plan:

- Education, workforce development, and jobs
- Quality of life, quality of place, and youth activities
- Tourism, marketing, branding, and downtown development

Nearly a half a decade has passed since the creation of the Paris Action Plan and the city is on track to successfully implement the plan. Paris community leaders Tonya Baumgartner, Paris Area Chamber of Commerce director and city council member, and Dr. Lee Lane, chair of the Logan County Industrial Development Corporation, recently reviewed the Action Plan to determine which goals have already been completed, are in progress, or have not been started or are no longer applicable. Out of the 87 goals outlined in the plan, 18 (approximately 22 percent) were completed, 56 (approximately 64 percent) are currently in progress, and 12 (approximately 14 percent) have not been started or are no longer applicable goals.



With nearly 86 percent of the Paris Action Plan goals either completed or in progress, Paris has become an emerging community in the state of Arkansas. Many peer communities of Paris now look to them as a guide in their development efforts. Some of the major accomplishments Paris has achieved include:

Tyson Foods Logan County Career Center—“We recognized workforce is the top priority for any community wanting students to move ahead in the future,” Baumgartner said. “We completed the Tyson Foods Logan County Career Center last year with classes in adult education, allied health, industrial technology, and welding.” With a \$1.3 million investment from partners such as Tyson Foods, the Arkansas Department of Higher Education, Arkansas Tech University–Ozark, local business owners, and others, Paris opened the Tyson Foods Logan County Career Center in January 2018. Close to 60 students are currently enrolled in the Career Center. Paris has also caught the eye of an international investor. Hengtong, a Chinese technology company, is considering setting up their first American plant in the community.

Arkansas Downtown Network—The Paris Action Plan made it possible for downtown advocates and other community leaders to implement a coordinated plan of action for a more vibrant downtown through beautification efforts, signage, renovation, and restoration of building facades, and the recruitment of new businesses and shops. Because of these efforts, Paris was selected as an Arkansas Downtown Network community and was named a 2017 Tourism Trendsetter City. Baumgartner said, “The process of creating the Paris Action Plan encouraged us to join the Main Street Arkansas program, which has brought grant money to assist our businesses and many business facades have been restored to their original beauty.”

Branding and Marketing—Not only is Paris now home to the only Eiffel Tower in the state (which can be seen at Eiffel Tower Park in downtown Paris), but the city is focused on becoming a tourism hub. The Paris Area Chamber is creating a tourism video that will include 10 points of interest in the area, one of which is Mt. Magazine. There are also plans to increase awareness of Paris as a tourist destination by including more flyers in visitor centers and other chambers across the state. Tour de Paire, a new biking event whose route runs from Paris to Mt. Magazine Lodge, will also be featured in *Bike AR* magazine.

“I am proud of the work we have accomplished through the Paris Action Plan,” Baumgartner said. “We have checked off most of our top priorities in a few short years. I have held eight ribbon cuttings in three years and we have three more scheduled this year just in our downtown, which was a top priority. The Paris Action Plan

has helped pull a large group of volunteers together with a common vision and love for their community for the betterment of the community. I was new in my position when we started this process and it gave me the traction I needed to get our community behind a common vision!”

Ever since the adoption of the Paris Action Plan, the city has been tirelessly working to change their community for the better. Community leaders recognize that community development and economic development are two sides of the same coin. Without one, the other cannot live prosperously. Paris is on the fast track to success, and it will certainly be interesting to see where they are five more years down the road.



Shelby Fiegel is the assistant director of the Center for Community and Economic Development at the University of Central Arkansas. Contact her at sfiegel@uca.edu or (501) 450-5269.



Brittany Lutz is the Center for Community and Economic Development intern at the University of Central Arkansas. Contact her at blutz1@cub.uca.edu.

“The greatest thing in this world is not so much where we stand as in what direction we are moving.”
— Goethe

110 South 7th Street Van Buren, AR 72956 479.474.1227	211 Natural Resources Dr. Little Rock, AR 72205 501.374.4846
438 East Millsap Rd., Ste.107 Fayetteville, AR 72703 479.455.2206	403 Garrison Ave., Ste.101 Fort Smith, AR 72901 479.242.4885

www.hawkins-weir.com

The Platters will bring the sound of early rock and roll to the 84th Convention

In 1955, Herb Reed, David Lynch, Paul Robi, Zola Taylor, and Tony Williams crashed through the racial divide in the music industry paving the way for The Platters to become the first African-American vocal group to reach international superstardom. Their debut single, “Only You (and You Alone),” became an instant hit and launched the vocal group on the world stage. It would eventually reach number five on the pop charts, pioneering the “new sound” of Rock & Roll.

The follow-up single, “The Great Pretender,” propelled The Platters to the number one position on the charts, providing the launch pad for their meteoric rise as crossover artists. “Twilight Time,” “Smoke Gets in Your Eyes,” and “Ebb Tide” are just a few of the group’s chart-topping, instantly recognizable hits. The Platters were inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 1990.

In keeping with the founder’s wishes, The Platters continue to evolve and entertain music fans of all ages worldwide. With a solid foundation of hit songs under their belts, thanks to the founding members, The Platters today, Wayne Miller, Adele Galinda “DD” Grey Martin, Lance Bernard Bryant, and Kenny Williams—all seasoned, veteran performers of film, stage, and music from Broadway to Hollywood—continue to



captivate audiences under the baton of Musical Director Michael Larson.

The League is honored to welcome The Platters to the 84th Convention, where they will perform during the opening night reception, 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, June 13 in the Wally Allen Ballroom of the Statehouse Convention Center in Little Rock. 🏛️

CLE offered during League Convention

Twelve (12) hours of continuing legal education (CLE) will be available for city attorneys who attend the League’s 84th, June 13-15 at the Statehouse Convention Center in Little Rock. The Arkansas City Attorney’s Association (ACAA) sponsors the CLE.

Jonesboro City Attorney and the current ACAA President Carol Duncan urges members to register for the Convention as soon as possible.

The 12 hours will be offered June 14 and 15 and the tentative CLE agenda includes topics such as annexation, the 2020 Census, an opioid litigation update, legislative audits, and medical marijuana. Additionally, the program will include at least one hour of ethics.

Held in conjunction with the 84th Convention, all CLE classes will be located at the League’s headquarters in North Little Rock. CLE will tentatively begin at 8 a.m. Thursday, June 14. If you have not pre-registered, you may do so at the Statehouse Convention Center starting at 1 p.m. Wednesday, June 13. Registered city attorneys attending Thursday and Friday classes can pick up registration materials at League headquarters.

To attend the CLE program, registration is required. To register online visit the League’s website, www.arml.org. For registration information, call Whitnee Bullerwell (501) 978-6105. For CLE information, call Mark Hayes at (501) 978-6102 or Jamie Adams at (501) 978-6124.



*The pleasure of your company
is requested for a gracious and beautiful evening
at the People's House*

Arkansas Governor's Mansion

*Thursday, June 14, 2018 ❖ 6:30 until 8:30 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

go online to <https://goo.gl/7o9rm2>

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 6:00 P.M.

** Reservations accepted through May 31, 2018, if available **



84th Annual Convention

Marriott Hotel/Statehouse Convention Center, June 13-15, 2018

MONTHS

01

DAYS

00

HOURS

12

Countdown to Convention.

June 13–15 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 13**

1:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m.
1:30 p.m.-2:30 p.m.
3:00 p.m.-5:30 p.m.
5:30 p.m.
6:30 p.m.

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

**THURSDAY
JUNE 14**

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

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

**FRIDAY
JUNE 15**

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

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

RESOLUTIONS

Suggested Convention Resolutions for consideration at the 84th Annual Convention should be mailed to:
84th Convention Resolutions
Arkansas Municipal League
P.O. Box 38
North Little Rock, AR 72115-0038

The deadline for Resolution submission is Tuesday, May 15.

Resolutions may be drafted by an official of any member city or town and can relate to any matter of municipal concern. See your **2017-2018 Policies and Goals** for resolutions adopted at the 83rd Convention.

WANTED: Elected City officials with 25 years of service

Were you elected and began serving your city or town in 1993? The League would like to know.

The League will give special recognition to **elected city and town officials** who are in their 25th year of municipal service at the 84th League Convention, June 13-15, in Little Rock.

Names must be submitted to the League by May 15.

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

NOTICE TO EXHIBITORS

At the 84th Convention, a special Exhibit Hall is available for businesses, companies and manufacturers to display their products and services that are available to Arkansas municipalities.

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

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

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



84th Annual Convention

Marriott Hotel / Statehouse Convention Center, June 13-15, 2018

REGISTRATION

Registration and payment must be received in League office by Friday, June 1, 2018, to qualify for Pre-registration rates.

Pre-registration for municipal officials	\$150
Registration fee after June 1, 2018 , and on-site registration for municipal officials	\$175
Pre-registration for guests	\$75
Registration fee after June 1, 2018 , 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 **2017-2018 Handbook for Arkansas Municipal Officials**.
- No daily registration is available.
- Registration must come through the League office. No telephone registrations will be accepted.
- **No refunds after June 1, 2018.**
- Cancellation letters must be postmarked by **June 1, 2018**.
- **Hotel Reservations:** In order to avoid a cancellation penalty of one night's room and tax, reservations must be cancelled at least seven (7) business days prior to arrival.

HOTEL RESERVATION

Hotel Room Rates

Marriott Hotel (headquarters hotel)		
Single/Double	\$136	Check-in 3 p.m.
Capital Hotel		
Single/Double	\$189	Check-in 3 p.m.
Doubletree Hotel		
Single/Double	\$144	Check-in 3 p.m.
Wyndham Hotel		
Single/Double	\$109	Check-in 3 p.m.

- Cut-off date for hotel reservations is **June 1, 2018**.
- 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 **OR**

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

2 Complete the steps and **mail with payment** to:
 ARKANSAS MUNICIPAL LEAGUE
 Attn: 84th Annual Convention
 P.O. Box 38
 North Little Rock, AR 72115-0038

Step 1: Delegate Information

Name:

Title: City of:

Attendee only email (required): CC Email:

Address: City:

State: Zip: Phone Number:

Non-city Official guests will attend: Yes No

Name: Name:

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

Step 2: Payment Information

• **WHAT IS YOUR TOTAL?** (see opposite page for fees)

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

• **How are you paying?**

Check

Mail payment and form to:
 Arkansas Municipal League
 84th Annual Convention
 P.O. Box 38
 North Little Rock, AR 72115

Credit Card Complete information below and send to address above.

Credit Card: Visa MasterCard Discover

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

Card Holder Name (as it appears on card):

Billing address (as it appears on statement):

City: State: ... Zip: Telephone:

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

Step 3: Hotel Reservations

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

Marriott Hotel ... Reservations ... (877) 759-6290

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

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

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

Special dietary needs:

- Gluten free
- Vegetarian
- Pescatarian
- Vegan

WEDNESDAY - JUNE 13, 2018

1:00 P.M. to 7:00 P.M.	REGISTRATION <i>(Be sure to download the League's meeting App onto your smart device. Search for "AML" in your App Store.)</i>	OSAGE & CADDO ROOMS, SCC
1:00 P.M. to 6:45 P.M.	MEET YOUR EXHIBITORS/RENEW ACQUAINTANCES <i>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.</i>	GOVERNOR'S HALLS I - III, SCC
1:30 P.M. to 2:30 P.M.	ARKANSAS CITY CLERKS, RECORDERS, AND TREASURERS ASSOCIATION	ARKANSAS BALL ROOM, MH
*3:00 P.M. to 4:00 P.M.	OPIOID ADDICTION: UP CLOSE AND PERSONAL <i>Arkansas ranks second in the country in opioid addiction. Very few have been exempt from the impact of this national epidemic. An expert in addiction behavior, will share a personal story and offer insight into the minds of opioid addicts and the struggles they face.</i> Presiding: Mayor Doug Sprouse, Springdale President Arkansas Municipal League Sponsored by: Arvest Bank	GOVERNOR'S HALL IV, SCC
4:00 P.M. to 4:15 P.M.	BREAK	GOVERNOR'S HALLS I - III, SCC
*4:15 P.M. to 5:15 P.M.	TRENDING LEGAL MATTERS AND OTHER ISSUES OF IMPORTANCE <i>Recent updates on the opioid epidemic and litigation, South Dakota v. Wayfair and issues related to the Arkansas Medical Marijuana Act (AMMA) will be discussed.</i> Presiding: Mayor Doug Sprouse, Springdale President Arkansas Municipal League	GOVERNOR'S HALL IV, SCC
5:15 P.M. to 5:30 P.M.	BREAK	GOVERNOR'S HALLS I - III, SCC
5:30 P.M. to 6:30 P.M.	RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE <i>Each municipality has a designated representative who will vote on legislative matters to include the League's Policies and Goals for the coming year.</i> Presiding: Mayor Joe Smith, North Little Rock First Vice President Arkansas Municipal League	GOVERNOR'S HALL IV, SCC

6:30 P.M. to 9:00 P.M.	OPENING NIGHT RECEPTION AND ENTERTAINMENT <i>Welcome to the 84th Convention's Opening Night Reception. Enjoy delicious foods, tasty drinks and delicious desserts all while listening to The Platters. Visit with colleagues from across the state.</i>	WALLY ALLEN BALLROOM, SCC
--	---	---------------------------

THURSDAY A.M. - JUNE 14, 2018

7:00 A.M. to 5:30 P.M.	REGISTRATION <i>(Be sure to download the League's meeting App onto your smart device. Search for "AML" in your App Store.)</i>	OSAGE ROOM, SCC
7:00 A.M. to 5:30 P.M.	EXHIBITS OPEN	GOVERNOR'S HALLS I - III, 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
7:15 A.M. to 7:30 A.M.	VOLUNTARY PRAYER SESSION <i>This is a brief time set aside for those who wish to gather to pray for our national, state and local leaders.</i>	FULTON ROOM, SCC
8:15 A.M.	CONTINUING LEGAL EDUCATION <i>City attorneys will receive 12 hours of CLE credit for participation in two days of meetings.</i>	LEAGUE HEADQUARTERS 301 W. SECOND NLR, 72114
8:45 A.M. to 9:45 A.M.	OPENING GENERAL SESSION <i>The 84th Convention begins with the posting of the colors and the singing of the National Anthem, followed by a Host City Welcome from NLC President and Little Rock Mayor Mark Stodola. We are honored to have our 46th Governor join us for the Opening of our 84th Convention and address our delegates.</i> Presiding: Mayor Doug Sprouse, Springdale President Arkansas Municipal League Color Guard by: Little Rock Fire Department Color Guard National Anthem: Maggie Benton Miss Arkansas Host City Welcome Address: Mayor Mark Stodola, Little Rock Speaker: Honorable Asa Hutchinson Governor, State of Arkansas	GOVERNOR'S HALL IV, SCC
9:45 A.M. to 10:00 A.M.	BREAK <i>Soft drinks and coffee available in the Exhibit Hall.</i>	GOVERNOR'S HALLS I - III, SCC

*MH = MARRIOTT HOTEL
*SCC = STATEHOUSE CONVENTION CENTER
*TBA = TO BE ANNOUNCED

****TENTATIVE****

<p>*10:00 A.M. to 10:45 A.M.</p>	<p>GENERAL SESSION 2 THE FUTURE OF WORK FOR THE MUNICIPAL WORKFORCE</p> <p><i>What will the workforce of the future be like for municipalities of all sizes? Will technological advances improve or complicate the workforce and our quality of life? Brooks Rainwater of the National League of Cities' Center for Solutions will share his insight and will be followed by a panel of city officials who will offer their opinions as well.</i></p> <p>Presiding: Mayor Doug Sprouse, Springdale President Arkansas Municipal League</p> <p>Speaker: Brooks Rainwater, Director of the Center for City Solutions National League of Cities</p>	<p>GOVERNOR'S HALL IV, SCC</p>
<p>10:45 A.M. to 11:00 A.M.</p>	<p>BREAK</p> <p><i>Soft drinks and coffee available in the Exhibit Hall.</i></p>	<p>GOVERNOR'S HALLS I - III, SCC</p>
<p>11:00 A.M. to 11:45 A.M.</p>	<p>GENERAL SESSION 3 UPDATES ON COURT RULINGS AND LEGISLATIVE TASK FORCES</p> <p><i>Court rulings on cases affecting Arkansas municipalities will be discussed as well as the results of the Legislative Water Task Force and Pension Study. Briefings on other important issues may be discussed as well.</i></p> <p>Presiding: Mayor Joe Smith, North Little Rock First Vice President Arkansas Municipal League</p>	<p>GOVERNOR'S HALL IV, SCC</p>
<p>12:00 P.M. to 1:15 P.M.</p>	<p>AWARDS LUNCHEON</p> <p><i>Welcome to the 84th Convention Awards Luncheon. We will recognize municipalities and individuals that have made significant contributions to the cities and towns of Arkansas. After the Awards, we will hear from President Akufo-Addo of Ghana, West Africa who will address city officials on the various ways that Ghana can develop business and cultural relations with Arkansas.</i></p> <p>Presiding: Mayor Doug Sprouse, Springdale President Arkansas Municipal League</p> <p>Introduction: Sherman Banks, Honorary Consul of Republic of Ghana</p> <p>Speaker: Nana Akufo-Addo President of Ghana</p> <p>Sponsored by: American Fidelity Assurance Company</p>	<p>WALLY ALLEN BALLROOM, SCC</p>

THURSDAY CONCURRENT WORKSHOPS		
<p>1:30 P.M. to 2:45 P.M.</p>	<p>1. LAND USE CHALLENGES: ANNEXATION, 2020 CENSUS AND MORE</p>	<p>TBA</p>
<p>1:30 P.M. to 2:45 P.M.</p>	<p>2. AVOIDING AUDIT VIOLATIONS: BEST PRACTICES</p>	<p>TBA</p>
<p>1:30 P.M. to 2:45 P.M.</p>	<p>3. UNKEMPT PROPERTIES, DILAPIDATED HOUSES AND OUT OF STATE PROPERTY OWNERS: TOOLS TO MAKE YOUR CITY OR TOWN CLEAN AND SAFE</p>	<p>TBA</p>
<p>1:30 P.M. to 2:45 P.M.</p>	<p>4. BEST PRACTICES: STREET MAINTENANCE AND TRAFFIC SAFETY</p>	<p>TBA</p>
<p>1:30 P.M. to 2:45 P.M.</p>	<p>5. SISTER CITIES INTERNATIONAL</p>	<p>TBA</p>
<p>1:30 P.M. to 2:45 P.M.</p>	<p>6. PREPARING FOR TOMORROW'S WORKFORCE</p>	<p>TBA</p>
<p>1:30 P.M. to 2:45 P.M.</p>	<p>7. PASSING LARGE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS</p>	<p>TBA</p>
<p>2:45 P.M. to 3:00 P.M.</p>	<p>BREAK</p> <p><i>Soft drinks and coffee available in the Exhibit Hall.</i></p>	<p>GOVERNOR'S HALLS I - III, SCC</p>
THURSDAY CONCURRENT WORKSHOPS		
<p>3:00 P.M. to 4:15 P.M.</p>	<p>1. AVOIDING AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT (ADA) LAWSUITS</p>	<p>TBA</p>
<p>3:00 P.M. to 4:15 P.M.</p>	<p>2. PREVENTING NEIGHBORHOOD CRIMES</p>	<p>TBA</p>
<p>3:00 P.M. to 4:15 P.M.</p>	<p>3. ECONOMIC AND BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT BEST PRACTICES</p>	<p>TBA</p>
<p>3:00 P.M. to 4:15 P.M.</p>	<p>4. MANAGING CITY WATER/WASTEWATER/UTILITY SYSTEMS AND LICENSING REQUIREMENTS</p>	<p>TBA</p>
<p>3:00 P.M. to 4:15 P.M.</p>	<p>5. GRANTS AND FUNDING SOURCES</p>	<p>TBA</p>
<p>3:00 P.M. to 4:15 P.M.</p>	<p>6. SOCIAL MEDIA AND CYBERSECURITY</p>	<p>TBA</p>
<p>3:00 P.M. to 4:15 P.M.</p>	<p>7. EQUALITY: A PLAN FOR A BETTER COMMUNITY</p>	<p>TBA</p>
<p>4:15 P.M. to 4:30 P.M.</p>	<p>BREAK</p> <p><i>Soft drinks and coffee available in the Exhibit Hall.</i></p>	<p>GOVERNOR'S HALLS I - III, SCC</p>

****TENTATIVE****

84th ANNUAL CONVENTION OF THE ARKANSAS MUNICIPAL LEAGUE JUNE 13 - 15, 2018

<p>4:30 P.M. to 5:30 P.M.</p>	<p>RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE <i>Each municipality has a designated representative who will vote on legislative matters to include the League's Policies and Goals for the coming year.</i></p> <p>Presiding: Mayor Joe Smith, City of North Little Rock, Arkansas Municipal League First Vice President</p>	<p>GOVERNOR'S HALLS IV, SCC</p>	<p>9:00 A.M. to 10:30 A.M.</p>	<p>ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING <i>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.</i></p> <p>Presiding: Mayor Doug Sprouse, Springdale President Arkansas Municipal League</p> <p>Speakers: Don Zimmerman Executive Director Arkansas Municipal League</p>	<p>GOVERNOR'S HALL IV, SCC</p>
THURSDAY CONCURRENT WORKSHOPS					
<p>4:30 P.M. to 5:30 P.M.</p>	<p>1. BEEBE'S ANIMAL CONTROL PROGRAM: A SUCCESSFUL EFFORT BY CITY OFFICIALS AND VOLUNTEERS</p>	<p>TBA</p>	<p>10:30 A.M. to 10:45 A.M.</p>	<p>BREAK</p>	<p>GOVERNOR'S HALLS I - III, SCC</p>
<p>4:30 P.M. to 5:30 P.M.</p>	<p>2. HUMAN RESOURCE AND FINANCE OFFICERS: STATE AND FEDERAL LEAVE TIME AND PAY REQUIREMENTS</p>	<p>TBA</p>	<p>10:45 A.M. to 11:45 A.M.</p> <p>GENERAL SESSION THE BEST OF MAYOR JONES (KEN WASSON) AND HIS MANY CALLS TO THE AML LEGAL DEPARTMENT. <i>This session will highlight a few of the many calls the fictitious Mayor Jones of Midtown, AR has made to General Counsel Mark Hayes over the last five years. We will conclude with "Reflections From A Retiring Public Servant" based on Ken's years of public service.</i></p> <p>Presiding: Whitnee Bullerwell Communications Director Arkansas Municipal League</p> <p>Speakers: Ken Wasson Director of Operations Arkansas Municipal League Mark Hayes, General Counsel Arkansas Municipal League</p>		
<p>4:30 P.M. to 5:30 P.M.</p>	<p>3. HUMAN CAPITAL IN YOUR CITY</p>	<p>TBA</p>			
<p>4:30 P.M. to 5:30 P.M.</p>	<p>4. COMPLETE STREETS: LIVABLE COMMUNITIES</p>	<p>TBA</p>	<p>GOVERNOR'S HALL IV, SCC</p>		
<p>5:30 P.M.</p>	<p>THE EXHIBIT HALL WILL CLOSE FOR THE DAY.</p>				
<p>6:30 P.M. to 8:30 P.M.</p>	<p>DINNER AT THE GOVERNOR'S MANSION <i>League members with reservations will enjoy a gracious and beautiful evening at The People's House. Please promptly board shuttles to the Governor's Mansion beginning at 6:00 p.m. Shuttles will be located at the main entrance of the Marriott Hotel.</i></p> <p>Transportation, Libations and Desserts Sponsored by: Garver</p>	<p>ARKANSAS GOVERNOR'S MANSION</p>			
	<p>DINNER ON YOUR OWN <i>Visit some of central Arkansas's finest restaurants.</i></p>		FRIDAY - JUNE 15, 2018		
<p>7:00 A.M. to NOON</p>	<p>REGISTRATION <i>(Be sure to download the League's meeting App onto your smart device. Search for "AML" in your App Store.)</i></p>	<p>OSAGE ROOM, SCC</p>	<p>NOON to 1:30 P.M.</p>	<p>NEW OFFICERS' AND AWARDS LUNCHEON <i>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.</i></p> <p>Presiding: Mayor Doug Sprouse, Springdale President Arkansas Municipal League</p> <p>*Qualifying municipal officials must attend the 84th Convention to receive three (3) hours of continuing education credit. Scanning for credit will take place at the conclusion of the Awards and New Officers' Luncheon.</p>	<p>GRAND BALLROOM SALONS A-C, MH</p>
<p>7:00 A.M. to 10:45 A.M.</p>	<p>EXHIBITS OPEN <i>(Exhibit Hall will close at 10:45 a.m. for the remainder of the Convention.)</i></p>	<p>GOVERNOR'S HALLS I - III, SCC</p>			
<p>7:00 A.M. to 8:45 A.M.</p>	<p>BUFFET BREAKFAST</p>	<p>GOVERNOR'S HALLS I - III, SCC</p>			
<p>8:15 A.M.</p>	<p>CONTINUING LEGAL EDUCATION <i>City attorneys will receive 12 hours of CLE credit for participation in two days of meetings.</i></p>	<p>LEAGUE HEADQUARTERS 301 W. SECOND NLR, 72114</p>			

TENTATIVE

ARKANSAS MUNICIPAL EQUIPMENT

ametrucks.com

501-425-1567

Daniel Ellison



LOOK

NJPA

National Joint Powers Alliance*

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



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



Infant Care 101: Should I breastfeed?

By Misty Virmani, M.D.

Any new or expectant mother knows the question and contemplation well. Should you breastfeed your child?

Studies show it is in the best interest of you and your baby to breastfeed; however, those parents who choose another option should not be embarrassed about their decision. There are many external factors that decide the best option for each individual family. No parent should ever feel guilty for making a choice that is right for the family.

Here are some things to consider when making your decision.

What are the benefits of breastfeeding?

Breastfeeding provides numerous benefits—some lifelong—to the mother and child. For the mother, it helps reduce blood pressure after childbirth, it can be calming, and provides opportunity to bond with your new bundle of joy.

It reduces the risk of several types of cancer specific to women, and it significantly reduces the risk of developing type-2 diabetes after gestational diabetes during pregnancy. Rates of postpartum depression and suicide, as well as infant neglect and abuse, are also lowered.

Research shows there is an increased risk for immediate complications for mothers after birth if they choose not to breastfeed, including postpartum hemorrhage and anemia. It can also delay the uterus from returning to its normal shape, and increase the risk of bleeding and infection.

For the baby, breast milk is vital for the immune system and development. Breastfeeding reduces the risk of sudden infant death syndrome, or SIDS, by half, and improves the overall infant mortality rate by more than 20 percent. Rates of cardiovascular disease, diabetes, leukemia, and common illnesses or conditions like allergies and eczema, are also lower throughout the child's life.

Children who were breastfed have fewer visits to the doctor's office for other common conditions like ear infection, diarrhea, and respiratory infections, as well as hospitalizations. For premature babies, benefits include a lowered risk of an often-fatal intestinal disease, necrotizing enterocolitis, or NEC.

How long should I breastfeed?

For full-term infants, breast milk is all the baby will need in the first six months. Its effect on the immune system cannot be replicated by any artificial feeding choice, such as formula.

Scientists believe part of the reason breast milk is best is because it delays the child's exposure to cow's milk, common in most formulas. Early exposure to cow's milk is shown to cause an immune response and increase the risk of the medical conditions and diseases listed above. Delaying that exposure by any time period, whether it be a day, a week, a month, six months or longer, can help. Even partial breastfeeding along with formula has shown to provide some of the benefits.

Are there instances I should not breastfeed?

Anyone who has HIV or AIDS is discouraged from breastfeeding because it could be passed to the child. Those receiving chemotherapy, radioactive therapy, or certain medications as part of cancer treatment are also discouraged because it can prevent growth and development. The vast majority of medications are safe for breastfeeding because the medication either does not affect the breast milk or the child is unable to absorb it. If you have questions, seek out an expert or lactation consultant.

Why do mothers quit breastfeeding?

New mothers face many social and physical barriers that can make breastfeeding quite a challenge. It may be a hectic work schedule that does not allow time for direct feeding or pumping, an inconsiderate boss, an office without the privacy needed to pump, lack of family support, or an inability to find a trusted medical professional to answer your questions.

Physically, breastfeeding can be a taxing and painful undertaking for mothers. Other mothers may feel shame if their milk isn't immediately available, unaware that it can take five to eight days for the milk to come in.

Without the right support system at work and home, and without a medical expert providing you with reassurance, it is quite understandable why some mothers

choose another route. UAMS offers breastfeeding classes in Little Rock as well as information on its website. Visit uamshealth.com/medicalservices/womenshealth/breastfeeding for more information.

Is formula unsafe for my child?

By and large, formulas are safe and provide appropriate nutrients to your baby. However, they do not provide the immune system benefits of breast milk. If you do use formula, opt for the ready-to-feed option. The powdered form is not sterile and is therefore more prone to bacteria. If you do use a powder-based formula, heat the water beforehand to kill any bacteria that may be present.

Make the right choice for you

Moms and families should always have the information necessary to make the choice that suits their needs and situation. My worst fear is a mother does not get the information she needs and later regrets her decision.

A loving home for a new baby takes many forms. In the end, the most important thing is to love your child the best you can.



Misty Virmani, M.D. is assistant professor of pediatrics, Division of Neonatology, College of Medicine, University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences.



INVEST WHERE YOU BANK

Arvest Wealth Management can help you plan for retirement, forming investment strategies that match your goals, risk tolerance and needs. We are committed to providing you a local, experienced team of financial advisors with specialized areas of expertise, delivering financial solutions to help you prioritize and reach your goals.

Trust your investments, and your future, to Arvest Wealth Management. (501) 379-7337



Susan Oliphant
Client Advisor Assistant

Kenny Wasson
Senior Client Advisor
AR Insurance License #8160839

Daniel Robinson, CWS®
Senior Regional Investment Officer



Investment products and services provided by Arvest Investments, Inc., doing business as Arvest Wealth Management, member FINRA/SIPC, an SEC registered investment adviser and a subsidiary of Arvest Bank. Insurance products made available through Arvest Insurance, Inc., which is registered as an insurance agency. Insurance products are marketed through Arvest Insurance, Inc. but are underwritten by unaffiliated insurance companies. Trust services provided by Arvest Bank.

Investments and Insurance Products: Not a Deposit | Not Guaranteed by the Bank or its Affiliates
Not FDIC Insured | Not Insured by Any Federal Government Agency | May Go Down in Value

NEWSLETTER

MAY 2018

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

Diabetes and driver safety

There are very strict laws for drivers with diabetes, especially those with a commercial drivers license (CDL). The American Diabetes Association offers literature explaining restrictions and exemptions on this topic and many more tips on this subject.

Diabetes is a disease in which the body's ability to produce or respond to the hormone insulin is impaired, resulting in abnormal metabolism of carbohydrates and elevated levels of glucose in the blood and urine.

There are four types of diabetes:

- Type 1 is a chronic condition in which the pancreas produces little or no insulin
- Type 2 is a condition that affects the way the body processes blood sugar
- Gestational diabetes is defined as blood sugar elevation during pregnancy
- Pre-diabetes is not technically diabetes, but some experts believe it is a first step to Type 2 diabetes. It is noted by blood sugar levels that are too high to be considered normal but not yet high enough to be in the range of normal diabetes.

If a driver of a personal vehicle or commercial vehicle has any of these conditions, it can be a safety concern. How can diabetes impact driving?

For many people with diabetes, driving is a part of daily life. The good news is that most people with diabetes can safely drive motor vehicles. However, in some situations, symptoms or complications of diabetes might make it difficult to drive safely.

Symptoms of diabetes that are of concern include: numbness in limbs, increased urination, weight loss, increased appetite, blurry vision, itchy and dry skin, unexplained fatigue, excessive thirst, slow healing of cuts or bruising, irritated gums, dry mouth, frequent yeast infections, dark patches of skin, erectile dysfunction, headaches, nausea, vomiting, unsteadiness, and weakness. As you read through this list of symptoms, it is easy to see how any of these symptoms could result in limitations of driving.

There are some ways to overcome the diabetes dilemma and driving. The Department of Transportation offers an exemption to an insulin-dependent driver for a chance to drive; however, state agencies make the final decision since they issue the commercial driver's license. If you are a Type 2 diabetic and do not use insulin, you do not have to apply for the exemption. State driving laws can impact non-commercial drivers, and this may involve a medical evaluation and documentation from a medical professional. In years past, a CDL holder being treated with insulin must have driven a commercial vehicle for the previous three years before applying for and qualifying for an exemption. This was a poorly written regulation and limited many drivers from being employed.

Diabetes is an illness that impacts millions of Americans and can seriously impact their lifestyle and health, though it is treatable. Research and new medications are helping to make significant changes in eliminating limitations and stigmas. Employees with diabetes should notify their employer about having diabetes so that any emergency situation that arises due to insulin issues can be handled appropriately at the workplace.



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.



CenterPoint® Fund Accounting
and Payroll Software



Get the **FREE** Guide: **Switching from Basic to Fund Accounting Software.**

Distributed by
CSAsolutions
Accounting & Billing Specialists

www.csasolutions.com • 800.264.4465

To get your **FREE** guide visit: www.redwingsoftware.com/home/fundguide

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



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

**2008 International Rescue Mini Pumper,
\$49,900**



2007 CCC Refuse Sideload, \$69,000



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



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



**International Jetter Truck
\$19,500**



Chevrolet Pro-Patch Truck, \$19,500



Fayetteville receives ADEQ award for innovative water treatment system



From left, Fayetteville Chief of Staff Don Marr, Gov. Asa Hutchinson, Billy Ammons with BlueInGreen, and ADEQ Director Becky Keogh.

The Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) honored the winner's of this year's environmental awards during a presentation on April 24 at the Arkansas State Capitol. Governor Asa Hutchinson and ADEQ Director Becky Keogh presented the four awards: the Arkansas Environmental Stewardship, or ENVY Award; the Arkansas Environmental Technology, or TECHe Award; the Energy Excellence, or E2 Award; and the ADEQuest Science Award.

The City of Fayetteville was the winner of the TECHe Award for its innovative HyDOZ (hyper-concentrated dissolved ozone) Disinfection System, a proprietary technology for ozonating water and wastewater. BlueInGreen, an Arkansas company in Northwest Arkansas, developed the system.

Delta Plastics was chosen as the winner of the ENVY Award, and Arkansas Rural Internet Service was named the winner of the E2 Award,

The recipients of the inaugural ADEQuest Science Award were Meghana Bollimpalli and Little Rock Central High School. Bollimpalli's project addressed a growing global energy demand through the development of supercapacitors. She was able, through her experiment, to make the design of supercapacitors more environmentally friendly by using waste byproducts and the use of a commercial microwave. Central High School received a \$500 award to the school science program. Bollimpalli received \$500 for use for education purposes. 🏛️



ETC Engineers & Architects, Inc.

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



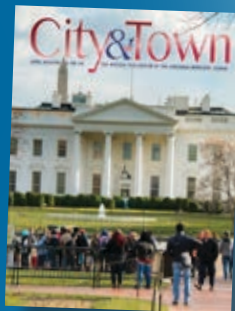
Architecture • Public Buildings • Parks Planning and Design
Stormwater • Hydraulic Modeling • Water & Wastewater Systems
Street and Drainage Designs • Aquatic Parks

Batesville Community Center

Missed us?

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

Help us keep you up to date and informed.



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

THE INDUSTRY'S BEST WOOD PROCESSING EQUIPMENT...

**NOW AVAILABLE
IN YOUR
BACKYARD.**

Bandit offers wood processing equipment for any size project, from chippers and stump grinders to horizontal grinders and more.



*Offering Chippers, Grinders,
Parts, Service & More!*
Call your local Bandit dealer today!



SEE OUR COMPLETE LINE OF PRODUCTS IN ACTION!

www.youtube.com/banditchippers



**Bandit
INDUSTRIES, INC.**

Now Serving Arkansas
Henard Utility Products • Searcy, AR
Phone: 800.776.5990
Web: www.henardutility.com

Private sector grants for cities and towns

By Chad Gallagher

We use this space every month to help Arkansas cities and towns learn about grant writing and improve their success rate in securing grant funds. Pursuing grants should be an important part of every municipality's community development strategy. Becoming successful with grants requires a global approach, not a one-time victory. It's about planning and thinking ahead, becoming prepared to write grants, learning to write them, learning to determine which ones to pursue, learning from failures, and developing a strong stewardship process of the grants received. I am amazed at the millions and millions of dollars Arkansas communities successfully secure through grants to help with important local projects.

Most of the time when discussing grants at the community level, we talk about government grants from state and federal agencies. These make up about 75 percent of the grant funds received by Arkansas cities and towns. Given those numbers it only makes sense that a city or town should focus first on such opportunities. State and federal grant dollars are really a return of tax dollars back to the local level, where they can be invested to carry out a prescribed mission. However, government grants aren't the only place we should be looking to find dollars that can enhance our community efforts.

American corporations, nonprofits, foundations, and individuals give back to the community generously, and our tax code is structured to encourage and reward charitable giving. This is a good thing. Investing back into churches, nonprofits, cities, towns, and community projects is an important part of life in our culture. Cities and towns would do well to factor charitable giving and grants from the private sector into their grant strategies.

Just last month in Arkansas the Blue and You Foundation and the Delta Dental Arkansas Foundation both awarded grants, among many others. The Arkansas Blue and You Foundation has funded projects in 205 communities in Arkansas. They have grant funds that can be awarded for community projects ranging in award size from \$1,000 to \$150,000. The Delta Dental Arkansas Foundation just funded water bottle filling stations in 20 Arkansas communities. These are great

at schools, parks, recreation facilities, and other public areas. These are just two examples of hundreds of similar charity activities that take place in Arkansas on an ongoing basis.

When looking for funding opportunities in the private sector, begin with two key starting points and work your way out. First think geographically. Look at your local or regional business community. What corporations have a presence in your region or town? What companies build their business from the patronage of your citizens? Which private foundations might have a presence in your part of the state? These businesses likely have an interest in your community success and in building goodwill with your citizens. Even national companies with a local presence should be explored. Many of them have a national foundation or some charitable arm that might help with your project. These companies and foundations are not only prime targets for funding entire projects but for seeking a partnership with to help you obtain matching funds for a state or federal grant, as well.

Secondly, look for mission alignment. Understand your top ten projects or funding needs and look for companies that share your interest. If your largest project is to build a library and launch a rural literacy program, then explore the private sector for a company that has made literacy a priority. Most corporations and foundations have strategic purposes in their giving. Many of these are devoted to only funding certain types of projects in order to make the largest impact. Whether your project is for the arts, workforce development, literacy, historic preservation, or something different, the key is to look for private sector partners that feel passionate about that area. They are much more likely to help fund your effort if it aligns with their charitable mission.

Too many times corporate America conjures up an image of faraway people on Wall Street enriching themselves, without care for others, and unfortunately there is plenty of that. However, we have to remember that the business community is made up of people. People in civic clubs and that go to your churches, cheer for your sports teams and are generous in giving to a good cause. It has been my experience that there are still plenty of

June 13-15, 2018
Arkansas Municipal League's 84th Convention
Statehouse Convention Center
Little Rock, AR

November 7-10, 2018
National League of Cities City Summit
Los Angeles, CA

January 16-18, 2019
Arkansas Municipal League 2019 Winter Conference
Statehouse Convention Center
Little Rock, AR

generous businesses in the world that, while wanting to be profitable, want to feel like they are making a difference.

It's important to look for opportunities to attend conferences and meetings where private sector organizations are hosting events or have representatives speaking on panels. Find a way to make a connection with these organizations. Seeking and finding partners like these can change your community. Legacy Consulting is glad to help you search for such partners in the private sector.



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.

The must-have reference for every city hall in Arkansas

The new 2017-2018 edition of the *Handbook for Arkansas Municipal Officials* has arrived. The Handbook compiles state laws affecting Arkansas municipalities, including the newest laws from the 2017 legislative session.

This is the most complete publication on municipal law and city government in Arkansas. You may order and pay for your copy online via Visa or MasterCard by visiting the Publications page at www.arml.org/store, or use the order form below.



Order Form

Mail to:

Arkansas Municipal League

Attn: Handbook Sales

P.O. Box 38

North Little Rock, AR 72115-0038

Please send ___ copies at \$100.00 each

Enclosed is a check in payment for \$ _____

Name _____

Title _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip Code _____

Phone _____

Summaries of Attorney General Opinions

Recent opinions that affect municipal government in Arkansas

From the Office of Attorney General Leslie Rutledge

A&P commission may use tax funds for public recreation facility

Opinion: 2018-004

Requestor: State Rep. Mark D. McElroy

Is it legally permissible for a city's Advertising and Tourist Promotion Commission to use its tax funds to construct an auditorium that will either be annexed to or separate from an existing Convention Center, where the auditorium will be used for education, development, and recreational activities for the city's youth? **RESPONSE:** An auditorium constructed for, among other uses, "recreational activities" qualifies as a "public recreation facility" under Ark. Code Ann. 26-75-606(b)(2). Thus, under the limited facts before me, the use of A&P funds to construct the auditorium would appear to be a permissible expenditure. However, the use of these funds ultimately presents a factual question to be decided by the A&P Commission based on all the relevant circumstances, ideally with the input and advice of its local counsel.

Gross receipts tax query should go to DFA

Opinion: 2018-031

Requestor: State Rep. DeAnn Vaught


Is a fee that is mandated by a municipality or a county to be paid by a citizen on the service for the collection and disposal of solid waste subject to the gross receipts tax for services under Ark. Code Ann. sec. 26-52-316(a) (2)? **RESPONSE:** I must respectfully decline to address this question, which seeks my advisory opinion on a general issue of state tax law. The Arkansas Department of Finance and Administration, Revenue Division, is the appropriate authority to issue letter opinions on questions involving the application of the state sales tax law. See Gross Receipts Tax Regulations GR-75(E) (2008) ("Opinions issued by any other agency, whether formal or informal, are not binding on the Department.")

To read full Attorney General opinions online, go to www.arkansasag.gov/arkansas-lawyer/opinions-department/opinions-search.

AACD holds equalization training in June and July

Act 659 of 2017 requires the Arkansas Assessment Coordination Department to provide training and certification for members of County Equalization Boards. At least two members of five-member boards and three members of nine-member boards must be certified in 2018. AACD will be conducting the training in several locations around Arkansas during June and July this year. As a result, AACD will not be hosting the annual Board of Equalization meeting in Little Rock in July this year.

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. "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 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). 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).

For more information about the upcoming training sessions, contact John Nichols at (501) 324-9109 or Bear Chaney at (501) 324-9000. 

STRONG COMMUNITIES BY DESIGN



Crafton Tull
architecture | engineering | surveying

Fire Truck Certification

FARCO brings pump test capabilities directly to your fire station, offering unmatched simplicity, accuracy and safety. Ensure your pumps and equipment are ready to handle a major incident.

We help you maintain or improve your ISO rating and keep your fire apparatus in compliance with National Fire Protection Association standards.



Fire Apparatus Repair Company, Inc.
15225 Sardis Road, Mabelvale, AR 72103
501-847-9199 (24/7)
Email: fftc@outlook.com



Economic development course cultivates professional developers

By Shelley Short

One of the first steps for many economic development professionals is attending a basic economic development course where the fundamentals of the vocation are explored through sessions on a variety of topics including workforce development, business retention and expansion, real estate development, strategic planning, community and neighborhood development, site selection, and small business and entrepreneurial development. These courses are offered throughout the United States, are accredited by the International Economic Development Council (IEDC), and meet one of the requirements toward becoming a Certified Economic Developer (CEcD).

The Mid-South Basic Economic Development Course (MSBEDC) is one such course and is offered annually in the spring in Little Rock through Arkansas Economic Developers and Chamber Executives (AEDCE). This year's course was one of the most successful in recent history, with 42 attendees representing five different states taking part in the training that spanned a four-day period in early April. Upon completion of the course, attendees are eligible to attend Economic Development Institute (EDI) offered through The University of Oklahoma's College of Continuing Education, which paves the way towards certification and CEcD status.

Almost as important as the material presented in the course, attendees cite one of the primary benefits is the ability to build a professional network of other economic developers in the region. Corey Parks with the Conway Area Chamber of Commerce credited the course with helping him develop connections in the field.

"Attending the Mid-South Basic Economic Development Course allowed me to network with economic developers from multiple states, reunite with some of my Community Development Institute classmates, and attend informative sessions applicable to professionals of all experience levels," Parks said. "I recommend this course to anyone looking to increase their economic development knowledge and build their professional network."

Sponsors of the Mid-South course include utility companies, economic development organizations, environmental consulting firms, and financial institutions. These supporters sponsor various Arkansas attendees



Participants on this year's Mid-South Basic Economic Development Course in Little Rock.

through scholarships for the course. Over 30 attendees were able to take part in the training because of this type of assistance.

Entergy Arkansas was the presenting sponsor of this year's course. Danny Games, director of business and economic development for Entergy, provided insight into their involvement.

"In terms of professional education value, the Mid-South course is probably the best investment of time and money for any local official who wants to get a condensed education on what it takes to create a successful environment for community development, business, and economic growth," he said. "One of Entergy's key priorities is to grow our communities, and this course speaks directly to the tools, practices, and resources for doing just that."

To encourage additional training, AEDCE is proud to offer scholarships to its members for courses like EDI and other opportunities in the economic development/chamber of commerce field. Never stop learning is more than just a saying—it's one of the primary missions of AEDCE and shapes the bulk of our work and outreach. Throughout the year, the organization provides workshops, conferences, and resources to cultivate the careers of those in the profession.

AEDCE is open to all individuals with an interest in economic development or are chamber of commerce employees. Our events, including the Mid-South course, are open to members and not-yet members. To learn more about AEDCE, the Mid-South Basic Course, and any other future training opportunities, please contact me at shelley@aedce.org or visit our website at www.aedce.org.



Shelley Short is vice president of the Arkansas State Chamber of Commerce/AIA and executive director of Arkansas Economic Developers and Chamber Executives.

ACCRTA meets in Maumelle



Maumelle City Clerk/Treasurer Tina Timmons hosted an Arkansas City Clerks, Records and Treasurers Association workshop April 26-27 in her city. It was well attended and featured topics on human resources, council meeting minutes, FOIA compliance, and the effect of the opioid epidemic on cities and towns. 🏛️

Officer Norman addresses ADH meeting



North Little Rock Police Officer Tommy Norman shared his inspiration for joining law enforcement and his passion for community policing efforts with attendees of a leadership conference presented by the Arkansas Department of Health on April 6 at the League's North Little Rock headquarters. Norman has earned widespread recognition for developing relationships with the residents in the neighborhoods he serves. Participants presented Norman with a donation of juice boxes, crackers, and other snacks, which he is known for keeping in his trunk to share with people on his beat. 🏛️



What a difference a year makes

By Randy Gilliss

On Monday, May 1, 2017, the City of Pocahontas, including the Pocahontas Municipal Airport, experienced a major flooding event. It was the third such event in just 10 years in the area. The weather system wreaked havoc on the north and northeast portions of the state, leaving behind 10-15 inches of rain and parts of the Pocahontas community and the airport in shambles. So much precipitation fell that major rivers left their banks. The heavy flooding caused a breach in the Black River levee, prompting a flash-flooding emergency as thousands of gallons of muddy water rushed into town.

The Pocahontas Airport terminal is shared with the East Pocahontas Fire Station, and also houses an attached box hangar. Prior to the flood, airport personnel started moving everything possible to higher ground. The city had recently contracted with a company called Survival Flight to provide air ambulance service for the city and surrounding area. The week before the flood, Survival Flight had leased a box hangar attached to the terminal to store aircraft during inclement weather and for maintenance.

The Monday morning of the flood, employees with Survival Flight came to the airport to help move out the furnishings and files in an attempt to save them from flood damage. The company's personnel also helped fill over 1,000 sandbags to try to keep the water out of the buildings as much as possible. The floodwaters filled the building with more than a foot of water, and two other



Flooding in 2017 caused significant damage across Pocahontas, including the city's municipal airport.

hangars were affected as well. Late Aircraft Repair's hangar had about a foot and a half of floodwater in it, and Arkansas Turbine's hangar had well over two feet.

This crippling weather event prompted the Airport Commission to take action. Even before any insurance adjustors arrived, the work had begun. The water receded quickly but left a monumental mess. By Wednesday, May 3, the runway and taxiways were back in operation. On Thursday the 4th, the ramp was cleaned and fuel sales were restored. By Friday, Arkansas Department of Aeronautics Director Jerry Chism flew up to take a look and was amazed he was able to land

and walk around. Survival Flight also came back and power-washed the entire terminal and box hangar to get the mud out so we could start the rebuilding process. The airport was still in shambles, but it was operational.

Next, we were able to get a portable office and restore radio communications with aircraft as well as get the airport manager's office back on the field. The portable office also allowed the pilots to have an area to access the internet and do their flight planning, and it housed a couple of recliners and a television for relaxing between flights.

Working with insurance adjustors and selecting a contractor was next. Work began on the buildings immediately and lasted for more than three months. Delays became the normal and drove our stress levels to new heights. During this process we also had our fuel system inspected to see if we had any damage. It was



It took several days for the floodwater to recede from the runway and taxiways.



Some of the airport's hangars took on two feet of water.

discovered that we had numerous problems, and we were already neck deep in getting buildings repaired, satisfying FEMA, getting the field cleaned up, and cleaning out all the lights on the runways and taxiways. We obtained estimates and started the application process for an ADA (Arkansas Department of Aeronautics) grant to aid in replacing the dilapidated fuel system. The ADA understood our need and was able to provide us with a 90/10 grant, which covered 90 percent of the fuel system costs with a 10 percent match.

Fast forward to 2018. Construction is now complete and the airport looks great! All the buildings are repaired, all of the lights are operational, our terminal is now remodeled and looking awesome, and our new fuel system is up and running. We had our trials and tribulations. Our journey has been a tedious one, but the rewards have been amazing. Our customers have all been pleased with the transformation and their remarks have been inspiring.

Many people may not realize the importance of having a local airport. The city's new medical helicopter was seriously delayed without the capability of being quickly refueled. Delays to hospitals could have meant the difference between life and death for some patients. Government support agencies can be delayed without an active runway. Our two maintenance facilities generate a large amount of commerce in our community. Their customers rely on those facilities to repair their planes. Numerous crop dusters from a six-state area are brought here for maintenance and repair, and other planes come in from all over the world to be worked on. Some of our factories fly in managers for visits and also bring in numerous contractors who maintain and repair the facilities.

The aircrews and passengers that fly in use our local hotels and restaurants. They spend money in our city and that generates tax revenue. The importance of

local airports is about economic impact. In 2006 the Pocahontas Airport had generated 10 jobs with a total economic impact of around half a million dollars. By 2016 we had expanded to 23 jobs with a total estimated economic impact of more than \$3 million.

Now that the Pocahontas Airport is once again fully operational, we invite you to come take a look at our progress. We are truly proud of what we have been able to accomplish in just a year. On a side note, I personally am very proud of the way that the citizens of Pocahontas pulled together in our time of crisis. Many families were displaced and living in shelters. They wanted for nothing. Everything imaginable was donated to help make them comfortable. The actions of our citizens reaffirmed my faith in my fellow man. People were helping people and, to me, that is what life is all about. Now that things are settling down, it is really good to be able to say, "The Pocahontas Airport is open for business. Y'all come see us!"



Randy Gilless is manager of the Pocahontas Municipal Airport.

Tree City USA a win-win for Winslow

By Krista Quinn

Winslow is a picturesque city in the Ozark Mountains about halfway between Fayetteville and Fort Smith. While many small towns are struggling economically and socially, Winslow, with its population of about 400, is thriving. Winslow's residents have a strong sense of community pride and organize many community projects and events throughout the year. Two years ago, Winslow completed the requirements to become a Tree City USA and according to Ken Stout, an artist and the local Tree Board chairman, the program has been a great way to unite the community and beautify their surroundings while also helping the environment.

"It was just so easy," Stout says. "It has been delightful to work with the Arkansas Forestry Commission and Beaver Watershed Alliance. Everyone has been very supportive and I think it's really underlined our desire to take care of what we have here in Winslow."

Stout and his wife, Donna, first became interested in the trees in their community three years ago when they noticed that the banks of a creek running through Peek's Park in downtown Winslow were badly eroding. Stout contacted the Beaver Watershed Alliance for suggestions on how to stabilize the banks and in the process learned about how trees can greatly improve drinking water quality. The city initiated a project to improve the stream that included planting many trees and other native plants. The creek now looks like a natural mountain stream and the appearance of the park has been enhanced.

Stout was encouraged by how working on the stream bank project brought his community together.

"I think it helped people realize that what we have here is special," Stout says. "There's a lot of pride in the town."

Becoming a Tree City USA was the next logical step for the community. Tree City USA is a program managed by the National Arbor Day Foundation and coordinated locally by the Arkansas Forestry Commission. The program recognizes communities that are committed to sound management of their community trees. Communities must meet four core standards in order to become an official Tree City USA including maintaining a tree board or department, having a community tree ordinance, spending at least \$2 per capita on tree care, and celebrating Arbor Day. The Tree City designation serves as both recognition of a community's achievements and

as a guide for cities and towns to continue to care for and plant trees.

"The Mayor has been so supportive," says Stout about the Tree City USA program. "He understands how the program will improve our town and the environment."

The Tree City USA standard requiring that cities spend at least \$2 per capita on tree care can at first seem impossible for some small towns. However, many communities spend this amount on tree care activities without realizing it. Grants, donations, and volunteer labor can be included when documenting these expenses.



The appearance of Peek's Park in downtown Winslow was greatly enhanced by a project that included planting many trees and other native plants to stabilize the stream banks and improve water quality.



Winslow Mayor Randy Jarnagan reads the official Arbor Day proclamation at the town's Arbor Day celebration held earlier this spring.

In Winslow's case, the entire tree care budget is met by calculating the value of their volunteer labor and grants that they receive for their projects. The City of Winslow spends no city funds on tree care, but the residents provide numerous valuable services through their volunteer efforts.

Residents have initiated several other projects in local parks that will both beautify the community and improve water quality in the area. In Tunnel Park, which overlooks the historic Winslow Tunnel on the Arkansas and Missouri Rail Line, groups of volunteers are working to eradicate kudzu vines and other invasive plants on a steep slope and have planted almost 100 native trees which will stabilize the slope, filter stormwater, and provide habitat for wildlife. Also, at the local ball park, the community has planted trees to provide shade and installed a rain garden demonstration to educate the public about how plants improve water quality.

Stout and others in the community have become advocates for planting native plants and already have other future projects in mind.

"As a painter, I may as well reduce my palette in the studio to one color—green—given how much time I'm dedicating to 'green projects,'" Stout says. "All worthy ones, of course!"



Volunteers have planted almost 100 native trees on a hillside in Winslow's Tunnel Park using grow tubes to enhance their growth.

Becoming a Tree City USA helped the residents and community leaders of Winslow to recognize trees as valuable resources and provided a framework to manage them accordingly. Winslow may be small, but the city is doing great things to improve their public green spaces and help the environment at the same time.



Krista Quinn is the urban forestry partnership coordinator with the Arkansas Forestry Commission. Contact Krista at (479) 228-7929 or email Krista.Quinn@arkansas.gov.

2018 State Turnback Funds

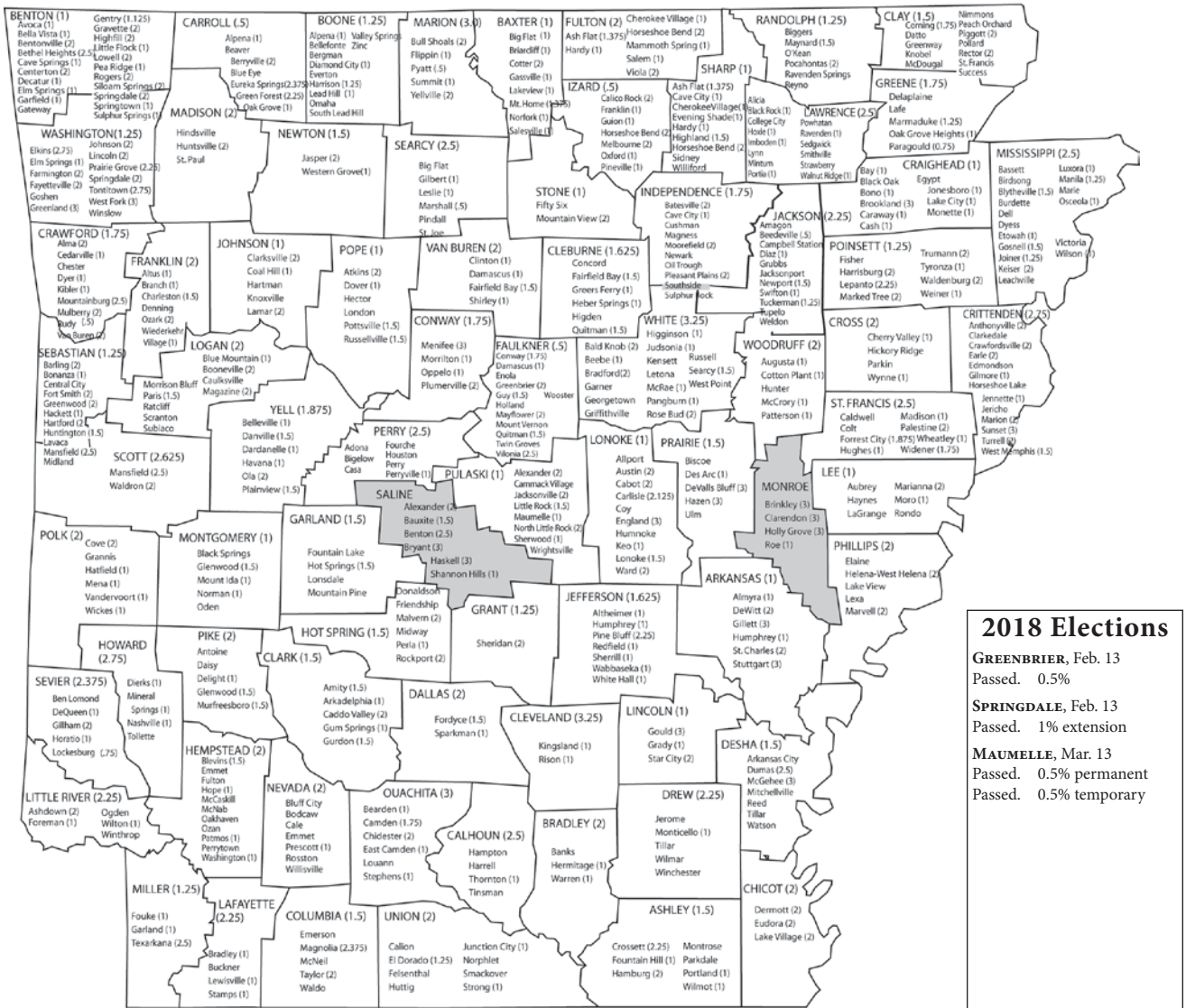
Actual Totals Per Capita						
MONTH	STREET		SEVERANCE TAX		GENERAL	
	2017	2018	2017	2018	2017	2018
January	\$5.3276	\$5.3807	\$0.3041	\$0.2314	\$2.1473	\$2.1460
February	\$5.5378	\$5.7121	\$0.1894	\$0.2181	\$1.0884	\$1.0867
March	\$4.7222	\$4.9583	\$0.3450	\$0.2452	\$1.0886	\$1.0870
April	\$5.3517	\$5.3609	\$0.3611	\$0.2342	\$1.0886	\$1.0854
May	\$5.4824		\$0.2602		\$1.0864	
June	\$5.5686		\$0.1858		\$1.0881	
July	\$5.5610		\$0.2628		\$2.9480	
August	\$5.5557		\$0.2711		\$0.9499	
September	\$5.4801		\$0.2230		\$1.0881	
October	\$5.5047		\$0.2508		\$1.0888	
November	\$5.1475		\$0.2377		\$1.0875	
December	\$5.1764		\$0.1561		\$1.0882	
Total Year	\$64.4157	\$21.4120	\$3.0472	\$0.9289	\$15.8379	\$5.4052

Actual Totals Per Month						
MONTH	STREET		SEVERANCE TAX		GENERAL	
	2017	2018	2017	2018	2017	2018
January	\$10,065,525.00	\$10,171,403.10	\$574,575.98	\$437,461.72	*\$4,056,819.92	*\$4,056,771.18
February	\$10,462,690.50	\$10,797,904.69	\$357,751.63	\$412,277.48	\$2,056,417.62	\$2,054,332.65
March	\$8,921,686.11	\$9,372,912.56	\$651,783.55	\$463,496.06	\$2,056,718.50	\$2,054,888.05
April	\$10,110,987.00	\$10,133,933.55	\$682,243.26	\$442,746.74	\$2,056,718.50	\$2,051,743.46
May	\$10,363,642.30		\$491,893.79		\$2,053,761.87	
June	\$10,526,632.40		\$351,199.83		2,056,937.75	
July	\$10,512,280.90		\$496,864.92		** \$5,572,710.46	
August	\$10,502,217.40		\$512,555.17		\$1,795,649.71	
September	\$10,359,333.50		\$421,562.72		\$2,056,885.50	
October	\$10,405,765.80		\$474,027.01		\$2,058,156.39	
November	\$9,730,523.28		\$449,423.80		\$2,055,750.30	
December	\$9,785,275.08		\$295,172.64		\$2,056,989.97	
Total Year	\$121,746,559.27	\$40,476,153.90	\$5,759,054.30	\$1,313,235.26	\$29,933,516.49	\$10,217,735.34

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

** Includes \$3,515,747.46 supplemental for July 2017

Local Option Sales and Use Tax in Arkansas



KEY: Counties not collecting sales tax

Source: Rachel Garrett, Office of State Treasurer

See also: www.dfa.arkansas.gov

Sales and Use Tax Year-to-Date 2018 with 2017 Comparison (shaded gray)								
Month	Municipal Tax		County Tax		Total Tax		Interest	
January	\$59,272,899	\$51,749,675	\$50,925,990	\$46,139,133	\$110,198,889	\$97,888,807	\$68,417	\$15,903
February	\$63,961,892	\$51,749,675	\$56,034,012	\$52,583,090	\$119,995,904	\$104,332,765	\$76,180	\$17,386
March	\$51,260,662	\$51,749,675	\$44,932,987	\$42,723,485	\$96,193,649	\$94,473,160	\$79,235	\$18,863
April	\$51,354,831	\$51,749,675	\$45,689,403	\$44,591,728	\$97,044,234	\$96,341,403	\$79,564	\$15,747
May		\$51,749,675		\$48,861,910		\$100,611,585		\$17,059
June		\$51,749,675		\$45,261,893		\$97,011,568		\$17,534
July		\$51,749,675		\$49,248,601		\$100,998,276		\$18,995
August		\$51,749,675		\$49,357,901		\$101,107,576		\$15,982
September		\$51,749,675		\$48,991,616		\$100,741,291		\$45,866
October		\$51,749,675		\$49,299,660		\$101,049,335		\$79,279
November		\$51,749,675		\$49,290,527		\$101,040,201		\$78,491
December		\$51,749,675		\$48,086,258		\$99,835,933		\$72,999
Total	\$225,850,285	\$51,749,675	\$197,582,392	\$574,435,802	\$423,432,677	\$1,195,431,899	\$303,396	\$414,105
Averages	\$56,462,571	\$51,749,675	\$49,395,598	\$47,869,650	\$105,858,169	\$99,619,325	\$75,849	\$34,509

April 2018 Municipal Levy Receipts and April 2018 Municipal/County Levy Receipts with 2017 Comparison (shaded gray)

CITY SALES AND USE	AMOUNT	LAST YEAR	Franklin	2,097.73	2,094.45	Mountainburg	13,336.21	11,711.09	Crossett	51,300.93	51,894.75
Alexander	55,461.71	72,362.23	Garfield	9,663.37	8,815.16	Mulberry	24,366.19	27,551.09	Fountain Hill	1,630.23	1,649.10
Alma	195,114.02	204,392.59	Garland	2,839.27	2,640.15	Murfreesboro	26,142.63	24,135.72	Hamburg	26,614.63	26,922.70
Almyra	4,607.56	2,374.17	Gassville	16,329.08	19,218.14	Nashville	106,589.16	105,348.35	Montrose	3,297.72	3,335.89
Alpena	4,729.96	4,616.86	Gentry	54,054.24	45,471.19	Newport	149,672.10	184,192.89	Parkdale	2,580.42	2,610.29
Altheimer	2,383.05	1,894.88	Gilbert	125.44	129.18	Norfork	3,593.32	4,174.68	Portland	4,005.70	4,052.07
Altus	5,381.66	7,179.18	Gillett	10,458.97	9,293.50	Norman	3,453.26	1,701.19	Wilmot	5,123.57	5,182.87
Amity	11,543.85	10,379.02	Gillham	3,731.51	4,911.42	North Little Rock	2,558,947.85	1,340,770.65	Baxter County	293,242.51	303,637.95
Anthonyville	815.47	87.21	Gilmore	384.55	384.35	Oak Grove	1,003.76	1,093.89	Big Flat	1,272.04	1,317.14
Arkadelphia	149,513.41	159,424.68	Glenwood	59,203.50	60,052.50	Oak Grove Heights	5,808.04	4,379.08	Briarcliff	2,886.56	2,988.89
Ash Flat	84,952.98	80,337.66	Gosnell	14,164.35	13,102.05	Ola	15,070.95	15,596.00	Cotter	11,864.24	12,284.83
Ashdown	115,083.36	119,299.59	Gould	13,911.39	13,555.49	Oppelo	3,226.53	2,519.57	Gassville	25,416.39	26,314.40
Atkins	51,458.17	53,592.90	Grady	3,311.90	3,048.43	Osceola	82,823.51	89,694.04	Lakeview	9,063.30	9,384.60
Augusta	23,736.28	27,357.75	Gravette	81,826.28	123,960.93	Oxford	1,754.30	1,507.98	Mountain Home	152,253.71	157,651.11
Austin	31,917.51	31,058.96	Green Forest	95,163.05	103,782.07	Ozark	130,791.47	167,836.31	Norfork	6,250.13	6,471.70
Avoca	5,603.77	6,418.80	Greenbrier	160,540.33	157,877.14	Palestine	22,211.09	17,930.81	Salesville	5,504.04	5,699.14
Bald Knob	49,318.85	16,108.44	Greenland	26,081.45	16,668.59	Pangburn	7,167.04	7,010.13	Benton County	681,564.21	690,854.27
Barling	43,384.04	53,552.02	Greenwood	187,873.59	197,146.26	Paragould	341,174.23	303,605.89	Avoca	7,829.09	7,935.81
Batesville	578,573.77	626,943.01	Greers Ferry	15,102.59	14,875.85	Paris	70,583.12	71,807.92	Bella Vista	425,562.51	431,363.14
Bauxite	12,493.11	13,680.09	Guion	9,400.30	5,880.56	Patmos	598.55	96.00	Bentonville	566,341.78	574,061.31
Bay	10,771.21	10,130.75	Gum Springs	255.79	316.29	Patterson	1,175.42	1,194.38	Bethel Heights	38,054.52	38,573.23
Bearden	12,571.02	11,908.50	Curdon	21,697.06	22,642.46	Pea Ridge	49,876.36	51,241.93	Cave Springs	30,979.46	31,401.73
Beebe	114,345.51	111,083.55	Guy	6,033.22	5,825.34	Perla	6,812.69	2,447.40	Centerton	152,651.26	154,731.97
Beedeville	112.07	146.79	Hackett	5,290.55	4,700.79	Perryville	18,087.86	18,974.28	Decatur	27,257.43	27,628.97
Bella Vista	162,093.94	173,813.38	Hamburg	51,087.16	28,263.26	Piggott	71,946.95	63,416.34	Elm Springs	2,197.92	2,227.88
Belleville	2,045.05	2,091.44	Hardy	17,408.46	17,830.85	Pine Bluff	1,226,143.35	960,344.33	Garfield	8,053.70	8,163.47
Benton	1,354,672.77	1,361,387.27	Harrisburg	53,974.76	53,646.89	Pineville	1,544.59	1,830.58	Gateway	6,497.50	6,586.07
Bentonville	2,107,534.59	1,865,798.72	Harrison	436,146.88	435,297.80	Plainview	4,641.32	2,855.77	Gentry	54,948.04	55,697.01
Berryville	223,202.99	227,374.05	Hartford	3,958.56	4,395.21	Pleasant Plains	8,552.90	NA	Gravette	49,942.55	50,623.29
Bethel Heights	64,949.18	65,489.70	Haskell	37,702.07	19,377.74	Plumerville	10,041.30	11,643.24	Highfill	9,353.20	9,480.69
Big Flat	291.72	295.27	Hatfield	3,954.43	3,299.13	Pocahontas	237,074.67	245,373.19	Little Flock	41,471.73	42,037.01
Black Rock	8,505.00	8,807.67	Havana	2,868.51	2,908.47	Portia	1,959.21	2,231.71	Lowell	117,548.69	119,150.94
Blevins	3,009.02	1,940.42	Hazen	58,967.73	397,580.71	Portland	5,222.33	6,028.89	Pea Ridge	76,911.21	77,959.55
Blue Mountain	151.72	179.47	Heber Springs	127,929.44	136,754.04	Pottsville	27,703.02	24,826.32	Rogers	897,842.88	910,080.94
Blytheville	339,937.34	227,985.41	Helena-West Helena	236,353.34	248,602.33	Prairie Grove	96,198.46	78,198.78	Siloam Springs	241,274.02	244,562.70
Bonanza	3,182.72	4,048.39	Hermitage	3,801.60	5,205.50	Prescott	52,207.96	51,514.33	Springdale	105,115.19	106,547.94
Bono	15,414.94	14,131.58	Higginson	1,547.35	1,513.57	Pyatt	540.82	525.66	Springtown	1,395.76	1,414.79
Booneville	105,884.46	98,662.19	Highfill	53,827.44	60,006.90	Quitman	23,912.03	18,512.83	Sulphur Springs	8,198.09	8,309.81
Bradford	14,185.68	14,279.67	Highland	23,442.47	23,002.54	Ravenden	2,135.42	2,190.11	Boone County	380,364.00	365,510.65
Bradley	1,952.38	2,701.29	Holly Grove	7,788.51	8,679.42	Reactor	26,438.97	27,563.59	Alpena	4,013.67	3,856.93
Branch	1,461.83	2,092.26	Hope	167,792.46	175,444.54	Redfield	17,853.27	16,898.19	Bellefonte	5,712.24	5,489.17
Briarcliff	1,340.51	1,138.02	Horatio	5,298.96	5,467.87	Rison	11,212.23	12,747.75	Bergman	5,523.51	5,307.81
Brinkley	133,911.06	102,766.52	Horseshoe Bend	22,198.85	19,411.85	Rockport	9,515.86	11,841.68	Diamond City	9,839.14	9,454.92
Brookland	62,839.41	40,868.57	Hot Springs	1,508,048.58	1,557,814.64	Roe	421.29	457.76	Everton	1,673.41	1,608.06
Bryant	939,761.40	987,020.22	Hoxie	18,920.05	13,671.69	Rogers	2,766,851.43	2,750,705.57	Harrison	162,849.13	156,489.81
Bull Shoals	23,231.03	12,981.32	Hughes	7,927.22	5,711.69	Rose Bud	19,899.73	19,754.55	Lead Hill	3,409.73	3,276.58
Cabot	734,876.97	691,143.16	Humphrey	2,165.08	2,815.70	Rudy	6,638.90	8,814.98	Omaha	2,126.36	2,043.33
Caddo Valley	46,774.09	46,232.69	Huntington	3,944.50	2,684.61	Russellville	955,993.85	55,808.46	South Lead Hill	1,283.37	1,233.25
Calico Rock	23,837.91	22,343.87	Huntsville	115,439.93	122,452.43	Salem	20,187.35	20,148.28	Valley Springs	2,302.51	2,212.60
Camden	291,624.91	283,535.82	Imboden	7,716.53	8,053.15	Salesville	3,395.50	3,423.74	Zinc	1,295.93	1,245.35
Caraway	4,892.05	4,498.42	Jacksonville	587,990.15	628,213.78	Searcy	760,452.65	775,890.87	Bradley County	114,690.79	113,700.94
Carlisle	51,234.19	51,857.11	Jasper	25,730.50	25,049.19	Shannon Hills	13,430.99	12,323.74	Banks	885.59	877.96
Cash	2,024.00	2,089.06	Jennette	217.94	187.26	Sheridan	183,712.81	207,284.44	Hermitage	5,927.73	5,876.52
Cave City	18,146.85	17,745.33	Johnson	54,519.16	44,143.32	Sherill	1,282.35	817.02	Warren	42,872.45	42,502.12
Cave Springs	28,271.82	30,824.98	Joiner	2,462.66	2,284.80	Sherwood	375,407.21	388,212.84	Calhoun	75,612.88	66,140.97
Cedarville	7,444.71	NA	Jonesboro	1,283,503.99	1,422,609.76	Shirley	2,661.57	3,102.25	Hampton	21,432.56	18,747.72
Centerton	205,611.46	190,715.50	Judsonia	10,715.53	NA	Siloam Springs	608,870.99	600,745.92	Harrell	4,111.68	3,596.62
Charleston	25,999.43	27,850.00	Junction City	5,329.63	4,906.81	Sparkman	3,198.76	3,623.03	Thornton	6,588.40	5,763.08
Cherokee Village	16,505.84	15,739.07	Keiser	4,878.21	6,561.51	Springdale	2,234,984.76	2,160,440.87	Tinsman	874.14	764.64
Cherry Valley	4,056.49	4,595.99	Keo	1,482.78	1,125.70	Springtown	206.83	234.82	Carroll County	144,829.67	155,725.28
Chidester	2,217.00	2,383.92	Kibler	3,065.67	2,805.99	St. Charles	1,967.84	814.61	Beaver	530.20	570.09
Clarendon	46,921.67	41,156.82	Kingsland	1,998.62	2,195.28	Stamps	12,494.28	9,289.27	Blue Eye	159.06	171.03
Clarksville	351,816.66	342,638.42	Lake City	12,382.34	12,191.39	Star City	65,846.42	70,936.79	Chicot County	99,397.68	103,048.23
Clinton	75,439.32	77,356.93	Lake Village	53,701.82	60,378.62	Stephens	5,088.18	5,507.11	Dermott	18,097.93	18,762.61
Coal Hill	4,625.00	4,266.67	Lakeview	3,285.73	3,552.74	Strong	7,367.91	8,560.63	Eudora	14,213.99	14,736.02
Conway	1,766,703.71	1,887,423.98	Lamar	19,929.86	11,018.37	Stuttgart	499,013.00	546,830.03	Lake Village	16,130.91	16,723.34
Corning	78,674.60	70,489.08	Lead Hill	5,496.21	5,591.67	Sulphur Springs	2,446.41	1,445.63	Clark County	367,412.28	375,297.61
Cotter	8,965.97	11,138.19	Lepanto	31,298.61	29,876.22	Sunmit	4,385.35	6,327.90	Clay County	73,328.91	87,199.22
Cotton Plant	1,420.27	1,568.00	Leslie	3,556.58	3,931.18	Sunset	3,498.64	1,922.73	Corning	19,798.52	23,537.03
Cove	11,318.43	13,768.28	Lewisville	10,357.71	9,719.01	Swifton	4,133.25	3,587.03	Datto	879.42	1,045.47
Crawfordsville	9,094.92	9,425.24	Lincoln	45,539.96	44,628.15	Taylor	6,870.51	8,441.31	Greenway	1,837.98	2,185.03
Crossett	264,611.48	263,791.87	Little Rock	8,415.07	7,115.08	Texarkana	353,148.93	373,234.36	Knobel	2,523.92	3,000.50
Damascus	7,040.76	6,404.00	Little Rock	5,552,949.63	5,743,048.85	Texarkana Special	178,588.90	186,265.02	McDougal	1,635.71	1,944.57
Danville	35,433.74	35,803.51	Lockesburg	3,589.71	4,586.67	Thornton	1,053.09	950.79	Nimmons	606.79	721.38
Dardanelle	146,699.09	150,747.50	Lonoke	113,076.73	147,416.81	Tontitown	178,432.07	111,087.60	Peach Orchard	1,187.21	1,411.38
Decatur	20,254.57	19,606.72	Lowell	88,504.22	295,498.25	Trumann	159,458.37	147,358.89	Piggott	22,565.74	26,826.78
Delight	3,040.73	4,262.55	Luxora	2,915.05	2,701.13	Tuckerman	10,279.35	11,386.65	Pollard	1,952.30	2,320.95
De Queen	107,628.68	100,812.40	Madison	1,359.07	1,368.14	Turrell	3,420.71	3,529.04	Reactor	11,590.66	13,779.30
Dermott	22,551.95	23,380.64									

Egypt	1,681.53	1,833.59	Cushman	5,369.11	5,574.39	Birdsong	472.26	441.66	Mansfield	6,725.38	7,787.88
Jonesboro	1,009,861.89	1,101,184.94	Magness	2,399.47	2,491.21	Blytheville	179,918.05	168,261.92	Waldron	26,901.52	31,151.52
Lake City	31,258.38	34,085.11	Moorefield	1,627.36	1,689.58	Burdette	2,200.02	2,057.49	Searcy County	60,426.52	34,548.88
Monette	22,535.46	24,573.37	Newark	13,969.18	14,503.27	Dell	2,568.61	2,402.20	Big Flat	5.91	5.64
Crawford County	654,155.76	657,101.02	Oil Trough	3,088.42	3,206.51	Dyess	4,722.56	4,416.61	Gilbert	165.50	157.91
Alma	47,606.43	47,820.77	Pleasant Plains	4,145.62	4,304.12	Etowah	4,042.97	3,781.05	Leslie	2,606.55	2,487.11
Cedarville	12,246.42	12,301.56	Southside	46,338.24	48,109.92	Gosnell	40,867.43	38,219.80	Marshall	8,008.80	7,641.81
Chester	1,396.83	1,403.12	Sulphur Rock	5,416.62	5,623.72	Joiner	6,634.62	6,204.79	Pindall	661.98	631.65
Dyer	7,695.74	7,730.39	Izard County	45,790.40	42,089.82	Keiser	8,742.50	8,176.11	St. Joe	780.19	744.45
Kibler	8,442.48	8,480.49	Jackson	246,903.92	251,435.08	Leachville	22,956.25	21,469.01	Sebastian County	773,879.07	777,768.57
Mountainburg	5,543.39	5,568.35	Amagon	885.57	901.82	Luxora	13,568.72	12,689.66	Barling	70,728.84	71,084.32
Mulberry	14,539.33	14,604.79	Beedeville	966.90	984.64	Manila	38,494.63	36,000.73	Bonanza	8,747.92	8,791.89
Rudy	535.89	538.30	Campbell Station	2,304.28	2,346.57	Marie	967.55	904.87	Central City	7,637.31	7,675.70
Van Buren	200,221.11	201,122.59	Diaz	11,909.98	12,128.55	Osceola	89,348.55	83,560.03	Fort Smith	1,311,564.30	1,318,156.18
Crittenden County	1,193,451.91	1,209,375.99	Grubbs	3,488.05	3,552.06	Victoria	426.18	398.57	Greenwood	136,193.71	136,878.22
Anthonyville	968.88	981.81	Jacksonport	1,915.72	1,950.87	Wilson	10,401.17	9,727.31	Hackett	12,353.59	12,415.67
Clarkedale	2,232.64	2,262.43	Newport	71,197.83	72,504.44	Monroe County	NA	NA	Hartford	9,767.24	9,816.33
Crawfordsville	2,882.57	2,921.03	Swifton	7,211.05	7,343.39	Montgomery County	37,806.52	40,785.80	Huntington	9,660.75	9,709.30
Earle	14,527.20	14,721.04	Tuckerman	16,825.78	17,134.57	Black Springs	488.62	527.13	Lavaca	34,824.33	34,999.36
Edmondson	2,569.64	2,621.93	Tupelo	1,626.55	1,656.40	Glenwood	207.29	223.63	Mansfield	10,999.56	11,054.84
Gilmore	1,424.44	1,443.44	Weldon	677.73	690.18	Mount Ida	5,310.68	5,729.18	Midland	4,944.48	4,969.33
Horseshoe Lake	1,757.23	1,780.67	Jefferson County	658,425.76	696,360.80	Norman	1,865.65	2,012.67	Sevier County	276,740.03	241,820.23
Jennette	622.85	631.16	Alzheimer	9,486.67	10,033.24	Oden	1,145.06	1,235.28	Ben Lomond	1,260.65	1,101.57
Jericho	716.13	725.68	Humphrey	2,969.40	3,140.49	Nevada County	106,092.00	101,303.27	De Queen	57,328.96	50,095.04
Marion	74,290.94	75,282.19	Pine Bluff	473,205.52	500,469.14	Bluff City	976.72	932.63	Delham	1,391.06	1,215.53
Sunset	1,072.39	1,086.70	Redfield	12,504.28	13,224.71	Bodcaw	1,086.99	1,037.93	Horatio	9,076.65	7,931.33
Turrell	3,330.91	3,375.35	Sherrill	809.84	856.50	Cale	622.26	594.18	Lockesburg	6,424.95	5,614.23
West Memphis	157,939.72	160,047.10	Wabbaseka	2,458.44	2,600.08	Emmet	3,741.46	3,572.58	Sharp County	74,099.55	75,177.62
Cross County	249,149.69	250,352.54	White Hall	53,275.75	56,345.21	Prescott	25,961.78	24,789.93	Ash Flat	8,863.37	8,992.32
Cherry Valley	6,399.54	6,430.44	Johnson County	116,403.47	116,175.98	Rosston	2,055.83	1,963.04	Cave City	15,755.09	15,984.31
Hickory Ridge	2,673.85	2,686.76	Clarksville	85,502.28	85,335.18	Willisville	1,197.27	1,143.22	Cherokee Village	35,073.61	35,583.89
Parkin	10,862.51	10,914.96	Coal Hill	9,427.80	9,409.37	Newton County	50,154.86	48,952.24	Evening Shade	3,907.12	3,963.96
Wynne	82,250.38	82,647.45	Hartman	4,835.01	4,825.56	Jasper	2,007.06	1,958.93	Hardy	6,602.30	6,698.36
Dallas County	141,203.02	129,024.45	Knoxville	6,810.00	6,796.69	Western Grove	1,653.88	1,614.23	Highland	9,451.24	9,588.75
Desha County	94,500.54	98,344.99	Lamar	14,952.18	14,922.96	Ouachita County	571,408.30	530,320.11	Horseshoe Bend	72.35	73.41
Arkansas City	3,657.31	3,806.10	Lafayette County	70,911.28	73,436.67	Bearden	8,770.09	8,139.46	Sidney	1,637.01	1,660.83
Dumas	47,025.44	48,938.51	Bradley	3,341.95	3,460.97	Camden	110,606.58	102,653.20	Williford	678.31	688.18
McGehee	42,159.01	43,874.12	Buckner	1,463.43	1,515.55	Chidester	2,623.76	2,435.10	St. Francis County	257,107.32	134,031.64
Mitchellville	3,597.36	3,743.70	Lewisville	6,811.61	7,054.20	East Camden	8,452.33	7,844.55	Caldwell	9,206.40	8,818.92
Reed	1,718.74	1,788.66	Stamps	9,009.42	9,330.27	Louann	1,488.92	1,381.85	Cott	6,270.30	6,006.40
Tillar	209.85	218.38	Lawrence County	279,971.53	295,635.67	Stephens	8,089.17	7,507.50	Forrest City	254,975.74	244,244.28
Watson	2,108.44	2,194.23	Alicia	755.43	797.69	Perry County	102,772.20	99,802.78	Hughes	23,903.46	22,897.40
Drew County	365,935.21	376,295.30	Black Rock	4,033.01	4,258.66	Adona	915.87	889.41	Madison	12,756.26	12,219.36
Jerome	456.58	469.51	Hoxie	16,936.22	17,883.78	Bigelow	1,380.37	1,340.49	Palestine	11,296.50	10,821.04
Monticello	110,832.16	113,969.96	Imboden	4,124.40	4,355.15	Casa	749.35	727.70	Whately	5,888.78	5,640.92
Tillar	2,388.27	2,455.89	Lynn	1,754.54	1,852.71	Fourche	271.69	263.84	Wiener	4,528.52	4,337.98
Wilmar	5,982.38	6,151.75	Minturn	664.05	701.20	Houston	758.11	736.21	Stone County	75,506.85	76,786.57
Winchester	1,955.11	2,010.45	Portia	2,662.28	2,811.23	Perry	1,183.18	1,148.99	Fifty Six	1,378.94	1,402.31
Faulkner County	654,984.33	680,264.68	Powhatan	438.64	463.18	Perryville	6,397.93	6,213.07	Mountain View	21,903.60	22,274.83
Enola	1,994.42	2,071.40	Ravenden	2,863.32	3,023.52	Phillips County	98,002.53	106,475.99	Union County	476,306.15	480,078.02
Holland	3,286.66	3,413.52	Sedgwick	926.01	977.82	Elaine	10,970.58	11,919.12	Calion	13,885.86	13,995.83
Mount Vernon	855.59	888.62	Smithville	475.19	501.78	Helena-West Helena	173,839.83	188,870.31	El Dorado	591,243.71	595,925.79
Twin Groves	1,976.72	2,053.01	Strawberry	1,839.83	1,942.77	Lake View	7,641.46	8,302.15	Felsenthal	3,402.48	3,429.43
Wooster	5,074.57	5,270.42	Walnut Ridge	3,339.43	34,339.43	Marvell	4,933.31	5,359.85	Huttig	19,032.14	19,182.86
Franklin County	198,410.34	213,661.83	Lee County	29,912.79	27,467.36	Pike County	146,690.93	138,058.88	Junction City	16,976.78	17,111.23
Altus	6,163.82	8,370.88	Aubrey	926.94	851.16	Antoine	940.74	885.38	Morphlet	21,420.11	21,589.73
Branch	2,984.33	4,052.92	Haynes	817.89	751.02	Daisy	924.66	870.25	Smackover	56,353.76	56,800.02
Charleston	20,508.11	27,851.41	LaGrange	485.28	445.61	Delight	2,243.30	2,111.29	Strong	16,033.99	16,160.96
Denning	3,688.17	5,201.43	Marianna	22,437.32	20,603.02	Glenwood	17,576.54	16,542.25	Van Buren County	238,733.76	246,761.95
Ozark	29,957.12	40,683.82	Moro	1,177.75	1,081.47	Murfreesboro	13,194.47	12,418.04	Clinton	21,206.65	21,919.79
Wiederkehr Village	308.99	419.65	Rondo	1,079.60	991.34	Poinsett County	122,308.48	117,440.48	Damascus	2,037.53	2,106.05
Fulton County	111,709.35	99,341.71	Lincoln	50,086.01	49,454.66	Fisher	1,829.33	1,756.52	Fairfield Bay	17,563.54	18,154.17
Ash Flat	441.95	393.02	Gould	3,964.63	3,914.65	Harrisburg	18,883.89	18,132.29	Shirley	2,371.69	2,451.45
Cherokee Village	3,435.96	3,055.56	Grady	2,126.78	2,099.98	Lepanto	15,528.76	14,910.70	Washington County	1,353,960.31	1,321,878.86
Hardy	181.98	161.83	Star City	10,771.29	10,635.51	Marked Tree	21,049.55	20,211.76	Elkins	40,688.15	39,724.06
Horseshoe Bend	73.66	65.50	Little River County	185,911.90	166,679.28	Trumann	59,890.55	57,468.82	Elm Springs	26,982.02	26,342.69
Mammoth Spring	4,233.21	3,764.54	Ashdown	37,921.42	33,998.47	Tyrnora	6,250.88	6,002.09	Farmington	91,794.18	89,619.16
Salem	7,084.24	6,299.93	Foreman	8,117.42	7,277.67	Waldenburg	500.40	480.48	Fayetteville	1,130,601.90	1,103,812.81
Viola	1,460.18	1,298.52	Ogden	1,445.24	1,295.73	Weiner	5,873.53	5,639.75	Goshen	16,456.57	16,066.64
Garland County	1,869,920.57	1,047,254.68	Wilton	3,002.88	2,692.24	Polk County	244,437.80	230,782.89	Greenland	19,883.10	19,411.98
Fountain Lake	6,348.21	6,619.84	Winthrop	1,541.59	1,382.11	Cove	7,332.18	6,922.58	Johnson	51,536.27	50,315.14
Hot Springs	190,354.58	198,499.34	Logan County	287,633.05	262,861.34	Grannis	10,633.58	10,399.56	Lincoln	34,557.27	33,738.45
Lonsdale	1,186.34	1,237.11	Blue Mountain	1,020.85	932.93	Hatfield	7,927.20	7,484.36	Prairie Grove	68,008.21	66,396.79
Mountain Pine	9,717.96	10,133.75	Booneville	32,848.36	30,019.37	Mena	110,116.97	103,965.56	Springdale	986,395.61	963,023.42
Grant County	176,940.79	199,738.79	Caulksville	1,753.56	1,602.54	Vandervoort	1,669.90	1,576.60	Tontitown	37,799.41	36,903.77
Greene County	557,850.88	493,543.00	Magazine	6,973.07	6,372.53	Wickes	14,472.38	13,663.94	West Fork	35,602.13	34,758.55
Delaplaine	1,438.96	1,273.08	Morrison Bluff	526.89	481.51	Pope County	326,711.14	326,533.38	Winslow	6,007.96	5,865.61
Lafe	5,681.41	5,026.47	Paris	29,077.79	26,573.54	Atkins	39,237.08	39,215.73	White County	1,038,189.77	826,733.55
Marmaduke	13,781.75	12,193.02	Ratcliff	1,663.00	1,519.78	Dover	17,927.29	17,917.53	Bald Knob	32,094.46	32,172.90
Oak Grove Heights	11,027.88	9,756.61	Scranton	1,844.12	1,685.30	Hector	5,854.34	5,851.15	Beebe	81,039.34	81,237.40
Paragould	323,927.03	286,585.40	Subiaco	4,709.09	4,303.53	London	13,517.02	13,509.66	Bradford	8,408.59	8,429.14
Hempstead	332,253.59	348,326.17	Lonoke County	258,912.46	248,737.48	Pottsville	36,921.36	36,901.28	Garner	3,146.30	3,153.99
Blevins	3,102.32	3,252.39	Allport	1,046.94	1,005.80	Russellville	363,229.20	363,031.59	Georgetown	1,373.74	1,377.09
Emmet	423.49	443.98	Austin	18,553.57	17,824.44	Prairie County	63,206.83	174,553.31	Griffithville	2,492.67	2,498.76
Fulton	1,979.58	2,075.34	Cabot	216,452.27	207,945.93	Biscoe	2,626.53	2,753.49	Higginson	6,879.76	6,896.57
Hope	99,421.98	104,231.47	Carlisle	20,155.84	19,363.74	Des Arc	12,423.57	34,309.20	Judsonia	22,367.52	22,422.19
McCaskill	945.47	991.21	Coy	873.97	839.62	DeValls Bluff	4,478.85	12,368.90	Kentsett	18,257.39	18,302.01
McNab	669.71	702.10	England	25,718.27	24,707.57	Hazen	10,621.90	29,333.67	Letona	2,825.02	2,831.93

Three-peat: Fayetteville named 'Best Place To Live' in SEC

Fayetteville is the best city to live in the Southeastern Conference and the fifth-best city overall in the nation, according to *U.S. News & World Report (USNWR)* and its annual "Best Places To Live" list.

The city's top-five overall ranking places the University of Arkansas at No. 1 in the SEC and No. 2 among all Power Five Conference institutions for the third straight year.

The "Best Places To Live" list is *USNWR's* evaluation of the 100 most populous U.S. metropolitan areas whose rankings were based on its value, desirability, job market strength, quality of life, and other factors. Fayetteville scored an overall 7.3 out of 10 for the second straight year, reaching high marks for value (7.9), job market strength (7.1), quality of life (7.5), and net migration (8.0).

USNWR also cited the city's affordable housing costs (\$182,508 vs. \$222,408 nationally), mild winters, short commute times (4.9 minutes shorter than the national average), and low unemployment (1.7 percentage points below the national average) as additional favorable factors.

The publication's 2018 percent weighting for each index category favored Fayetteville's strengths: The job market index accounted for 20 percent, value index at 25 percent, quality of life index at 30 percent, desirability at 15 percent, and net migration at 10 percent.

Including Fayetteville, only six out of 14 SEC cities made the list: Nashville moved up two spots to No. 11; Lexington, Ky., entered at No. 21; Columbia, S.C., remained at No. 56; Knoxville, Tenn., fell three spots to No. 64; and Baton Rouge, La., entered at No. 100. 🏛️

June 30 is Act 833 deadline for Arkansas fire departments

The 2018 Act 833 application period will close June 30. Act 833 of 1992, "Funding for Fire Departments," is administered by the Arkansas Fire Protection Services Board (AFPSB) and requires all Arkansas fire departments to become certified in order to be eligible for funding. Certification requirements include possession of a NFPA 1901 compliant fire suppression apparatus, a minimum of six active members with 16 hours of certified training, and personal protective equipment (PPE) for all active members.

The 2018 application and guidance document is available at www.adem.arkansas.gov/act-833 or contact Kendell Snyder at (501) 683-6781 or email fire/emsservices@adem.arkansas.gov. Applications can be emailed, faxed, or sent by USPS. 🏛️

Obituaries

JAMES "JIM" ARGUE JR., 66, of Little Rock, who served as President Pro Tempore of the Arkansas State Senate for the 85th General Assembly, representing the 32nd District from 1996 to 2008, and was a member of the Arkansas House of Representatives from 1991 to 1996, died May 3.

BOYCE EDWARD HARROD, 89, city manager of Arkadelphia from 1966 to 1975 and mayor of Hamburg from 1990 to 1998, died April 13.

OLIVER JOHNSON JR., 25, of West Memphis, a Forrest City police officer, died April 28.

BEVERLY LYNN MURRAY, 62, recorder/treasurer for the town of Delaplaine, died April 4.

MELVIN VESTER, a recently retired officer with the Little Rock Police Department, died May 4. 🏛️

Changes to the Directory, Arkansas Municipal Officials

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

Ashdown

Delete CM Richard Z. Butler
Add CM Glen Ray Bowman

Bryant

Delete CM (Vacant)
Add CM Star Henson

Cale

Delete CM Heath Morris
Add CM (Vacant)
Delete CM Kathryn Morris
Add CM (Vacant)

Cushman

Add E-Mail
cushmanwaterar@gmail.com

Daisy

Delete R/T Hortense Young
Add R/T (Vacant)

Delaplaine

Delete R/T Lynn Murray
Add R/T (Vacant)

Diamond City

Delete T (Vacant)
Add T Jane Henderson

Highfill

Delete M (Vacant)
Add M Michelle Reiff
Delete CM Michelle Reiff
Add CM (Vacant)

Mansfield

Delete M (Vacant)
Add /A/M Michael Gipson

Morrilton

Delete AM Shawna Bowles

Mountain Pine

Delete/A/M Morgan Wiles
Add M Rick Petty, Sr.

Peach Orchard

Add SS Bill Forbes

Tollette

Delete PRD Brenda Porter
Add PRD (Vacant)
Delete M Charles Miller
Add M Brenda Porter



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

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



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

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

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



Springdale Water Utilities WWTF Generator Improvements
Springdale, Arkansas

ACEC Arkansas 2018 Engineering Excellence Award Winner



We work here. We live here.

We're invested in Arkansas.

+ For more information, contact: Steve Jones, PhD, PE
Director of Water Services | SMJones@GarverUSA.com
479.527.9100 | GarverUSA.com

MUNICIPAL MART

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

CITY ENGINEER—The City of Jacksonville is accepting applications for a city engineer. Qualified candidates must be a PE. Responsible for, but not limited to, the following: Oversees the duties of the engineering department, including building permits, ensure compliance with federal, state and local regulations, analyzes and design drainage, streets and subdivisions, oversee compliance with ADEQ on municipal storm-water, handles floodplain administration, oversees the contracts for streets, drainage and city-owned buildings. A minimum of 5 years of progressively responsible experience in managing a professional engineering function is desired. Ability to communicate effectively, orally and in writing, with employees, consultants, other governmental agency representatives, city officials and the general public. Any equivalent combination of knowledge, skills, education and experience may be considered. Please submit a City of Jacksonville Application along with your resume or CV to: Jill Ross, Director of Human Resources; email jross@cityofjacksonville.net; fax-501-982-4670; mail/hand deliver #1 Municipal Drive, Jacksonville, AR 72076. EOE.

CITY MANAGER—City of Freeport, Texas seeks qualified applicants for their next City Manager. Freeport is a home rule city operating under the council-manager form of government. The City Council consists of a mayor and four council members who serve two-year staggered terms and are elected on a ward system. The City Council is the City's legislative body and appoints the City Manager who is responsible for the general administration of the City on a daily basis. The City Manager will need to develop a thorough understanding of the processes and functions of each of the City's departments and work closely with the Council, community organizations, citizens, and other governmental agencies to develop short and long-range strategies for addressing current and future challenges and making the best use of resources. The City of Freeport seeks a creative, visionary, and results-driven municipal government professional who will take the organization to the next performance level. The selected candidate must hold a Bachelor's Degree in Public Admin., Business, or a related field and have at least 5 years of experience as a City Manager, Assistant City Manager, or senior government admin. Master's preferred. Salary range starts at \$160,000 DOE. View complete position profile and apply online: bit.ly/SGRCurrentSearches.

CITY MANAGER—Herington, Kan. (pop. 2,362; \$7.5M budget; 28 FTE's), seeks a City Manager with background in sound financial practices, public relations, infrastructure, and economic development. Candidates should exhibit community commitment, a reliable work ethic, and professionalism. Candidates should have a minimum of 1-3 years of experience and hold a Bachelor degree in Public Administration or related field. Competitive benefits; Salary \$60,000-\$86,000, DOQ. Interested candidates should submit a cover letter, resume, and three work-related references to LEAPS-Herington@lkm.org or LEAPS-Herington, 300 SW 8th, Topeka, KS 66603. If confidentiality is requested, please note in application materials. Position will remain open until filled. Application review will begin May 21. EOE.

DIRECTOR OF HUMAN RESOURCES—Temple, Texas, is ideally situated along the Central Texas technology corridor with San Antonio and Austin to the south, and Dallas and Fort Worth to the north. A principal city in the Killeen-Temple-Fort Hood Metropolitan Statistical Area, which has an estimated population of 428,000, Temple covers 75.15 square miles and offers an exceptional quality of life to approximately 79,286 residents. The City of Temple is a full-service, home rule city operating under a council-manager form of government. The city has a staff of 850 employees and an adopted budget of \$146,359,516. Under administrative direction of the city manager or her designee, the director of human resources develops, directs, and provides human resource programs and services for the city. The city is seeking an exceptional leader and experienced human resources professional to be its next director of human resources. The successful candidate will be a highly effective communicator who will empower staff to excel in their operations. The selected candidate must hold a bachelor's degree in human resource management, business

administration, or a closely related field and have five years of experience in professional human resource administration or an equivalent combination of education and experience. A master's degree and certification as a Professional in Human Resources (SHRM or PHR) are preferred qualifications. Please apply online at: bit.ly/SGRCurrentSearches. For more information on this position contact: Lissa Barker, senior vice president, Strategic Government Resources, LissaBarker@governmentresource.com, (817) 266-0647. Deadline to apply: May 25.

DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS—The City of Salem, Mo., seeks a Director of Public Works. The position description and application form are available at salemmo.com. Applicants should submit a cover letter, application, résumé, and a minimum of 3 professional references to cityadministrator@salemmo.com. Open until filled.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR—The City of Salem, Mo., seeks a director to serve the community with a collaborative and innovative approach. Salem is surrounded by spectacular scenic beauty and countless opportunities for outdoor recreation. Mining support, food distribution, raw wood products, and tourism are mainstays of the local economy. See full Recruitment Profile with candidate qualifications at salemmo.com. Email resume, salary history, and cover letter to mfentje@austinpeters.com by May 9. For more information call (316) 250-1344.

HUMAN RESOURCES DIRECTOR—Plainview, Texas is located 40 minutes north of Lubbock with a thriving population of more than 22,000. The scenic beauty of the west Texas plains provides families and businesses with a vibrant and affordable place to live and work. Plainview is a home rule city with a council-manager form of government. The city has 186 employees and an FY 2018 operating budget of \$23,850,135. The city seeks a dynamic and resourceful professional with strong leadership skills to be its next human resources director. Under the supervision of the city manager, the human resources director will proactively develop, refine, and implement organizational human resources goals and policies, maintain a system of accountability, and collaborate with staff and city administration to resolve human resources issues within the organization. The selected candidate must hold a bachelor's degree in human resource management, business administration, or a closely related field and have five years of experience in a professional human resource administration or an equivalent combination of education and experience. A master's degree and certification as a Professional in Human Resources (SHRM or PHR) are preferred qualifications. The salary for this position is \$68,000 to \$95,000, depending on qualifications and experience. Please apply online at: bit.ly/SGRCurrentSearches. For more information on this position contact: Gary Holland, senior vice president, Strategic Government Resources, GaryHolland@governmentresource.com, (405) 269-3445.

POLICE CHIEF—The City of Sheridan is seeking a police chief experienced in all levels of law enforcement. The ideal candidate will have strong leadership and supervisory skills and excellent oral and written communication skills. Requirements: ALETA certification, at least a Bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice, Public Admin., or related field, and at least 10 years of direct law enforcement experience, with management experience in a department similar in size to the Sheridan Police Department, which has 13 employees, 9 of which are uniformed. Starting salary is \$60,000 (Including Holidays) but is negotiable. Applications may be picked up at City Hall or visit our Facebook page. Completed applications with cover letter and resume may be mailed to Mayor Joe Wise, 106 West Bell Street, Sheridan, AR 72150; or emailed to shercity@windstream.net by May 31. Starting date for the new chief is July 16, 2018. Direct questions to Mayor Wise at (870) 942-3921. EOE.

POLICE OFFICER—The Berryville Police Department is now accepting applications for a F/T Officer. Contact the Berryville Police Department at (870) 423-3343 or berryvillepd@berryville.com for application and job description.

STREET SUPERINTENDENT—The City of Bryant is accepting applications for a Street Superintendent. The Street Superintendent is responsible for ensuring the safety and quality of the City's transportation roadways through asset management planning and by managing the construction, repair, maintenance, and replacement of street systems. The ideal candidate must be experienced in roadway heavy construction from the planning stages to construction completion. Minimum of 5 years related experience. For detailed position descriptions or to complete an application visit our website, www.cityofbryant.com. EOE.

UTILITIES SUPERINTENDENT—Rogers Water Utilities seeks applicants for the position of utilities superintendent. This executive management position reports directly to a five-member Waterworks and Sewer Commission. Commissioners are appointed by the other members of the Commission with the approval of City Council. The Superintendent is responsible for the effective management and administration of all aspects of the Water delivery, Wastewater and Business operations. Administrative and management assignments include personnel, budgeting, planning, report writing, public relations, implementing and enforcing Utility policies and procedures, regulatory compliance and other duties as assigned. In addition, the Utility Superintendent is responsible for continually evaluating the Utilities operation and making appropriate reports and recommendations to the Waterworks and Sewer Commission in order to ensure the entire organization operates at the highest practical level of efficiency. Salary: \$100,605 to \$113,180, DOQ. A City of Rogers employment application and a detailed resume must be submitted for consideration. Internal candidates may apply by resume only. Applications and the job description for this position are available on-line at www.rogersar.gov. Open until filled. EOE.

WATER/WASTEWATER OPERATOR—Holiday Island Suburban Improvement District has a F/T entry level or licensed operator position open in the water/wastewater department. Competitive compensation package includes health/life insurance, vacation/sick leave, and retirement plan. Contact the District Office at 110 Woodsdale Drive Holiday Island, AR 72631; or call (479) 253-9700 for an application. For further information, contact Dan Schrader at (479) 253-7211.

WATER/WASTEWATER PROFESSIONAL—The City of Humphrey is accepting applications for the position of a full-time water and wastewater professional. Class 2 license. Must have at least 3 years of related and responsible work experience. Applicant must successfully complete background investigation and pre-employment substance abuse testing. Interested applicants should submit city application and / or resume to Humphreycityhall15@yahoo.com or fax to (870) 873-4657. If you have any questions, please call City of Humphrey at (870) 873-4615.

WATER SUPERINTENDENT—The City of Hartman Water Department seeks a Water Superintendent. Must have Distribution 2 license, high school diploma or GED, at least 3 year water distribution experience, CDL Class A license, able to operate heavy equipment. Salary based on experience. Resume must be sent in by July 1. For more information call (479) 497-2070.

FOR SALE—The City of Gassville is offering for sale a 1980 Chevrolet model C70 Fire Engine. The vehicle can be viewed at the Gassville Fire Station during normal business hours of 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. M-F at 206 S. School St. Photos of the engine can also be viewed on our Gassville Fire and Rescue Facebook page. For more information contact Mayor Jeff Braim at Gassville City Hall, (870) 435-6439; or Fire Chief Christy Dewey at (870) 435-6119, (870) 706-1082; or by email at gvfd@sudenlinkmail.com.

FOR SALE—The City of Rison is offering for sale a 2012 Chevrolet Impala police car. Photos available by email if desired, or visit cityofrison.com and click on for sale page. Asking \$4,500. Car is black in color with no damage and runs good. Vehicle can be viewed at Rison City Hall daily from 8 a.m. until 4 p.m.



CSAsoftwaresolutions
Accounting & Billing Specialists

CenterPoint®

Fund Accounting & Payroll

Key Features

- * Direct Deposit Module
- * Accrue and track vacation/sick leave
- * Unlimited funds, departments & accounts
- * Detailed general ledger and activity report
- * Easy bank reconciliation
- * Produce annual published report
- * Drill-down to detail of transaction
- * Print income statements with budgets
- * Receive on-site installation and training

Call us today for a
free information packet!

1.800.264.4465

WWW.CSASoftwareSolutions.com

May 15

Steamboat Days
Helena-West Helena
(870) 714-2844; visithelenaar.com

May 18-19

30th Magnolia Blossom Festival
& World Championship
Steak Cook-off
Magnolia
(870) 234-4352; blossomfestival.org

May 18-19

Crawdad Days Festival
Harrison
(870) 741-2659

May 18-19

31st Springfest
Heber Springs
(501) 270-2204

May 18-19

33rd Tuckerman Hometown Days
Tuckerman
(870) 512-9586

May 24-27

21st Augusta Days
Augusta
(870) 347-6659

June 1-2

Mudtown Days
Lowell
(479) 770-2185; lowellarkansas.gov/mudtowndays

June 1-2

Lum & Abner Festival
Mena
www.visitMena.com

June 1-2

51st Shirley Homecoming
Shirley
(501) 723-4848

June 2

16th Gassville in the Park Festival
Gassville
(870) 435-6439; cityofgassville.org

June 2

2nd Bluegrass 'N Bar-BQ
Huntsville
(479) 738-6607; huntsvillear.org

June 8-9

42nd Farm Fest
Wynne
(870) 238-4183; crosscountychamber.com

June 9

1st Forward Fest
Pine Bluff
(870) 536-7600; goforwardpinebluff.org





EARN THE RECOGNITION YOUR CITY DESERVES!

Enter the programs you have developed that show the improvement and growth of your city.

Categories:

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

Winning cities will be featured in Arkansas Business and awards presented at the Winter Meeting of the Arkansas Municipal League.

Deadline to enter: August 10

Entry information is available at:
www.arkansasbusiness.com/trendsetter

Presented by



In partnership with



Expertise. Confidence. Commitment.

Building blocks of Arkansas' future.



Standing from left:
Robert Dudley, Kevin Faight,
Dennis Hunt (Executive Vice
President and Manager of Public
Finance), Leigh Ann Biernat,
Bo Bittle, Jack Truemper

Seated from left: Lindsey
Ollar, Michele Casavechia,
Jason Holsclaw, Melissa Walsh,
Michael McBryde

At Stephens, we understand our continued success results from how clients are treated. With this in mind, our work is done in a manner that demonstrates trust and clear thinking.

In 2017, our firm led the state in successfully managing the largest number and par amount of negotiated issues. During the same period, Stephens completed a majority of the financial advisory transactions for Arkansas school districts. While 2017 was another good year, we understand it was possible because of the trust and confidence shown by our fellow Arkansans.

We are continually impressed with the talent and dedication of the women and men who manage Arkansas' municipalities, hospitals, colleges and universities, school districts, state agencies, counties, utility systems and other governmental organizations. Thank you, Arkansas, for your continued confidence in our capabilities.

Little Rock 800-643-9691
Fayetteville 800-205-8613

LITTLE ROCK, AR • ATLANTA, GA • AUSTIN, TX • CHARLOTTE, NC
COLUMBIA, SC • DALLAS, TX • FAYETTEVILLE, AR • JACKSON, MS
NASHVILLE, TN • SHREVEPORT, LA

Stephens

Public Finance