

City & Town

JUNE 2019 VOL. 75, NO. 06

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE ARKANSAS MUNICIPAL LEAGUE



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ON THE COVER—The League’s 85th Convention gets underway June 12 at the Marriott Hotel and Statehouse Convention Center in downtown Little Rock. City and town leaders from every corner of the state will come together over the course of the three days to discuss issues of mutual concern and set the League’s agenda for the coming year. Check out the detailed tentative agenda inside on page 18, and we look forward to seeing you there!—atm

Features

6 Play ball!
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Dear Friends,

This is my last letter to you as president of the Arkansas Municipal League. My work as a mayor is not complete, however. When our job is, put simply, to make the lives better for all those in our community, we never finish, we just make as much progress as we are able during the relatively brief time we are allowed to serve. This is also a reminder that one of our most important duties as public servants is to prepare those who will follow us.



While I had several objectives for my tenure as president, I was always clear about how fundamental it is for all of us to encourage the next generation of leaders to become more involved in the governing of our communities. In just one year I have been thrilled to see new, younger faces show up at our regional meetings and winter conference. I will continue to encourage the next generation of leaders in my city, and I hope you will do the same in your hometowns.

Probably the proudest achievement I can point to as president is one that I wish I never had to face. Last year we lost a giant with the passing of Don Zimmerman. Our executive committee was faced with the near impossible task of choosing his replacement. No matter how smart or talented we think we might be on the committee, there is no doubt we lucked out by having Mark Hayes available as Don's successor. Mark has proven that he is up to the challenge and then some. Personally, I am grateful to him for his crucial guidance as we negotiated through a tough legislative session.

Speaking of the legislature, we must all recognize that the coming years will see continuing attempts at eroding local control on all manner of issues more appropriately tackled by our cities and towns. There are seldom one-size-fits-all answers, and our League is working every day to make sure that our cities have the proper authority to self-govern. I encourage our members to take their hard earned municipal experience and run for legislative office to ensure our voices and perspectives continue to be heard at the Capitol.

During the 85th Convention this month, I will pass the reigns to Mayor Harold Perrin of Jonesboro, who has been diligently preparing for the task over the last year as our first vice president. My confidence in his ability to lead the organization is unwavering, and I am beyond optimistic all our members will benefit from his endeavors.

I enjoyed my term as your president and look forward to adding my voice to other past presidents. It has been my honor to represent each and every one of you.

Joe A. Smith
Mayor, North Little Rock
President, Arkansas Municipal League

ARKANSAS MUNICIPAL LEAGUE OFFICERS

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Monticello Miracle League for the win!

By Andrew Morgan, League staff

After several straight weekends of rainouts thanks to a very wet Arkansas spring, the Blue Heroes, Red Warriors, Purple Legends, and Green Champions were able to take advantage of a beautiful Saturday morning on May 18 at Monticello’s sports complex, where the four teams took the field at the Miracle League Park. Dubbed “Celebration Saturday,” the final day of the spring season included the presentation of trophies, team pictures, and a cookout.

Inclusiveness is the goal of the Miracle League, which provides a place for children or adults with disabilities and their families and friends to gather, root each other on, and experience the fun of playing baseball. Each and every player gets the opportunity to hit, run the bases, and play the field, often with the assistance of a buddy if needed. Monticello’s Miracle League Park also features an inclusive playground adjacent to the ball field, accessible restroom facilities, and a pavilion.

The national Miracle League organization provides barrier-free baseball in 250 cities across the country. Monticello’s Miracle League field is the sixth such park in the state, but it is the first in southeast Arkansas. Thanks to the new park, the city garnered a 2018 Trendsetter City Award in the wellness category. The Arkansas Business Publishing Group presented the awards during the League’s Winter Conference in January. 🏆



PHOTOS BY ANDREW MORGAN



Census 2020: How to count hard-to-count communities

By Alex Jones and Spencer Wagner

The census is one of the most basic functions of our federal system, requiring a count of every person in the United States every 10 years. A precise count matters for city leaders because the results provide meaningful data for municipal operations as well as inform the allocation of more than \$800 billion in federal funding to state and local governments.

Local leaders can support an accurate count by identifying which residents are least likely to participate and investing in targeted outreach to ensure they do. Hard-to-count communities vary from city to city but are generally populations that historically have been undercounted and/or do not self-report as well as others. Examples of hard-to-count populations include persons of color, recent immigrants, young children, renters, and low-income households.

We can get a good idea of where hard-to-count communities are by looking at participation rates in prior census cycles. The interactive map from City University of New York (www.censushardtcountmaps2020.us) is a great tool that lets you search your community and get data on what neighborhoods require specific attention.

Identifying where your hard-to-count communities exist is just the beginning. Using this geographic information, city leaders should identify common factors in the community. Is it composed mostly of rental units? Is it home to significant numbers of individuals who are black, LatinX, Asian Pacific, indigenous, or recent immigrants?

With this information, cities can partner with community-based organizations and service providers to help increase response rates to the census. Additionally, cities should make sure to communicate with their local Census Bureau representatives and eventually share the collected information about the hard-to-count communities.

New guidelines from Census Counts 2020 (www.censuscounts.org) can help local leaders estimate the amount of funding needed to work with these hard-to-count communities. The guide highlights three factors to consider:

- Percentage of households that did not respond by mail to the 2010 Census;
- The cost per person of reaching out to these hard-to-count communities; and
- The number of hard-to-count individuals who should receive higher amounts of attention.

A good example to think about is the city and county of Denver, Colo. Denver is a consolidated government, making our quick math a little easier. In 2010, 22 percent



of Denver's population did not self-respond. The Census Counts 2020 equation breaks out hard-to-count populations into three groups and notes how much they cost to count per person:

- Basic outreach (\$2 per person);
- Moderate outreach (\$25 per person); and
- Intensive outreach (\$75 per person).

Finally, the equation breaks down the number of hard-to-count people that should receive each level of funding:

- Basic (100% of hard-to-count);
- Moderate (10% of hard-to-count); and
- Intensive (5% of hard-to-count).

With this information in mind, Denver could budget around \$1.2 million to partner with community-based organizations to conduct appropriate census follow-up with these hard-to-count communities.

With Census 2020 less than one year away, now is a critical juncture for cities and towns to begin preparing and funding operations for the census. For additional information and recommendations, leaders can consult NLC's Municipal Action Guide at www.nlc.org/resource/cities-count-preparing-for-the-2020-census.

Alex Jones is the manager of NLC's Local Democracy Initiative, where his work focuses on unveiling the extent and effect of state intervention in city governance. Spencer Wagner is a local democracy associate with NLC's Local Democracy Initiative. This article appeared originally at CitiesSpeak.org and is reprinted with permission.

League hosts loss control seminar



PHOTOS BY ANDREW MORGAN



The League hosted 61 mayors, HR directors, office managers, and other city and town officials on May 9 for a seminar covering the topic of loss control and the resources available to help municipalities keep their workforces safe and limit liability. After a welcome and opening remarks by North Little Rock Mayor and League President Joe Smith and League Deputy Director Whitnee Bullerwell, Executive Director Mark Hayes provided an overview of the League's loss control services. Members of the League staff shared ways cities can reduce workers' compensation claims, property and vehicle claims,



League Loss Control Manager Bryan Lamb.

and create a safer, more productive work environment for employees. Paul Hansen with the Arkansas Workers' Compensation Commission covered the ins and outs of Rule 31 and Rule 32, and the Commission's Judge Chandra Black discussed the adjudication process for claims. The Arkansas Department of Labor's Mike Watson shared the differences between the state's Arkansas Occupational Safety and Health (AOSH) and the federal Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA). 



League Municipal Vehicle and Property Program General Manager John Wells.

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 2019 (A.C.A. § 26-27-324(c)(3)(A)). AACD will be conducting the training in several locations around Arkansas during June and 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).

Cities and towns need a strong federal partner to fix our crumbling infrastructure

By Mark Stodola

The month of May marks the beginning of spring, and it usually gives us a respite from the harshness of winter. It also allows us to see the destructive impact winter weather has made on our cities' streets and bridges. This May the National League of Cities and other advocacy organizations joined together to call attention to the dire condition of our nation's infrastructure and urge our federal government to take action during the seventh annual Infrastructure Week, May 13-17.

Consider these facts:

- 95 percent of all streets, roads, and bridges are funded by local and state governments, not the federal government.
- 75 percent of all water and sewer systems are funded our nation's cities and towns.
- Local governments, large and small, spend \$115 billion a year (\$316 million a day) on water and sewer infrastructure alone, compared to only \$2 billion in loans from the federal government.
- Today, 65 percent of America's streets and roads are rated in less-than-good condition. In Arkansas, many cities and towns have to wait years to do even the simplest street overlays. A glaring affirmation of this is reflected in the statistics compiled by the State Aid City Street Committee, which over the last seven years has awarded \$137,223,681 for 595 municipal street projects in Arkansas's cities and towns. None of this is provided by the federal government.
- Despite the huge investment cities have made in transit, 45 percent of Americans still lack access.
- By 2020, 70 percent of the dams in the United States will be more than 50 years old, and most of our national interstate system is over 50 years old and requires constant maintenance. (Have you ever driven to Memphis and not experienced substantial construction underway?)
- The Federal Communications Commission's Broadband Progress Report found that 30 million Americans still lack access to adequate broadband service, and 40 percent of rural Americans have little or no access to basic broadband speeds at all.



This is particularly bad for states like Arkansas that are struggling to make sure our children possess the skills necessary to compete for the jobs of the future. The internet is the educational equalizer.

So it is no wonder that the American Society of Civil Engineers has consistently graded our country's infrastructure as failing since 1998. It is sad the supposedly greatest country in the world can't find a way to meet our infrastructure needs. Our current grade of D+ comes with an overall need of \$4.6 trillion by 2020. The city of Little Rock has estimated over \$2 billion of infrastructure needs over the next 10 years.

It is mildly encouraging that the Trump administration has agreed to work with congressional leaders to come up with ideas on how to fund \$2 trillion of these needs; however, the president is estimating that the

federal government's portion of that should only be \$200 billion.

The thorny challenge is answering from where the rest of the money will come. As mentioned above, cities and states are already doing more than their fair share. Congress and the administration need to step up to the plate in a much greater way. The door is also open to developing new financing structures and greatly increasing private investment in public infrastructure projects. These public-private partnerships will be critical if we are to succeed as a nation.

Last year, the clarion call to Congress during Infrastructure Week was to find a way to come up with \$2 trillion. The call fell on deaf ears. Let's hope Congress and the president are really listening this year.

This is why major organizations such as the National League of Cities and the U.S. Conference of Mayors are calling on Congress to:

- Pass a major infrastructure package that starts the investment.
- Prioritize economic growth by maximizing federal investment directly to cities and counties.
- Collaborate with business and labor groups to build partnerships through infrastructure investments that promote local hiring and create new workforce training programs so our citizens have the skills needed for the future.
- Provide economic incentives and regulatory flexibility for cities to partner with private companies and investment groups to create innovative solutions to financing infrastructure projects that address our energy needs, our broadband, water and sewer needs, and our transportation needs.
- Develop policies and proactive resiliency plans before disasters occur that will help communities be better prepared for climate-related threats.
- Provide more incentives that enable cities and citizens to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
- Ensure that all our children—regardless of status or race, whether living in a big city or a small town—have the technology and access to Broadband that will generate new jobs and career pathways that don't necessarily require a college degree.

Indeed, this is why your voice as a local city official needs to be part of our call to Congress and the president. Let's hope they are listening.



Mark Stodola served as mayor of Little Rock from 2007-2018 and was the 2017-2018 president of the National League of Cities.

“I am so proud to know that you all work diligently to make your program the best. Please keep up the good work and thank you all so much.”

- Pamela

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EXCEEDING EXPECTATIONS WITH A SOUTHERN ACCENT.SM



Little Rock is proud to host the Arkansas Municipal League's 85th Annual Convention. The city's wide array of attractions, cuisine and lodging options make it the perfect location for taking care of business and unwinding at the end of the day. Little Rock is convenient, affordable and famous for that Southern hospitality, and we can't wait to see you here.

Little Rock

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FROM THE DESK OF
MAYOR FRANK SCOTT, JR.

June 12, 2019

Arkansas Municipal League
85th Annual Convention



Dear AML Delegates,

On behalf of the citizens of Little Rock and the City Board of Directors, I am pleased to welcome you to Little Rock for the 85th Annual Convention of the Arkansas Municipal League.

Regardless of the size of each of our cities, there are many challenges all municipal officials face and many opportunities we all share. The Annual Convention offers the chance to learn more about issues facing our cities. In addition to the many informative sessions planned by the AML, the convention offers the chance to share ideas, network, and find common ground that will help us to make our cities the best places possible.

The first AML Annual Convention took place at the Hotel Marion, located where the Statehouse Convention Center (the site of our current meeting) now stands. Little Rock is especially pleased to welcome the AML back each year as cities continue the great works that were started at that first convention. Many of the challenges we face today could not have been imagined in 1934. As times have changed, so have the services offered by municipalities.

While you are in Little Rock, I hope you will explore many of the interesting attractions our city has to offer. You will find world-class museums a short walk from the Statehouse Convention Center including the William J. Clinton Presidential Center, the Museum of Discovery, the Vogel Schwartz Sculpture Garden, and the Witt Stephens Jr. Central Arkansas Nature Center. Nearby, you will find the MacArthur Museum of Arkansas Military History, the Arkansas Arts Center, the Mosaic Templars Cultural Center, and the Central High National Historic Site. Of course Little Rock also offers many shopping and dining options to enjoy, too.

Welcome to Little Rock!



Frank Scott, Jr.

Mayor

CITY HALL, SUITE 203, 500 W. MARKHAM

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The Most Underrated City in Arkansas: North Little Rock

In 2018, *Thrillist Travel* named North Little Rock “The Most Underrated City” in Arkansas which, in true Southern style, we take as a compliment. North Little Rock packs a powerful punch for travelers eager to experience something new. What do visitors - and residents - love about North Little Rock?

Proximity to nature. Kayak through the city on the Arkansas River. Cycle 15 miles of the Arkansas River Trail. Sports teams love 1,700-acre Burns Park with its state-of-the-art facilities, and families enjoy the playgrounds and dog park. Burns Park was voted “Best Park in Arkansas” by *Arkansas Times* readers.



Entertainment for all ages. Annually North Little Rock welcomes more than 750,000 for events in the Argenta Arts District including North Shore Riverwalk Park, Verizon Arena and Dickey-Stephens Park.

Interactive history. The Arkansas Inland Maritime Museum is the only place in the world with floating vessels bookending World War II. More than 20,000 visitors every year come to see USS *Razorback*, a 90-percent-operational submarine. The tugboat

Hoga, a National Historic Landmark awarded for heroic efforts during the 1941 Pearl Harbor attack, opened for tours in 2018, allowing guests to experience this significant moment in American history in a new way.



One of the most unusual RV parks in the U.S. Downtown Riverside RV Park is one-of-a-kind with its location by the Arkansas River in downtown. Last year the RV park celebrated 10 years and an overall economic impact of \$15.87 million. Over the years we have met more than 46,500 RVers from all 50 states and several countries.



Hollywood ties. Our most popular icon, The Old Mill at T.R. Pugh Memorial Park is the last standing structure from *Gone with the Wind*. It won #2 Best Arkansas Attraction in *USAToday's* 10Best Awards and a *TripSavvy* Editor's Choice Award for Historic Attraction.



What makes North Little Rock really stand out, however, is the people. We fly under the radar because our residents are humble, hardworking and go the extra mile to ensure visitors feel welcome. And our work isn't done yet; stay tuned!



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR



JOE A. SMITH
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NORTH LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS 72119-5757
website: www.nlr.ar.gov



Arkansas Municipal League
85th Annual Convention
June 12-14, 2019

Greetings!


As Mayor, it is my pleasure to welcome you to the 85th Annual Convention of the Arkansas Municipal League. During your stay, we hope you can include some or all of the following points of interest in North Little Rock:

- **Argenta Arts & Entertainment District** – Stroll North Little Rock's Main Street, lined with art galleries, restaurants, The Joint Comedy Theater and the North Little Rock Heritage Center.
- **Dickey-Stephens Park** – home of the Arkansas Travelers and the finest facility in minor league baseball. Great family entertainment!
- **Arkansas Inland Maritime Museum** – Tour a real World War II-era submarine, USS *Razorback* (SS394) and learn about the McClellan-Kerr Arkansas River Navigation System, cruiser USS *Arkansas*, and tugboat USS *Hoga* (YT146) which was designated a National Historic Landmark for the tugboat's heroic actions during the attack on Pearl Harbor.
- **River Rail Trolleys** – allow visitors to travel across the Arkansas River in style and stop for shopping and dining in the Argenta Arts & Entertainment District in North Little Rock and River Market District in Little Rock.
- **Burns Park** – Encompassing 1,700 acres and one of the largest city parks in the nation, Burns Park hosts tennis, baseball, softball, and soccer tournaments.
- **The Old Mill at T.R. Pugh Memorial Park** – a 1930s replica of a 1800s gristmill, presumed to be the last standing structure from *Gone with the Wind*.

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

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

Sincerely,


Joe A. Smith
Mayor

"An Equal Opportunity Employer"



85th Annual Convention

Marriott Hotel / Statehouse Convention Center, June 12-14, 2019

REGISTRATION

Registration fee after May 31, 2019 , and on-site registration for municipal officials	\$175
Registration fee after May 31, 2019 , 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 **2019 General Acts Affecting Arkansas Municipalites**.
- No daily registration is available.
- Registration must come through the League office. No telephone registrations will be accepted.
- **No refunds after May 31, 2019.**
- Cancellation letters must be postmarked by **May 31, 2019**.
- **Marriott guests:** In order to avoid a cancellation penalty of one night's room and tax, reservations must be cancelled at least seven (7) days prior to arrival.

HOTEL RESERVATION

Hotel Room Rates

Marriott Hotel (headquarters hotel)		
Single/Double	\$140	Check-in 3 p.m.
Capital Hotel		
Single/Double	\$189	Check-in 3 p.m.
Doubletree Hotel		
Single/Double	\$146	Check-in 3 p.m.
Wyndham Hotel		
Single/Double	\$109	Check-in 3 p.m.

- Cut-off date for hotel reservations is **May 31, 2019**.
- 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

1

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

OR

2

Complete the steps and **mail with payment** to:
 ARKANSAS MUNICIPAL LEAGUE
 Attn: 85th Annual Convention
 P.O. Box 38
 North Little Rock, AR 72115-0038

Step 1: Delegate Information

I am a newly elected official.

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: _____ ICE Phone Number: _____

Step 2: Payment Information

• WHAT IS YOUR 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 \$ _____
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• How are you paying?

Check

Mail payment and form to:
 Arkansas Municipal League
 85th 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

SOLD OUT
SOLD OUT
SOLD OUT
SOLD OUT

Special dietary needs:

- Gluten free
- Vegetarian
- Pescatarian
- Vegan

85th ANNUAL CONVENTION OF THE ARKANSAS MUNICIPAL LEAGUE JUNE 12 - 14, 2019

WEDNESDAY - JUNE 12, 2019

10:00 A.M.	STATE AID STREET MEETING	ARKANSAS BALL ROOM, MH
1:00 P.M. to 6:30 P.M.	REGISTRATION <i>(Be sure to download the League's meeting App onto your smart device. Search for "ARML Events" in your App Store.)</i>	OSAGE & CADDO ROOMS, SCC
1:00 P.M. to 6:30 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
1:00 P.M. to 3:00 P.M.	ARKANSAS CITY CLERKS, RECORDERS, AND TREASURERS ASSOCIATION	ARKANSAS BALL ROOM, MH
*3:15 P.M. to 4:15 P.M.	MEDICAL MARIJUANA AND THE WORKPLACE Presiding: Mayor Joe A. Smith, North Little Rock President Arkansas Municipal League Speakers: H. Wayne Young, Attorney Friday, Eldredge & Clark, LLP Lanny Richmond, Code and Legal Counsel, Arkansas Municipal League Jeff Sims, President, a'TEST Consultants, Inc.	GOVERNOR'S HALL IV, SCC
3:30 P.M. to 5:30 P.M.	INTERIM CITY, COUNTY, LOCAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE	FULTON ROOM
4:15 P.M. to 4:30 P.M.	BREAK	GOVERNOR'S HALLS I - III, SCC
*4:30 P.M. to 5:30 P.M.	2019 LEGISLATIVE UPDATE FOR CITIES AND TOWNS Presiding: Mayor Joe A. Smith, North Little Rock President Arkansas Municipal League Speakers: Mark R. Hayes, Executive Director Arkansas Municipal League John Wilkerson, General Counsel Arkansas Municipal League Jack Critcher, Legislative Liaison Arkansas Municipal League Lanny Richmond Code and Legal Counsel Arkansas Municipal League *Qualifying municipal officials must attend these 85th Convention sessions to receive three (3) hours of continuing education credit. Scanning for two hours of credit will take place at the conclusion of this session.	GOVERNOR'S HALL IV, SCC

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

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 Harold Perrin, Jonesboro First Vice President Arkansas Municipal League	GOVERNOR'S HALL IV, SCC
6:30 P.M. to 8:30 P.M.	OPENING NIGHT RECEPTION AND ENTERTAINMENT <i>Welcome to the 85th Convention's Opening Night Reception. Visit with colleagues from across the state. Enjoy delicious foods, tasty drinks and scrumptious desserts all while listening to an outstandingly talented musical group.</i>	WALLY ALLEN BALLROOM, SCC

THURSDAY - JUNE 13, 2019

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 "ARML Events" in your App Store.)</i>	OSAGE ROOM, SCC
7:00 A.M. to 5:30 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
7:00 A.M. to 8:30 A.M.	HOST CITY BREAKFAST BUFFET	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 10:30 A.M.	OPENING GENERAL SESSION <i>The 85th Convention begins with the posting of the colors and the singing of the National Anthem, followed by a Host City Welcome from Little Rock Mayor Frank D. Scott, Jr. We are honored to have keynote speaker, Dr. Rick Rigsby, join us for the Opening of our 85th Convention.</i> Presiding: Mayor Joe A. Smith, North Little Rock President Arkansas Municipal League Host City Welcome: Mayor Frank D. Scott, Jr. Little Rock Speaker: Dr. Rick Rigsby, President/CEO Rigsby Communications	GOVERNOR'S HALL IV, SCC

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

10:30 A.M. to 10:45 A.M.	BREAK <i>Soft drinks and coffee available in the Exhibit Hall.</i>	GOVERNOR'S HALLS I - III, SCC	1:30 P.M. to 2:45 P.M.	2.AVOIDING LAWSUITS—TOP 10 LEGAL FAQs Speakers: William Mann, III, Senior Litigation Counsel, Arkansas Municipal League Amanda LaFever, Litigation Counsel Arkansas Municipal League Sara Monaghan, Senior Litigation Counsel, Arkansas Municipal League Jenna Adams, Litigation Counsel Arkansas Municipal League Gabrielle Gibson, Associate Litigation Counsel, Arkansas Municipal League Kerrie Lauck, Litigation Counsel Arkansas Municipal League	DREW ROOM, SCC
10:45 A.M. to 11:15 A.M.	GENERAL SESSION 2 THE ATTEMPT TO PRIVATIZE MUNICIPAL WATER SYSTEMS AND THE RAMIFICATIONS INVOLVED Presiding: Mayor Joe A. Smith, North Little Rock President Arkansas Municipal League Speaker: C. Tad Bohannon Chief Executive Officer Central Arkansas Water	GOVERNOR'S HALL IV, SCC	1:30 P.M. to 2:45 P.M.	3.THE 2020 CENSUS AND THE COLLECTION OF ONLINE SALES TAX IS FAST APPROACHING—ARE YOU PREPARED?" Speakers: Jim Youngquist, Executive Director, Arkansas Economic Development Institute Pam Willrodt, Senior Demographer, AEDI and Lead, Arkansas Census State Data Center (AR-SDC) Shelby Johnson, State Geographic Information Officer Arkansas GIS Office	CARAWAY I AND II, SCC
11:15 A.M. to 12:00 P.M.	GENERAL SESSION 3 UPDATE ON SMALL CELL TECHNOLOGY Presiding: Mayor Harold Perrin, Jonesboro First Vice President Arkansas Municipal League Speaker: Jason Carter, General Counsel Arkansas Municipal Power Association, Former North Little Rock City Attorney John Wilkerson, General Counsel Arkansas Municipal League	GOVERNOR'S HALL IV, SCC	1:30 P.M. to 2:45 P.M.	4.STATE AID STREET COMMITTEE AND HIGHWAY FUNDING INITIATIVE Speakers: Bryan Freeling, P.E., ARDOT Steve Napper, Legal Consultant State Aid Street Committee Joe Quinn, Executive Director Arkansas Good Roads Foundation	POPE ROOM, SCC
12:00 P.M. to 1:30 P.M.	AWARDS LUNCHEON <i>Welcome to the 85th Convention Awards Luncheon. Governor Hutchinson will speak to our attendees. We will recognize municipalities and individuals that have made significant contributions to the cities and towns of Arkansas.</i> Presiding: Mayor Joe A. Smith, North Little Rock President Arkansas Municipal League Invocation: Mayor Mike Gaskill, Paragould Speaker: Honorable Asa Hutchinson Governor, State of Arkansas	WALLY ALLEN BALLROOM, SCC	1:30 P.M. to 2:45 P.M.	5.WHAT CAN CITIES DO TO ATTRACT BUSINESS? Speakers: Mark R. Hayes, Executive Director Arkansas Municipal League Ernest Cate, City Attorney, Springdale Perry Webb, President/CEO Springdale Chamber of Commerce	IZARD ROOM, SCC
THURSDAY CONCURRENT WORKSHOPS					
1:30 P.M. to 2:45 P.M.	1.BEST PRACTICES IN THE MUNICIPAL ACCOUNTING ARENA Speakers: Marti Steel, Deputy Legislative Auditor Division of Legislative Audit Tim Jones, CPA, CFF Audit Manager David Coles, CPA, CFE, CISA Field Audit Supervisor	FULTON ROOM, SCC	1:30 P.M. to 2:45 P.M.	6.BUILDING DESIGN REGULATIONS FOR CITIES AND TOWNS—WHAT CAN AND CAN'T BE DONE? Speakers: John Wilkerson, General Counsel, Arkansas Municipal League Jim von Tungeln, Planning Consultant, Arkansas Municipal League	MILLER ROOM, SCC
MH = MARRIOTT HOTEL, SCC = STATEHOUSE CONVENTION CENTER, TBA=TO BE ANNOUNCED					
			1:30 P.M. to 2:45 P.M.	7.REASONS WHY COMMUNITIES FAIL AND SUCCEED? Speakers: Danny Games, Director Business and Economic Development Entergy Arkansas Mayor Rick Elumbaugh, Batesville Crystal Johnson, President/CEO Batesville Chamber of Commerce	YELL I AND II, SCC
			2:45 P.M. to 3:00 P.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					

85th ANNUAL CONVENTION OF THE ARKANSAS MUNICIPAL LEAGUE JUNE 12 - 14, 2019

THURSDAY CONCURRENT WORKSHOPS		
3:00 P.M. to 4:15 P.M.	1. ENTERTAINMENT DISTRICTS—WHAT ARE THEY AND HOW CAN CITIES IMPLEMENT THEM? Speakers: Kerrie Lauck, Litigation Counsel Arkansas Municipal League Pamela Griffin, COO Murphy Arts District Don Marr, Chief of Staff, Fayetteville	CARAWAY I AND II, SCC
3:00 P.M. to 4:15 P.M.	2. HUMAN RESOURCES AT THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT LEVEL—WHAT ARE THE BASICS? Speakers: Jared Azzone Human Resources Director, Maumelle Barbara Blackard City Clerk/Treasurer, Clarksville Tracey C. Pew Human Resources Director Arkansas Municipal League	MILLER ROOM, SCC
3:00 P.M. to 4:15 P.M.	3. FOIA—OVERVIEW AND DISCUSSION ON VOICE RECORDING REQUIREMENT Speakers: Clayborne S. Stone, Attorney Mitchell, Williams, Selig, Gates & Woodyard, P.L.L.C. Lanny Richmond Code and Legal Counsel Arkansas Municipal League	DREW ROOM, SCC
3:00 P.M. to 4:15 P.M.	4. TOP 10 FAQs IN THE MUNICIPAL PLANNING WORLD AND HIDDEN STATUTES ON PLANNING Speakers: Jim von Tungeln, Planning Consultant Arkansas Municipal League Jeff Hawkins, Executive Director Northwest Arkansas Regional Planning Commission John Wilkerson, General Counsel Arkansas Municipal League	FULTON ROOM, SCC
3:00 P.M. to 4:15 P.M.	5. PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FOR MUNICIPAL PERSONNEL Speakers: Amy Whitehead, Assistant Vice President, Community and Workforce Development Marie Lindquist, Executive Director, Arkansas Public Administration Consortium Whitnee V. Bullerwell, Deputy Director Arkansas Municipal League	POPE ROOM, SCC
3:00 P.M. to 4:15 P.M.	6. RETIREMENT SYSTEMS—WHAT HAS CHANGED?	IZARD ROOM, SCC
3:00 P.M. to 4:15 P.M.	7. DRUG TESTING—HOW DO CITIES LEGALLY AND EFFECTIVELY TEST EMPLOYEES? Speakers: Lanny Richmond, Code and Legal Counsel, Arkansas Municipal League Jeff Sims, President, a'TEST Consultants, Inc. Tracey C. Pew Human Resources Director Arkansas Municipal League	YELL I AND II, SCC
4:15 P.M. to 4:30 P.M.	BREAK <i>Soft drinks and coffee available in the Exhibit Hall.</i>	
THURSDAY CONCURRENT WORKSHOPS		
4:30 P.M. to 5:30 P.M.	1. LATEST INFORMATION ON GRANTS AND OTHER FUNDING SOURCES Speakers: Chad Gallagher, Principal, Legacy Consulting Becca Caldwell, Grants Manager Division of Rural Services	FULTON ROOM, SCC
4:30 P.M. to 5:30 P.M.	2. ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF PARKS, HERITAGE AND TOURISM—WHAT'S NEW? Speakers: Joy Barlogie, Research and Development Manager, Department of Tourism Scott Kaufman, Division Director Arkansas Historic Preservation Program	CARAWAY I AND II, SCC
4:30 P.M. to 5:30 P.M.	3. AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT: WHAT MUST CITIES DO FOR COMPLIANCE? Speaker: Amanda LaFever, Litigation Counsel Arkansas Municipal League	DREW ROOM, SCC
4:30 P.M. to 5:30 P.M.	4. HOW CAN MUNICIPALITIES BEST CONTROL LOSS? Speakers: Mike Watson, Supervisor of Arkansas Occupational Safety and Health, Department of Labor Bryan Lamb, Loss Control Manager Arkansas Municipal League Laura Carter, Technology Transfer Program Coordinator, ARDOT	YELL I AND II, SCC
4:30 P.M. to 5:30 P.M.	5. SOCIAL MEDIA FOR CITIES: WHAT DO YOU NEED TO KNOW? Speakers: Rachel Hall, Communications Coordinator, Maumelle Bill Campbell Communication Director Jonesboro Lanny Richmond Code and Legal Counsel Arkansas Municipal League	POPE ROOM, SCC
4:30 P.M. to 5:30 P.M.	6. ANIMAL CONTROL—SUCCESS STORIES FROM CITIES Presiding: Diane Whitbey, Clerk/Treasurer North Little Rock Speakers: Diane Whitbey, Clerk/Treasurer North Little Rock Mike Wheeler, Director of Animal Services, Cabot	MILLER ROOM, SCC
4:30 P.M. to 5:30 P.M.	7. CYBERSECURITY—BEST PRACTICES: WHAT IS THE LATEST? Speakers: Benjamin D. Jackson, Attorney Mitchell, Williams, Selig, Gates & Woodyard, P.L.L.C. Mandy Stanton, Attorney Mitchell, Williams, Selig, Gates & Woodyard, P.L.L.C. Dave Mims, Consultant, Arkansas Municipal League's IT In a Box	IZARD ROOM, SCC
MH = MARRIOTT HOTEL, SCC = STATEHOUSE CONVENTION CENTER, TBA=TO BE ANNOUNCED		

4:30 P.M. to 5:30 P.M.	RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE <i>Each municipality has a designated representative who votes on legislative matters to be included in the League's Policies and Goals for the coming year.</i> Presiding: Mayor Harold Perrin, Jonesboro First Vice President Arkansas Municipal League	GOVERNOR'S HALLS IV, SCC	10:00 A.M. to 10:30 A.M.	BREAK	GOVERNOR'S HALLS I - III, SCC
5:30 P.M.	THE EXHIBIT HALL WILL CLOSE FOR THE DAY		10:30 A.M. to 11:00 A.M.	GENERAL SESSION 1 SIGN ORDINANCE REVISION FOLLOWING REED V. GILBERT— WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW. Presiding: Mayor Harold Perrin, Jonesboro First Vice President Arkansas Municipal League Speakers: DeWitt F. "Mac" McCarley, Partner Parker Poe Law Firm Catherine G. Clodfelter, Attorney Parker Poe Law Firm	GOVERNOR'S HALL IV, SCC
	DINNER ON YOUR OWN <i>Visit some of central Arkansas's finest restaurants.</i>				
FRIDAY - JUNE 14, 2019					
7:00 A.M. to NOON	REGISTRATION <i>(Be sure to download the League's meeting App onto your smart device. Search for "ARML Events" in your App Store.)</i>	OSAGE ROOM, SCC	*11:00 A.M. to NOON	GENERAL SESSION 2 OPPORTUNITY ZONES AND OPPORTUNITY ZONE FUNDS— HOW CAN YOUR MUNICIPALITY BENEFIT? Presiding: Mayor Joe A. Smith, North Little Rock President Arkansas Municipal League Speakers: Bryan Scoggins, Director of Business Finance Arkansas Economic Development Commission Chris L. Travis, Partner Gill Ragon Owen, P.A. Adam D. Reid, Attorney Gill Ragon Owen, P.A. Mike Downing, Chief of Staff Jonesboro *Scanning for one hour of credit will take place at the conclusion of the New Officers' and Awards Luncheon.	GOVERNOR'S HALL IV, SCC
7:00 A.M. to 10:30 A.M.	EXHIBITS OPEN <i>(Exhibit Hall will close at 10:30 a.m. for the remainder of the Convention.)</i>	GOVERNOR'S HALLS I - III, SCC			
7:00 A.M. to 8:30 A.M.	BUFFET BREAKFAST	GOVERNOR'S HALLS I - III, SCC			
8:30 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 9:00 A.M.	GREETINGS FROM THE NATIONAL LEAGUE OF CITIES PRESIDENT Speaker: Mayor Karen Freeman-Wilson Gary, Indiana President, National League of Cities	GOVERNOR'S HALL IV, SCC			
9:00 A.M. to 10:00 A.M.	ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING <i>During the Annual Business meeting, the League's Policies and Goals are presented and voted on by members. 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 Program (MLWCP), Municipal Health Benefit Program (MHBP), Municipal Vehicle Program (MVP), and Municipal Property Program (MPP). Executive Director Mark R. Hayes will also give the State of the League report.</i> Presiding: Mayor Joe A. Smith, North Little Rock President Arkansas Municipal League Speaker: Mark R. Hayes, Executive Director Arkansas Municipal League	GOVERNOR'S HALL IV, SCC	NOON to 1:30 P.M.	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> Presiding: Mayor Joe A. Smith, North Little Rock President Arkansas Municipal League Invocation: Denise Johnston City Clerk/Treasurer, Batesville *Qualifying municipal officials must attend the 85th Convention to receive three (3) hours of continuing education credit. Scanning for the final hour of credit will take place at the conclusion of the New Officers' and Awards Luncheon on Friday, 6/14/19.	GRAND BALLROOM SALONS A-C, MH
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CLE Offered During League Convention


Twelve hours of continuing legal education (CLE) will be available for city attorneys who attend the 85th Arkansas Municipal League Convention, June 12-14 at the Statehouse Convention Center and Marriott Hotel in Little Rock. The Arkansas City Attorney's Association (ACAA) sponsors the CLE.

Connie Barksdale, city attorney for Cave City and the current ACAA president, urges members to register for the Convention as soon as possible.

The 12 hours will be offered June 13 and 14, and the tentative agenda includes case law updates, sign ordinance revisions, medical marijuana in the workplace update, Act 779 of 1999, legislative process and updates, concealed carry update, and federal court practice presented by a panel of federal court. The program will also include at least one hour of ethics.

Held in conjunction with the League's 85th Convention, all CLE classes will be located at the League's headquarters in North Little Rock. CLE

will tentatively begin at 8:15 a.m. Thursday morning, June 13. If you have not pre-registered, you may do so starting at 1 p.m. Wednesday, June 12 at the Statehouse Convention Center. Registered city attorneys attending Thursday and Friday classes can pick up registration materials at the League headquarters on Thursday or Friday, or from 1-6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, June 12 at the Statehouse Convention Center.

To attend the CLE program, registration is required. If you have not pre-registered, you may do so online with a credit card or download the registration form at www.arml.org/meetingRegistrations. Deadline for pre-registration is May 31. For registration information, call Whitnee Bullerwell at (501) 374-3484 Ext. 206. For CLE information call John Wilkerson at (501) 978-6136 or Jamie Adams at (501) 978-6124. 



Wednesday 7:03 pm



THIS MOMENT BROUGHT TO YOU BY YOUR HOMETOWN. While we may not have provided the perfect evening weather, we helped make the evening more enjoyable. Whether it's managing storm water runoff or building the neighborhood park for your impromptu after-work picnic. 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

June 6-8

43rd Farm Fest

Wynne

(870) 238-4183; crosscountychamber.com

June 7-8

43rd Mudtown Days

Lowell

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

June 7-8

Lum & Abner Festival

Mena

visitmena.com

June 28-29

30th Purplehull Pea Festival & World
Championship Rotary Tiller Race

Emerson

(870) 547-3500; purplehull.com

June 28-29

20th Red White & Blue Festival

Mountain Home

redwhitebluefestival.com

June 29

19th Archey Fork Festival

Clinton

(501) 745-6500; www.clintonchamber.com

July 1-5

4th Festival at the Bay

Fairfield Bay

visitfairfieldbay.com

July 4

Gentry Freedom Fest

Gentry

(479) 736-2358; gentrychamber.com

July 5

Cardboard Boat Race &
Independence Day Celebration

Ozark

(479) 667-2949; ozarkchamberofcommerce.com

MEETING CALENDAR

June 12-14, 2019

**Arkansas Municipal League
85th Annual Convention**

Statehouse Convention Center
Little Rock, AR

Nov. 20-23, 2019

**National League of Cities
2019 City Summit**

San Antonio, Texas

February 12-14, 2020

**Arkansas Municipal League
2020 Winter Conference**

Statehouse Convention Center
Little Rock, AR



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ARKANSAS MUNICIPAL LEAGUE GREAT CITIES MAKE A GREAT STATE

Welcome

Within the Arkansas Municipal League website, you will find resources that will assist you in providing leadership to your city. The dedicated staff of the League continues to work for cities and towns across our great state. "Great Cities Make A Great State" is more than just a motto; it is the spirit of this organization.

News Feed

- [Bensberg, Burks and Knox face off in World 2 City Council forum](#)
- [Park City Treasure Hunt: Old Town v. rest of city! Schools v. open space!](#)
- [Startup Creel - Crawling through the Startup City of the South](#)
- [Baxter files for reelection](#)
- [Park City Treasure Hunt denounced as excessive, Old Town claims](#)

[More News](#)

Calendar

Municipal Finance and Budgeting (Certification course)
Wednesday, September 12, 2018 - Wednesday September 12, 2018
9:00 a.m.
League Headquarters

Incorporated Towns and Cities of the Second Class Advisory Council Meeting
Tuesday, September 25, 2018 - Tuesday September 25, 2018
Noon
League Headquarters

Cities of the First Class Advisory Council Meeting
Wednesday, September 26, 2018 - Wednesday September 26, 2018
Noon
League Headquarters

[Full Calendar](#)

Meeting Registrations

2018 Finance and Budgeting Workshop
9:00 a.m. until 3:30 p.m.
September 12, 2018
League Headquarters

2018 Finance and Budgeting Workshop is full and registration is now closed.

[All Registrations](#)

www.arml.org



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[Linkedin Arkansas Municipal League](https://www.linkedin.com/company/Arkansas Municipal League)



[Instagram armunileague](https://www.instagram.com/armunileague)



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[Flickr.com/photos/arkansas_municipal_league](https://www.flickr.com/photos/arkansas_municipal_league)



[greatcitiesgreatstate.com \(microsite\)](http://greatcitiesgreatstate.com)

Great Cities Make a Great State!

Exercise's role in stress management

Exercise has proven to be an effective remedy for even the most stressful of days. By releasing powerful hormones in the brain and allowing yourself to disconnect from the busyness and demands of life, physical activity is a great way to relieve and manage stress.

Cooper Fitness Center Professional Trainer Shannon Edwards explains how incorporating physical activity into your daily routine lowers blood pressure, releases mood-boosting endorphins, and improves quality of sleep.

“Physical activity is a practical way to remove yourself from the source of your stress and clear your mind,” Edwards says. “Managing stress with exercise helps us calm our emotions and face our stress-causing responsibilities with renewed energy and hope that we can accomplish what we need to.”

Although it sounds counterintuitive, the higher the intensity a physical activity is performed at, the more energy you will have due to the increased levels of the hormone norepinephrine. Both a stress hormone and a neurotransmitter (sending signals between nerve cells), norepinephrine is released into the bloodstream in response to a stressful event. It increases alertness and arousal, speeds reaction time and is shown to play a role in a person's mood and ability to concentrate.

Stress-relieving activities look different for everyone based on personal interests and what helps you unwind the most effectively. Slower paced activities can allow you to relax and shift your focus away from stressors. Examples include:

- Deep breathing
- Meditation
- Yoga
- Going for a walk

Higher tempo exercise floods the brain and body with “feel good hormones.” Examples include:

- Lifting weights
- Running
- Swimming
- Other cardio-based activities

When dealing with stress for any duration of time, it can be difficult to gauge when exercising would be helpful and when it would be hurtful.

“Learn to read your life patterns to know whether to use exercise as a tool to relieve stress and when it is time to prioritize rest,” Edwards says. “If I have worked out intensely several days in a row, slept less than seven hours each night, and feel really heavy and demotivated, I know my body is craving recovery and sleep more than exercise.”

Planning your workout routine in advance helps you stay on track and continue to work toward your goals even when unexpected stress throws a speed bump your way. When you regularly schedule exercise into your day, it becomes a helpful stress-relieving tool your body craves and enjoys.

A comprehensive approach to living well is the key to stress management. Making healthy food choices, getting adequate sleep, and exercising regularly all work together to help you maintain a balanced healthy lifestyle in stressful times.

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



David Baxter is the League's general manager of health/safety and operations. Email David at dbaxter@arml.org or call (501) 374-3484 Ext. 110.

Bethel Heights hosts cybersecurity workshop

Barraged with cybersecurity news every day while you work to focus on the needs of your community and the business of your city, it's difficult to discern the real danger from the noise. Ransom ware, email hacking, cyberattacks, phishing, and web-site defacing are high risks for cities. Cities cannot remain passive against well known, serious, and confirmed cybersecurity dangers.

The city of Bethel Heights hosted a regional cybersecurity workshop on May 23 for neighboring towns and cities. Mayor Cindy Black welcomed everyone, and Dave Mims, consultant for the League's IT in a Box, presented two cybersecurity training sessions. In these sessions, attendees were provided critical information our cities need to know, answers to all the questions they brought with them, and key recommendations and tips to take back home.

Workshop attendees consisted of mayors, council members, city clerks, finance officers, and IT staff. We hope to see you at a future regional cybersecurity workshop. There is no cost to attend and lunch is provided. For more information, contact Dave Mims at (770) 670-6940 Ext. 110, or email DaveMims@Sophicity.com. 🏛️



Dave Mims, cybersecurity consultant with the League's IT in a Box, poses for a selfie at Bethel Heights' Town Hall. The city hosted a regional cybersecurity workshop on May 23.



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Keeping your cool when it's hot

By Bryan Lamb, League staff

June 21 marks the beginning of summer, and in Arkansas that means the days of 95-degree temperatures and 95 percent humidity are back. We can't do anything about the weather, but we can work and play smarter when it's hot to avoid getting sick.

There are five types of heat-related illnesses:

Sunburn

Not only are sunburns painful at the time, but exposure to too much sun could lead to skin cancer.

Heat rash

Sometimes called "prickly heat," the best way to avoid heat rash is to bathe regularly and keep your skin clean and dry.

Heat cramps

Painful cramps, often in the legs, arms, or stomach, heat cramps can happen when you are sweating heavily but are not getting enough of the minerals your body needs to replace the minerals lost in sweat.

Heat exhaustion

Symptoms include heavy sweating, thirst, clammy and pale skin, fatigue, weakness, and loss of coordination. A person with heat exhaustion may also be anxious, faint, confused, have a headache, nausea or vomiting, and loss of appetite.

Heat stroke

Heat stroke is the most serious heat-related illness. The body has lost its ability to cool itself. Death can quickly result if not treated promptly.

What can you do to protect yourself this summer?

- Allow yourself to gradually get used to working in the heat. It takes about two weeks for your body to adapt to hot conditions.
- Dress for the heat. Light colored, loose clothing (that won't get caught in machinery) is better than going bare skinned.
- While outside, wear a hat and use sunscreen to prevent sunburn.
- Drink plenty of fluids throughout the day. Make sure you have ample cool, clean water on the job. If possible, begin hydration at least two days before working outside.

- Limit your intake of alcohol and caffeine.
- Eat well-balanced meals.
- Get plenty of rest.
- Take frequent breaks in the shade or a cooler area.
- Plan your work to take advantage of cooler morning hours. Move work to shaded areas when possible.
- Keep an eye on coworkers who have health conditions that may make them more susceptible to heat-related illnesses.



Bryan Lamb is the League's loss control manager. Email Bryan at blamb@arml.org or call (501) 374-3484 Ext. 122.



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Summaries of Attorney General Opinions

Recent opinions that affect municipal government in Arkansas

From the Office of Attorney General Leslie Rutledge

Most new laws without an emergency clause become effective 90 days after legislative session wraps

Opinion: 2019-034

Requestor: John Thurston, Secretary of State

What is the effective date of those Acts of the 92nd General Assembly which did not contain an emergency clause or specified effective date? **RESPONSE:** July 24, 2019, except for Act 1092, which will become effective on July 30, 2019. These dates are based on Amendment 7 to the Arkansas Constitution, which gives the people ninety days after the sine die adjournment of the session to file referendum petitions. Additionally, if the petition-filing deadline falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday, the deadline to file such petitions is the next day that is not a Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday.

Municipalities may still prohibit concealed carry on public property, though Act 562 sets no timeframe requirements

Opinion: 2018-079

Requestor: Trent Garner, State Senator

Does the publicly owned building or facility exception allowed under Act 562 of 2017, for enhance carry license holders apply to a building, park, or location owned by a city, municipality, or county that is paid for with public funds? Q1a) If it does, in what timeframe must they comply with the law? Q2) Does the publicly owned building or facility exception allowed under Act 562

of 2017, for enhanced carry license holders apply to a building, park, or location owned by a state agency, such as the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission, that is paid for with public funds? Q2a) If it does, in what timeframe must they comply with the law? **RESPONSE:** The answer to questions 1 and 2 is “yes,” insofar as section 5-73-322(h)(1) allows those with enhanced licenses to carry a concealed handgun into property owned by cities, counties and the state. However, cities and counties may still prohibit the concealed carrying of handguns by posting an entryway sign as provided by law. In regard to compliance timeframes, Act 562 does not impose any particular requirements on these entities.

City can't prevent employee from having firearm in secured vehicle

Opinion: 2018-143


Requestor: Terry Rice, State Senator

Can the city prevent a city employee from having a firearm in a secured vehicle if the employee has a concealed handgun carry license? Q2) If the city prohibits firearms inside city buildings, must notice be present at entrance? **RESPONSE:** Q1) “No,” in my opinion, because state law prohibits a city from issuing any regulations pertaining to firearms “except as otherwise provided in state or federal law.” Q2) Please see Attorney General Opinion 2018-079, which explains current law regarding the prohibition against carrying firearms in publicly owned buildings, and cities’ option to post entryway signs prohibiting the concealed carry of firearms.

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

2019 Act 833 Deadline for Arkansas Fire Departments

The 2019 Act 833 application period will open **Jan. 1, 2019**, and will close **June 30, 2019**.

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. New for 2019—Online application at the Arkansas Fire Portal arfire.arkansas.gov. To request log-in credentials contact your county LEMC/Fire Coordinator or State Fire Coordinator Kendell Snyder at (501) 683-6781 or email fire/emsservices@adem.arkansas.gov. 



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a different opinion



Grants help budgets under strain

By Chad Gallagher

New administrations at city halls across the state are now six months into their terms. As a former mayor, I can speak from experience: It is both an exciting and invigorating time. It can also be a real eye-opener.

It's during those first six months that a new administration gets set up, begins to work toward implementing goals and campaign commitments, while at the same time there is so much to learn. It takes time to understand every aspect of city government and grasp the unique challenges facing your city.

I've always believed that being the mayor of a city or town is tremendous training in leadership and in managing diverse projects. On any given day a mayor may deal with issues related to trash services, economic development, crime, a state project, or animal control. The diversity of issues teaches you to be nimble and you must learn to pivot quickly. I've been thinking about all the various issues our newly elected officials face after taking office. Some of them have shared with me that they've found challenges they expected while others were total surprises.

Now that our newly elected officials are settling into the job, it is important to consider working with outside counsel, consultants, and experts to help you assess challenges and discover solutions. Through the League, cities can set up a consultation with our firm to review challenges and receive suggestions for solutions, as well as guidance on discovering grant opportunities that may fit identified needs. Other great third-party services are available through for land-use issues, ordinance challenges, personnel issues, and more. Other third-party sources are also available for economic assessments, business retention assistance, annexation considerations, and much more.

Mayor Kevin Smith of Helena-West Helena took office in January, though he's no newcomer to politics or municipal government. Smith previously served as a

state senator, developed the Arkansas Grant Book, and follows in his mom's footsteps, as she too once served as the mayor. Smith knew that significant challenges awaited him and he hit the ground running. Flooding, an unfortunate crime wave, and police challenges hit the city almost immediately after he was sworn in. Further, the city was not eligible to receive federal funds because of past financial issues.

I've written in this space before about how important grant stewardship is for future funding opportunities. This is exactly the scenario Helena-West Helena's new mayor discovered. We worked closely with Smith, helping guide him through the process of how to ensure the city could again be eligible for receiving federal grants. It's critical that cities be prepared to apply for federal, state, and private sector grants. These three buckets of funding can all help a city or town achieve what its own limited budget cannot. In Helena-West Helena, this process allowed the city to receive over \$500,000 in funding for emergency improvements to the city's sewer treatment system. These funds came from the USDA, the DRA, and the EPA.

Whether you are a new official or you've held office for a while and want to explore utilizing grants for your city, we are here to help. Our firm can help you assess your city's situation and help you chart a course forward in utilizing grants, developing strategic plans, and creating movement on major community projects. If your city has a past issue with funding that needs to be resolved, like Mayor Smith found, let us help you. That's what we're here for.



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.

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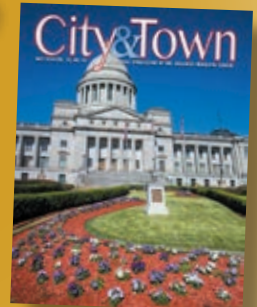
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To date, 429 of Arkansas's 500 cities and towns have received a State Aid Street grant. Are you one of the 71 cities and towns that haven't applied? If so, the time to apply is now.



The State Aid Street Committee will soon be awarding grants for street projects in 2020. Since inception, this program has awarded 507 projects for a total of \$116.4 million in project funding. Additionally, improvements have been made to 635.3 miles of streets in cities and towns across Arkansas.

Apply today to improve your hometown's street at citystreet.arkansas.gov.

With audits on rise, Form I-9 accuracy is essential

By Sheila Moss

The U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services division of the Department of Homeland Security's Form I-9 is used for verifying the identity and employment authorization of individuals hired for employment in the United States. This includes citizens and noncitizens. Both employees and employers (or authorized representatives of the employer) must complete the form.

Each employee hired on or after Nov. 7, 1986, must have an active I-9 on file for the duration of his or her employment with you, and then a specific retention period is determined for each I-9 after the employee terminates. This does not apply to independent contractors but to employees who receive a W-2 at the end of the year reporting their wages.

This form seems simple to complete, but the procedures surrounding the form are complex, and technical and procedural violations of the form or the process may result in hefty fines.

Even though you are required to keep the forms on file in your business and not file them directly with the government, you must be prepared to present the forms for inspection if required.

Inspections and audits are on the rise. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) issued over 5,200 notices of intent to audit in fiscal year 2018. In fiscal year 2017, only 1,360 notices of intent to audit were delivered. Some fines range from a few hundred dollars to thousands, and if criminal violations occur the fines may range into the millions. This is something to be taken very seriously.

If you do not have these forms completed, please seek expert guidance. For all information pertaining to Form I-9 please visit www.uscis.gov/i-9. There you will find the form, instructions, the list of acceptable documents for employees, FAQs, and more. There is also a Spanish Form I-9. Once again, be careful. This Spanish form may only be completed in Puerto Rico, though you may use it for translation purposes at any time.

If you have the forms completed but have not verified their accuracy, please review the following guidance for performing Form I-9 self audits at www.justice.gov/crt/file/798276/download.

It is a great idea to attend formal Form I-9 training whenever you can, as the rules and situations may



change. You may also wish to attend formal training for self-auditing. If you are unsure as to the proper completion of the form, it may not be possible to perform an effective internal audit.

The best thing you can do is take action. Do not ignore this responsibility. Even if your I-9 forms were completed by your predecessors, they must be accurate. Employees are responsible for the data entered into Section 1 being true and correct. As an employer, you are not allowed to make changes to Section 1. If you find issues in Section 1, please engage the employee to make the corrections. There are many other rules that apply to audits, this one is extremely important.

You may make corrections as needed to Sections 2 and 3. Some common sense tips: Do not use white out, do not write over anything, always initial and date your changes, and do not backdate anything that was not originally dated or completed on time.

For more information, check out the question-and-answer section at www.uscis.gov/i-9-central/questions-and-answers.



Sheila Moss, widely known as the "I-9 Lady," is owner of the consulting group Information Solutions Team. In 2017 she was named the Arkansas Society for Human Resource Management's HR Professional of the Year. She is a fourth-generation resident of Siloam Springs, Ark.



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Survey reports increases in some drug-use categories

Quest Diagnostics Laboratory recently released results from their national survey reporting the number of positive drug screening test results has increased. This is not the news employers want to hear. Employees using drugs at work is costly and dangerous. With summer months here, the positive rates for alcohol tests will increase also. The Quest results are from the analysis of more than 10 million workplace drug tests.

Marijuana positive results across nearly all employee testing categories increased in post-accidents and outpaced all other testing reasons (even pre-employment screening). The tragedy of this Quest survey is the fact that the positivity rate for drugs is the highest it has been since 2004. According to the study, in the combined U.S. workforce there was nearly a five percent increase from 4.2 percent in 2017 to 4.4 percent in 2018, climbing to the highest level since 2004 of 4.5 percent. This means the results are now more than 25 percent higher than the 30-year low of 3.5 percent recorded between 2010 and 2012. The new finding was released at the Drug and Alcohol Testing Industry Association (DATIA) annual conference in Chicago.

Some interesting facts came from the report. First, marijuana is dominating the positivity rate, while opiate positivity is declining. In general, the marijuana positive drug rate increased some eight percent (2.6 percent in 2017; 2.8 percent in 2018, and 17 percent since 2014). In the federally mandated workforce (safety-sensitive employees) that utilizes urine drug testing, positive results increased nearly five percent between 2017 and 2018. Here is the shocker: It grew nearly 24 percent since 2014.

Secondly, the positivity rate for opiates in urine drug testing has declined across all categories. Generally, the screening for opiates will include morphine and codeine. The rate declined between 2017 to 2018 by some 21

percent. This information seems to add confusion to the national emphasis on the opiate abuse and deaths campaigns. Prescription opiates and semi-synthetic (hydrocodone and/or hydromorphone) declined two percent between 2017-2018 and 43 percent since the five-year high in 2014. The positive rate for oxycodone and/or oxymorphone declined more than 29 percent between 2017-2018 and more than 46 percent since 2014.

You may be thinking that these numbers are difficult to comprehend or apply to your workforce, but the bottom line is substance abuse is still a serious problem. Let's look at some other known drugs and how they fared in the study. Urine drug testing for heroin and cocaine declined six percent in 2017 and more than 16 percent since 2015-2016. Cocaine positivity actually declined nearly seven percent in urine and greater than 19 percent in oral fluid testing. Cocaine, interestingly, increased slightly that year to 6.3 percent in hair testing. In federally mandated testing, both heroin and cocaine showed large declines between 2017-2018.

Now that this survey data is available to read, it is very important that employers review their employee test positivity and to evaluate how your testing is changing in comparison to what is being reported by Quest from the national data. Has your positive testing rate mirrored the numbers listed above? Are you doing the random testing required by your handbook to help keep your positive test rates down? Have you had any new training since new regulations have been implemented?

Drug and alcohol use and abuse both typically increase with the summer months. It is a good time to work toward improving your testing program.

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

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MHBP Tips

In-network vs. out-of-network: Avoiding higher healthcare costs

The Municipal Health Benefit Program (MHBP) offers a variety of benefits for members when they seek health care covered by the plan. However, the amount of the benefit paid by MHBP varies greatly depending on where the care is received. MHBP negotiates lower prices with in-network hospitals and doctors (“in-network providers”), and then covers a significant portion of these costs. But when a doctor or hospital is not part of our network (“out-of-network providers”), those providers can charge a much higher rate, leaving our members vulnerable for steeper out-of-pocket costs.

In-network provider

An in-network provider is a physician, hospital, or other health care provider with whom MHBP has negotiated a fixed payment amount (“allowed amount”) for their services. Not only are the rates that MHBP has negotiated with an in-network provider significantly lower than what that provider would typically bill (“billed charge”), MHBP also pays 80 percent of those pre-determined fixed rates (subject to any co-pay, co-insurance, or deductible owed by the member). And in-network providers are not allowed to “balance bill” the member, or collect any balance remaining after the allowed amount has been paid from the member.

How it works

An MHBP member has a torn rotator cuff, and needs surgery to repair. She seeks surgical care from an in-network doctor. The doctor’s billed charge to repair the rotator cuff is \$1,000. However, MHBP negotiated a \$500 rate for this specific procedure with this doctor. Thus, MHBP pays 80 percent of the allowed amount (\$400), and the member is responsible for the remaining 20 percent (\$100). And because MHBP has a contract with this provider, \$500 is the most this doctor can expect to receive for this procedure, and the doctor cannot “balance bill” the member for the remaining \$500 left on the billed charge.

Out-of-network provider

An out-of-network health care provider has no contract with MHBP and is therefore not required to accept a negotiated lower price. The benefit that MHBP pays for non-emergency out-of-network services is lower as well, with MHBP paying only 50 percent of what is usual and customary for the service provided (“OON allowed amount”). Further, because these providers are not in a contractual agreement with MHBP, there is nothing



to stop the provider from “balance billing” MHBP members (seeking the difference between the allowed amount and the billed charge). Thus, the member is on the hook for 50 percent of the allowed amount, plus any remaining balance making up the billed charge.

How it works

This time, the MHBP member sees an out-of-network doctor for her torn rotator cuff. The doctor’s billed charge to repair the rotator cuff is still \$1,000, but MHBP will only consider what is usual and customary for this procedure: \$800 as the OON allowed amount. Thus, MHBP pays 50 percent of the OON allowed amount, which is \$400. This leaves the member responsible for the remaining 50 percent, also \$400. And because the provider can balance bill for the remaining balance, the member may also be charged another \$200 for the procedure.

Clearly, the difference in seeking care from an in-network provider versus an out-of-network provider is vast. In the scenario provide above, the member faces a \$500 increase in cost, simply because she chose to go out-of-network.

Staying in-network should be an easy task for our members. MHBP has built a network of over 28,000 providers across the state, and we even provide in-network benefits for a large number of providers located out of state. We negotiate payment rates that fairly and reasonably compensate providers for their services and work hard every day to minimize our members’ financial responsibility without compromising access to quality health care.

When seeking health care services of any kind, check to see if your chosen provider is in our network by giving us a call or visiting us online at www.arml.org. If they aren’t, let us know and we will do our best to bring that provider in-network, even if it’s just a one-time occurrence. MHBP is dedicated to delivering high-quality healthcare at an affordable price. 🏠

Changes to the Directory of Arkansas Municipal Officials

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

Arkadelphia

Delete PRD Mike Volz
Add PRD (Vacant)

Ash Flat

Delete CM (Vacant)
Add CM Kevin Grissom

Carthage

Delete M Jeffery Toney
Add M Shawn Randall

Cove

Delete WW Jeremy Lawrence
Add WW Duane Isaacs
Delete MTG First Tuesday
Add MTG Third Tuesday

Edmondson

Add CM Coletha Vasser

Greenwood

Delete AM Tammy Briley
Add AM Danielle Smith
Delete PRD Nathan Neighbors
Add PRD Tammy Briley
Add AC Dylan Thomas
Add CM Ralph Meeker

Harrisburg

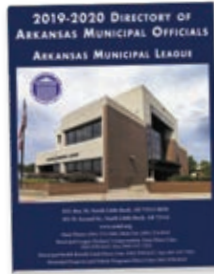
Delete CM Bobby Austin
Add CM Josh Fallon
Delete WS Nathan Pierce
Add WS Ralph Hooker

Heber Springs

Delete PC Bobby Walker
Add PC Brian Haile

Horseshoe Bend

Delete E-Mail hsbcourt@centurytel.net
Add E-Mail clerk@cityhsb.org
Delete WEB www.cityofhorseshoebend.org
Add WEB www.horseshoebend.org/city-hall.html



Hot Springs

Delete C Lance Spicer
Add C Harmony Morrissey
Add DCR Lance Spicer

Jonesboro

Delete FO Bill Reznicek
Add FO Deanna Hornback
Delete CS Bill Reznicek
Add CS Mike Downing

Junction City

Delete M Allen Simmons
Add M Steve Williams
Delete CM Steve Williams
Add CM Richard McDonald

McCrary

Delete CM Don Lupton
Add CM Ronnie Massanelli

Mineral Springs

Delete M Bobby Tullis
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Delete M Janis White
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Delete TEL 870-504-2758

Arkansas Gov. Asa Hutchinson, third from left, joins city and community leaders at the May 7 unveiling of Kick Start Sheridan's action plan.



PHOTO BY SARENA DOMBROSKI.

Kick Start Sheridan: This is their time

By Moriah Bruner

On May 7 the city of Sheridan unveiled its Kick Start Sheridan Action Plan, a strategic blueprint for the growth and development of the city, Grant County, and the Sheridan School District over the next five years.

The action plan was created as a result of public forums and action teams working together for nine months to identify a vision and goals for the community, as well as long-term strategic opportunities. The Sheridan plan focuses on the following five priorities: downtown development, recreation and things to do, education and economic development, small business development and entrepreneurship, and infrastructure.

Leaders of the Kick Start Sheridan movement were proud to unveil the action plan to the public. Sheridan Mayor and Kick Start Sheridan Recreation and Things To Do Action Team Co-Chair Joe Wise said, "We were very pleased to be chosen for the Kick Start process because we see many opportunities here in our community. In Sheridan we go by the old saying 'if you fail to plan, then you plan to fail.' Now that we've gone through the Kick Start process, we have an action plan that will guide us into the future."

Key breakthroughs—or strategic opportunities—identified in the action plan include beautifying downtown Sheridan and creating a "shop local" campaign, developing and promoting unique entertainment and dining destinations; installing wayfinding signage; connecting and improving streets, sidewalks, and trails; supporting job training and entrepreneurial development; creating a business retention and expansion program; establishing a marketing plan to attract and retain young residents; and expanding and improving high-speed internet access.

Creating additional opportunities and public spaces for recreation and things to do is another key breakthrough, starting with enhancing communication strategies to disseminate information on local events and activities, developing welcoming spaces for community events, as well as supporting after-hours programs and activities.

Governor Asa Hutchinson was on hand to help the community celebrate this important milestone.

"Sheridan is a community that has strong relationships, a great place to live, a good school system, and good paying jobs here as well," he said. "But in today's world we also need to make sure we are growing and

moving in the right direction. It does take leadership and it does take planning. I congratulate you on this kick start, I hope that you will build on this foundation.”

Kick Start Sheridan Communications Chair Lauren Goins ended the event with an enthusiastic call to action for community leaders, stakeholders, and citizens.

“This is our time,” she declared. “Are you ready? We are right on track for possibly the greatest transformation our community has even seen. There is no better time to take the next step and make our community a better place to live, work, and play.”

The Kick Start Sheridan Action Plan is truly a collaborative effort. Guided by the University of Central Arkansas Center for Community and Economic Development (CCED) and Dr. Mark Peterson at University of Arkansas Cooperative Extension Service (UAEX), the planning process began in July 2018 when a group of trained community and economic development professionals from CCED’s Community Development Institute (CDI) Advanced Year Class completed a high-level assessment of the community.

Following the assessment phase, the project partners and community began a period of extensive public engagement, including a community-wide survey and

monthly public meetings. An executive committee and action teams were formed to guide the process and develop a vision statement articulating goals for Sheridan. Kick Start Sheridan included representatives from the city government, Grant County Chamber of Commerce, Sheridan School District, Grant County Cooperative Extension Service, state and county elected officials, churches, nonprofits, business owners, local banks, and many other community leaders and citizens.

The Community Development Kick Start program was created in 2014 to provide a unique opportunity for CDI graduates to apply their knowledge and skills to a real-life situation and to kick start a community and economic development process in one community. Previous Kick Start communities include Paris (2014), Heber Springs (2015), Lonoke (2016), and Alma (2017). To read the Kick Start Sheridan Action Plan in its entirety, visit: uca.edu/cdi/advanced-year.



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

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PHOTO BY JIM VON TUNGELN.

If the city wants to regulate any aspect of subdivision development, it should have that regulation in its subdivision code.

Subdivision regulations: Some interesting facts

By Jim von Tungeln

American cities have regulated the development of land for over a century now. Results appear mixed, according to the self-appointed gurus of urban planning. Proponents of each new movement decry the results of previous movements. No wonder our elected officials get confused. The subject deserves a periodic review.

There is a slight difference in terminology for starters. Our state statutes refer to the “regulations controlling the development of land.” In our state, we generally refer to them as “subdivision regulations.” In most cases, the terms are used interchangeably, although there may exist some room for maneuver. The word “development” may suggest a broader application than “subdivision.” For example, some cities now review large-scale developments via the subdivision code.

What spawned such regulations? Subdivision regulations were first requested—and this is not uncommon—by the industry being regulated. As American cities began to grow, developers needed a method of recording lots. The method of providing an individual “metes and bounds” description for each lot created mountains of paperwork. The creation of subdivision plats that could be publicly recorded did much to solve this problem for developers.

The legal description of an individual property consisted simply of a lot number, sometimes within a specific block number, within a particular addition or subdivision.

Over time, subdivision regulations expanded beyond the original purpose of simplifying the cataloguing of real property transfers. Like the zoning code, however, the power to adopt and enforce subdivision or development rules exists for the purpose of carrying out a city’s plans. In other words, first we plan, then we regulate.

Arkansas planning statutes provide that, “Following adoption and filing of a master street plan, the planning commission may prepare and shall administer, after approval of the legislative body, regulations controlling the development of land.”

In addition to plat requirements, subdivision regulations may require detailed information as to the standards for improvements to be installed by the developer at his or her own expense, such as:

- Street grading and paving;
- Curbs, gutters, and sidewalks;
- Water, storm, and sewer mains;
- Street lighting; and
- Other amenities.

In short, the subdivision regulations can include all details about a developer's responsibility in platting and developing a subdivision within the city's adopted planning area boundary (PAB). This brings up an area of many questions and implied confusion about our state's planning statutes. These center on the concept of the PAB and how it affects a developer's responsibility.

What is a PAB? It is the area "designated by the planning commission as within the [municipality's] territorial jurisdiction for which it will prepare plans, ordinances, and regulations."

What is the "territorial jurisdiction" of a city? Beginning in 1957, this was the area in which the city could carve and adopt a PAB. It extended for five miles beyond the corporate limits. The idea grew from standard planning statutes for the states as published by the Department of Commerce under then-commissioner J. Edgar Hoover. The document provided standard planning statutes for states wanting to establish their own permissive statutes. The Arkansas statutes of 1957 followed the standard publication closely. Why five miles of jurisdiction? In all likelihood, that provided for municipalities to plan long-range transportation systems for the efficient distribution of goods and services between various cities.

Recent legislative sessions saw a reduction in the territorial jurisdiction of Arkansas cities to one to three miles, depending on population. The requirement that the PAB must be carved from the territorial jurisdiction still stands. The potential area is smaller, but its function remains the same.

What may a city do within its PAB? This was pretty straightforward in the original standard enabling documents, and the Arkansas statutes picked up the original provisions. They state, in Section 14-56-417, that: "Within the area within which the municipality intends to exercise its territorial jurisdiction as indicated on the planning area map, the county recorder shall not accept any plat for record without the approval of the planning commission." This is generally taken to mean that development plans anywhere within a city's PAB must meet the minimum requirements of the city's subdivision regulations.

It gets more complicated in our state at present. Years ago, the legislature provided that cities located on a navigable stream may administer and enforce zoning ordinances outside their corporate limits but may not exceed the territorial limits. Subsequent revisions limited that authority to cities having a population of 8,000 or more. The legislature did not define the term "navigable stream." Since the original impetus for this additional prerogative originated from the state's capital city, the Arkansas River and similar waterways may be considered as meeting this description.

To date, zoning outside the city's corporate limits has not enjoyed widespread usage among our state's municipalities.

One final note on subdivision regulations bears mentioning once again. This involves the role of the planning commission in approving subdivisions plats. First, in most cities, the planning commission has final say over the approval of subdivision plats unless the governing body deems otherwise.

The main point involves the standard of review of the plats by the planning commission or governing body. It is an administrative process. The purpose of review rests solely in determining if the plat and its proposed improvements meet the minimum requirements of the city's subdivision code. If it does, there is no basis for denial, according to the Arkansas Supreme Court ruling in the case *Richardson v. City of Little Rock* (1988). Both elected officials and planning commissioners should seek a legal interpretation of this case by their city attorney.

In summary, development regulations, also known as subdivision regulations, are legal tools. They carry out or protect the plans of a city, specifically the master street plan. Their application covers the city and its PAB, which may extend into the territorial jurisdiction beyond the corporate limits. This extension may cover one to three miles beyond the corporate limits, limited by the population of the city and the existence of another nearby city.

The review of a subdivision plat for the development of land within the city's PAB is limited. It exists solely to determine if the plat and accompanying plans meet the minimum requirements of the city's adopted regulations governing the development of land. If a city wishes to regulate a specific element of land development, it should include that requirement in its adopted subdivision code. In other words, the planning commission cannot make things up as it goes along, as sometimes still happens.

If a city has a population of 8,000 or more and is located on a "navigable stream," it has an additional option. It may extend zoning control into the portion of its PAB that lies outside the city limits.

Even within this factual framework, the question arises periodically as to the necessity of holding a public hearing on subdivision plat review. The answer is that such a move would be the city's decision. A public hearing is required, of course to adopt or amend subdivision regulations. Thereafter, hearings on individual submittals undergoing an administrative review only would seem to involve a waste of time and undue controversy.



Jim von Tungeln is staff planning consultant and available for consultation as a service of the Arkansas Municipal League. He is a member of the American Institute of Certified Planners. Persons having comments or questions may reach him at (501) 944-3649. His email is uplan@swbell.net.

Opioids aren't always the answer for pain

By Johnathan H. Goree, M.D.

With recent articles identifying Arkansas as having the second-highest opioid prescription rate in the country, one might wonder if it's ever OK to take them.

While they've certainly been overprescribed, overused, and often abused to the point of overdose, the answer is yes, there are medically justified reasons for using opioids. To help combat the epidemic of addiction, it's useful to know those reasons.

Defining pain

I honestly believe many people who become addicted to opioids do so by accident. No one sets out to be an addict, right? Yes, some start with intentional abuse for recreation. But most addiction starts with a prescription. People either get too many pills, take them for too long, or they leave an unfinished prescription in the cabinet to be found by a loved one.

The thing is, a lot of those prescriptions are unnecessary, hence our state's unfortunate ranking. Not only do physicians and patients need to know what constitutes the right amount of medication, in many cases there's a better medication for treating the pain.

Opioids work well on pain developed in response to a specific situation, like a broken bone. But inflammatory pain, caused by anything from arthritis to an infection, can be more effectively treated by targeting the source of the inflammation. That might be done with an antibiotic for an infection, or targeting an autoimmune condition with anti-arthritis medication or a steroid.

Another type of pain I often see comes from damaged or compressed nerves, called neuropathic pain. Opioids don't work well for this kind of pain either. Often, medications not primarily designed to control pain but that work on pain can be more effective. These can include certain anti-seizure or anti-depressant medications. Those can be a big help for something like diabetic peripheral neuropathy or a pinched nerve.

Talking to your doctor

The best thing patients in pain can do is talk to their doctor. Be honest about what hurts and how it hurts. If you're living with a chronic issue and haven't gotten it resolved by your family doctor, consider consulting a pain specialist.

If you're a patient who is already taking opioids for a legitimate medical reason, it's also important that you be honest with any physician you see. Inform them of your condition, tell them who writes your prescriptions, and where they're filled. Physicians have access to gather all that information already, but it helps to share it on the front end. Withholding anything in the current environment will be a red flag and cause mistrust on both sides.

It's important for both physicians and patients to realize that our understanding of opioids has progressed. While every physician wants your pain to be controlled, we want to ensure that we do it in the safest and most effective manner. Patients may wonder why they've gotten a prescription for only 15 pills following surgery when someone they know got 60 following the same procedure a few years ago. It's reasonable to ask, and hopefully we in the medical profession can have an honest conversation about what steps we will take to ensure your pain control and safety.

Comfort vs. function

One of the things that's changed a lot in my practice over the last five years is that I emphasize quality of life over minimizing pain. While that may mean that pain score goals are not always zero, I find that my patients are happier and more functional.

People derive happiness from the things they enjoy doing: golfing, gardening, playing with their children or grandchildren—you name it. Pain can take those things away, but opioids won't necessarily bring them back. Our number one goal as pain physicians should be helping patients get back to living their life, even if that means a little discomfort when doing the things they love.



Johnathan H. Goree, M.D., is the director of the Chronic Pain Division and an assistant professor for the Department of Anesthesiology in the College of Medicine at the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences.

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Scheduling and budgeting for street tree maintenance is much easier when a city has a community forest management plan.



PHOTOS BY KRISTA QUINN.

Developing a community forest management plan

By Krista Quinn

Trees make communities more livable, improve public health and safety, and boost economic growth. However, many communities assume that trees will grow and thrive with very little care or management. Communities can maximize the benefits they receive from trees, use funds more wisely, and create a more sustainable and resilient urban forest by developing a forest management plan that includes an assessment of the current state of the community's forest, a strategic plan for managing the community's trees, and training for tree care staff or volunteers in proper tree care methods.

While trees do grow well in Arkansas, trees in cities and towns are subjected to additional stress, which threatens their long-term survival. Poor tree care practices, including heavy mulching, over pruning, and failure to properly protect young trees, are also alarmingly common in cities and towns. In fact, the average lifespan of an urban tree is estimated at less than 10 years, meaning that most trees in cities and towns never reach maturity. If communities want to have an

abundance of healthy trees, it is important to recognize that trees are valuable community assets and to manage them accordingly.

Management of anything starts by asking three basic questions: What do we have, what do we want, and how do we get there? To answer the first question, communities must conduct a basic tree assessment. This baseline knowledge is essential for being able to set goals and track changes later. The assessment may indicate some areas that a community can address as they begin setting goals for the community forest. Communities will then need to create a strategic plan for how to accomplish their goals. The final piece of the plan should be the development of a system for evaluating the success of the tree management program and making changes as needed.

Community forest assessment

The initial assessment of the community forest usually consists of a tree inventory and an estimate of the city's canopy cover percentage. Estimating canopy cover

is relatively easy using the free online i-Tree Canopy program. Using aerial photos, the i-Tree Canopy program can estimate percent canopy cover over an entire city and for individual neighborhoods. Having separate figures for individual neighborhoods can be beneficial for determining if some parts of the city have fewer trees than others, and this can help a community prioritize areas for tree planting. In general, having at least 40 percent canopy cover is considered desirable.

Conducting a tree inventory can be a little more challenging than simply looking at aerial photos. Some data that is desirable to collect includes the size of trees, species composition, the health or condition of trees, and the locations. It can be useful to have a detailed inventory of street and park trees to make the scheduling of maintenance and budgeting easier. However, a detailed inventory is usually not practical for large wooded areas. A sample inventory from these areas can be conducted to get an idea of the overall species composition, size, and condition of trees. Knowing what types and sizes of trees there are in a community can help determine if there are threats from certain pests, if trees are expected to decline in the near future, or if thinning or planting would be beneficial.

Larger cities often contract with professional companies or arborists to conduct tree inventories. However, volunteers, students, and municipal workers can be trained to conduct tree inventories in smaller towns. The Arkansas Forestry Commission can provide training and assist communities with canopy assessments and tree inventories.

Developing a strategic plan for tree management

Setting community forestry goals and creating a strategic plan for forest management can be surprisingly difficult. Needs related to the trees themselves must be considered, but the needs of those who care for trees and the needs of the public must be considered as well. Trees can address some problems that communities face that may seem unrelated to trees, such as street flooding, high traffic speeds, and public health. It can be beneficial to consider overall goals for the community to see if there is a way to address local needs through forest management. The Urban Forest Management Plan Toolkit website, ufmptoolkit.net, provides a step-by-step process for developing a tree management plan that takes a community's desired outcomes into consideration.



Creating an inventory of the number, size, species, location, and condition of trees can help cities set forest management goals and track changes over time.

Another important element of sound forest management is having trained tree care workers. Larger cities make have an urban forester on staff who can guide tree care activities, and smaller cities may hire a certified arborist on a contract basis to provide tree care guidance. There are also tree care workshops and webinars that municipal workers can attend to learn more about proper tree care methods. In addition, the Arkansas Forestry Commission can provide tree care training for municipal workers and volunteers.

Since about 80 percent of land in cities is usually privately owned, providing tree care education to city residents can also be highly beneficial for maintaining and improving the community forest. Community Tree Boards and garden clubs may be able to organize tree care workshops and distribute tree care information to the public. If adequate funding and staffing is available, the city may also develop its own tree care educational program.

With widespread losses of trees in cities and towns occurring annually, it is important that we work to improve tree care and management. Developing a community forest management plan is the first step to ensuring that our cities and towns continue to have an abundance of healthy trees in the future.



Krista Quinn is the Urban Forestry Program Coordinator with the Arkansas Forestry Commission. Contact Krista at (479) 228-7929 or Krista.Quinn@arkansas.gov.



Safety top priority in floodplain development

By Adam Lesso, PE, CFM

As many cities throughout Arkansas become more dense, and available open land becomes more scarce, pressure is ultimately placed on developers to try to build within dedicated floodplain areas. In many cases, development in the floodplain can be achieved, but only after considerable consideration for safety, and often at extensive costs.

The National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) was established in order to protect the public from flood damage and to cover the huge losses caused by flooding damage. As part of the process to develop the NFIP, maps of flood prone areas were created. The maps are known as FIRMs, or Flood Insurance Rate Maps. The maps are broken down into zones with each zone basically representing different levels of risk. Those risk levels are established based on the type and probability of flooding.

The FIRM generally delineates the line for the base flood or the one percent annual-chance flood, sometimes known as the 100-year flood. They can sometimes



Detailed floodplain maps help cities and developers assess the risks of floodplain development and mitigate losses caused by flood damage.

include the 0.2 percent annual chance, or 500-year flood. When a more detailed study is done, usually in more populated areas, the base flood elevation (BFE) is established and, for riverine flooding, a floodway is created.

The BFE is used to help determine insurance rates, and possibly what a building's finished floor elevation (FFE) should be in order to remain safe. For example, for riverine flooding, the minimum code requires a new structure to have an FFE that is at least one foot above the BFE. Many cities in Arkansas have adopted more stringent requirements of up to three feet above the BFE. Having more stringent requirements can help reduce a community's insurance rate.

The floodway is intended to regulate the floodplain in a way that development can be achieved without significantly impacting the BFE of the waterway by more than one foot. The floodway is an imaginary line that is established using the hydraulic model of the reach and encroaching, or filling, the floodplain along its entire length, then comparing the water surface elevations to ensure that the encroachment does not cause more than a one-inch rise anywhere along the reach. Most of the time the floodway is outside of the stream banks.

FEMA has been designated as the "keeper of the maps." Under the Code of Federal Regulation (44 CFR Part 60.3) there are a set of rules for how and when development can be done in a floodplain, what steps need to be taken to maintain safety, and how and when to update the maps.

When considering development in a floodplain, safety is always the top priority. Engineers look at several factors with regard to the floodplain in order to evaluate the safety. We look at how deep the flooding in the area is and the velocity of the water in the area. Will the site be filled or will the building be elevated? We also look at what the effect of the development will have on other parts of the floodplain. Could the development cause an increase in the BFE? Will that increase cause harm to another property? Do any of these factors endanger the health and welfare of the general public?

Other factors that are considered include: Will the development need to have a detailed hydraulic study done, and will the map need to be revised? The answer to those questions is yes if the development is over five acres or 50 lots, if the development encroaches on the floodway, or if the channel is moved or modified. It might also be yes if the developer wants to remove a property from the floodplain completely. This is usually done to save on the long-term cost of insurance.

When a project requires a map change, the developer needs to apply for a Letter of Map Revision (LOMR) through the local floodplain administrator. Changing a flood map can be costly and time consuming. For very large projects, or projects that will impact the

floodplain significantly, a Conditional Letter of Map Revision (CLOMR) may be required. The conditional letter is basically a check with FEMA to make sure that they will support the revision. Then, after construction is complete, the LOMR will still need to be completed. The CLOMR is a full detailed study, just based on design drawings. The LOMR is based on actual physical changes after construction.

The intent of the regulation is actually to discourage floodplain development by adding expense and red tape. However, sometimes it can't be avoided, or it can be done under the right circumstances. Therefore, the code is written in a way to allow certain activities with the proper oversight and discourage others that could lead to loss of life or property. Over the decades that it has been in effect, it has had a noticeable effect on improving the loss of life and property.



Adam Lesso is a professional engineer and certified floodplain manager with MCE's Development Department and works out of the Fayetteville office. Contact Adam by at (479) 443-2377 or email alessom@mce.us.com.



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2019 State Turnback Funds

Actual Totals Per Capita						
	STREET		SEVERANCE TAX		GENERAL	
MONTH	2018	2019	2018	2019	2018	2019
January	\$5.3807	\$5.662	\$0.2314	\$0.246	\$2.1460	\$2.145
February	\$5.7121	\$5.675	\$0.2181	\$0.096	\$1.0867	\$1.087
March	\$4.9583	\$5.085	\$0.2452	\$0.438	\$1.0870	\$1.087
April	\$5.3609	\$5.401	\$0.2342	\$0.338	\$1.0854	\$1.085
May	\$5.6871	\$5.811	\$0.2369	\$0.227	\$1.0859	\$1.086
June	\$5.6422		\$0.1786		\$1.0872	
July	\$5.9048		\$0.1625		\$2.9589	
August	\$5.5464		\$0.1504		\$0.9368	
September	\$5.5992		\$0.1999		\$1.0873	
October	\$5.7310		\$0.1746		\$1.0871	
November	\$5.2853		\$0.2317		\$1.0869	
December	\$5.4642		\$0.2511		\$1.0871	
Total Year	\$66.2722	\$27.634	\$2.5145	\$1.344	\$15.8224	\$5.405

Actual Totals Per Month						
	STREET		SEVERANCE TAX		GENERAL	
MONTH	2018	2019	2018	2019	2018	2019
January	\$10,171,403.10	\$10,702,464.91	\$437,461.72	\$464,101.95	*\$4,056,771.18	*\$4,054,867.57
February	\$10,797,904.69	\$10,728,532.32	\$412,277.48	\$181,468.75	\$2,054,332.65	\$2,055,501.82
March	\$9,372,912.56	\$9,611,591.51	\$463,496.06	\$828,851.20	\$2,054,888.05	\$2,055,055.19
April	\$10,133,933.55	\$10,209,400.74	\$442,746.74	\$638,095.99	\$2,051,743.46	\$2,051,915.02
May	\$10,750,634.53	\$10,985,547.22	\$447,755.63	\$428,651.27	\$2,052,679.36	\$2,052,767.40
June	\$10,665,832.80		\$337,582.28		\$2,055,168.34	
July	\$11,162,170.00		\$307,247.09		** \$5,593,456.00	
August	\$10,484,657.00		\$284,348.41		\$1,770,842.80	
September	\$10,584,484.30		\$377,800.40		\$2,055,387.11	
October	\$10,833,617.52		\$330,015.80		\$2,054,971.77	
November	\$9,991,022.76		\$438,040.74		\$2,054,702.54	
December	\$10,329,322.67		\$474,599.17		\$2,054,975.16	
Total Year	\$125,277,895.48	\$41,251,989.48	\$4,753,371.52	\$2,541,169.16	\$29,909,918.42	\$12,270,107.00

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

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

Local Option Sales and Use Tax in Arkansas



KEY: Counties not collecting sales tax

Source: Rachel Garrett, Office of State Treasurer

See also: www.dfa.arkansas.gov

Sales and Use Tax Year-to-Date 2019 with 2018 Comparison (shaded gray)								
Month	Municipal Tax		County Tax		Total Tax		Interest	
January	\$59,187,540	\$59,272,899	\$49,660,885	\$50,925,990	\$108,848,426	\$110,198,889	\$188,294	\$68,417
February	\$66,363,635	\$63,961,892	\$55,082,773	\$56,034,012	\$121,446,409	\$119,995,904	\$265,350	\$76,180
March	\$55,016,953	\$51,260,662	\$49,926,480	\$44,932,987	\$104,943,433	\$96,193,649	\$241,046	\$79,235
April	\$53,915,385	\$51,354,831	\$45,679,915	\$45,689,403	\$99,595,300	\$97,044,234	\$239,875	\$79,564
May	\$61,136,496	\$60,844,519	\$51,962,167	\$53,613,192	\$113,098,664	\$114,457,712	\$233,250	\$75,253
June		\$56,373,987		\$48,955,855		\$105,329,842		\$71,501
July		\$59,973,977		\$52,379,093		\$112,353,069		\$84,551
August		\$60,174,400		\$52,922,077		\$113,096,478		\$79,558
September		\$58,128,177		\$51,260,076		\$109,388,253		\$111,033
October		\$60,197,608		\$52,310,178		\$112,507,786		\$174,353
November		\$57,456,746		\$50,423,804		\$107,880,551		\$202,659
December		\$59,269,564		\$50,277,652		\$109,547,217		\$208,901
Total	\$295,620,010	\$698,269,262	\$252,312,221	\$609,724,320	\$547,932,231	\$1,307,993,584	\$1,167,816	\$1,311,205
Averages	\$59,124,002	\$58,189,105	\$50,462,444	\$50,810,360	\$109,586,446	\$108,999,465	\$233,563	\$109,267

Governor seeks to get rural communities online with Arkansas State Broadband Plan

Gov. Asa Hutchinson released the Arkansas State Broadband Plan on May 15, which sets a goal to deploy high-speed broadband to all Arkansas communities with more than 500 residents by 2022. The high-speed broadband would have a rate of 25 megabits per second for download and three megabits per second for upload, according to a media release.

“Arkansas has already established itself as a national leader in providing high-speed, broadband connectivity to our schools,” Hutchinson said in a statement. “Today, as a result, our students are developing 21st century skills in the classroom to succeed in tomorrow’s workforce. Our focus now extends beyond our schools and into our rural communities. Equal access to high-speed broadband in rural Arkansas is a critical component to the success and longevity of our state’s economy, and I believe this plan will help us accomplish that goal within the next four years.”

In March of this year Hutchinson charged the Arkansas Development Finance Authority Economic Policy Division to develop a State Broadband Plan. Stakeholders from the private and public sectors assisted in preparing the plan and provided key feedback during the process.

With the release of the plan, telecommunications companies, rural electric cooperatives, utilities, and internet service providers will be able to cite the plan when applying for federal grants to expand broadband infrastructure and connectivity in rural Arkansas. To review the plan, visit governor.arkansas.gov.

NWA cities named top 25 places for bikes

Multiple Northwest Arkansas cities have made the top 25 places for biking in the country, KNWA reported May 16. The PeopleforBikes city ratings score measures five rider benefits: ridership, safety, network, reach, and acceleration. Bentonville came in at 11th, Fayetteville 15th, Springdale 20th, and Bella Vista 23rd. Rogers and Siloam Springs also made the list in the top 75 of 530 cities scored. You can find the complete list of rankings at cityratings.peopleforbikes.org/all-cities-ratings.

Hackett, Huntington among Rural Community Grant recipients

The fire departments of Hackett and Huntington were awarded funds to go toward the purchase of new equipment, the *Times Record* has reported. Gov. Asa Hutchinson presented grants totaling \$586,633.14 to 49 cities and counties throughout Arkansas at a May 16 ceremony at the annual Arkansas Rural Development Conference at the Hot Springs Convention Center. The Hackett Fire Department received a \$14,038.84 Rural Community Grant to purchase new radios while the Huntington Fire Department received a \$4,714 Rural Community Grant to purchase new fire hoses for their pumper trucks.

Rural Services grants fall into one of three programs: the Rural Community Grant Program, the County Fair Building Grant Program and the Arkansas Unpaved Roads Grant Program. All require a 50 percent matching grant to be eligible for the programs.

A total of \$325,459.58 was awarded to 32 cities and counties under the Rural Community Grant Program. Applicants from incorporated towns with a population of less than 3,000 and unincorporated rural areas are eligible for up to \$15,000 in matching funds under the program for community development and fire protection projects.

Largest solar array on city land a go in Fayetteville

Construction is on schedule and on budget for the largest solar array on city-owned land in Arkansas, and the 10-megawatt system in Fayetteville is expected to begin operating July 1, *Talk Business & Politics* reported May 14. The project is a collaborative effort among the city, the Ozark Electric Cooperative, and Today’s Power Inc. (TPI).

Work on the \$23 million system started in March. Half of the system is near the Paul R. Noland Wastewater Treatment Facility in east Fayetteville. The other half of the system is under construction at the Westside Water Treatment Facility in west Fayetteville. The system will include 24 megawatt-hours of battery storage, and it will be the only one in the state with onsite utility-scale storage.

The two wastewater treatment plants consume more electricity than any other city facility, and the system is expected to produce about 103 percent of their total electricity consumption. Battery storage will be available for when the system produces more or less electricity than the plants need.

The two sites will have nearly 32,000 panels, which can track the sun to produce more electricity than stationary mounts. TPI will own 99 percent of the system; the city will own one percent. TPI will own 100 percent of the battery storage. 🏛️

Obituaries

MIKE VOLZ, 52, parks and recreation director for the city of Arkadelphia, died May 18.

arkansas municipal league

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MUNICIPAL MART

To place a classified ad in City & Town, please email the League at citytown@arml.org or call (501) 374-3484. Classified ads are FREE to League members and will run for two consecutive months from the date of receipt unless otherwise notified. FOR NON-MEMBERS, classifieds are available for the rate of \$0.70 per word and will run for one month unless otherwise notified. Once we receive the ad, we will send an invoice. The ad will run once payment is received.

DIRECTOR OF BUILDING, CODE ENFORCEMENT AND PERMITS—The City of Maumelle is accepting applications for the position of director of building, code enforcement and permits to lead the Department of Building, Code Enforcement and Permits. The objective of the director of building, code enforcement and permits is to direct the operations of the department, direct building inspections for all residential and commercial construction, enforce adherence to ADEQ storm water requirements, complete commercial and residential plan reviews, direct enforcement of city codes, manage department budget, and responsible for department personnel decisions. Essential duties and responsibilities: Complete commercial and residential plan reviews; knowledge of city codes and directing enforcement procedures; interpret and communicate building, electrical, plumbing, HVAC, and structural codes; direct procedures for residential and commercial building inspections; train employees in code enforcement and building inspections; develop annual budget and monitor expenditures against budget on a monthly basis; public speaking as requested; direct ADEQ storm water enforcement procedures and city compliance; all other duties as required or assigned. Education and experience: Qualifications include Bachelor's degree (or equivalent) and five years related experience and/or training or equivalent combination of education and experience, and four years of managerial experience. Must be licensed/certified or eligible to become licensed/certified with the following credentials: Arkansas Plumbing Inspectors License, Arkansas Mechanical Inspectors License, Arkansas Electrical Inspectors License, Erosion Prevention and Sediment Control Certification. Starting salary range is \$59,782 to \$71,240 DOE. Applications will be accepted until the job is filled. NOTE: A City of Maumelle Employment Application must be completed. Resumes will not be accepted in lieu of application. Please go to the City of Maumelle web page maumelle.org/jobs to print an application or apply online. Completed applications may be hand delivered or mailed to: City of Maumelle, Human Resources Department, 550 Edgewood Drive, Suite 590, Maumelle, AR 72113; or fax to (501) 803-4016. For questions, please contact Human Resources at (501) 851-2784 Ext. 24, 8 a.m.-5 p.m., M-F. EOE. Minority, women, and disabled individuals are encouraged to apply.

DIRECTOR OF FINANCE AND BUDGET—North Little Rock seeks a director of finance and budget. General responsibilities: Directs the city's financial planning and accounting practices as well as its relationship with lending institutions, the financial community. Minimum requirements: Bachelor's degree (BA/BS) in Accounting or a related field, Certified Public Accountant (CPA) status or license, and seven years directly related experience; or equivalent combination of education and experience. Salary: Negotiable. Close date: Open until filled. Only online applications are accepted at www.nlr.ar.gov/jobs. EOE.

FIREFIGHTER—The City of Monticello is accepting applications for the position of full-time firefighter. Qualifications: driver's license, be able to complete academy training if not already certified, and have HS diploma. Must be 21 years of age or older and be able to meet all other requirements. Resumes may be sent to Patty Burchett, HR Director, City of Monticello, P.O. Box 505, Monticello, AR 71655; or faxed to (870) 367-4405. Full benefit package included. Salary DOE. For more information please call (870) 367-4400 Ext. 228 or (870) 367-5433.

POLICE CHIEF—Fort Smith is seeking a new police chief. Fort Smith is located on the Arkansas River at the Arkansas-Oklahoma border, "where the New South meets the Old West." Fort Smith is the second largest city in the state with a population of just over 89,000. The city employs over 1,000 staff members and has an FY2019 operating budget of \$131 million. The Fort Smith Police Department is made up of 164 sworn officers and 54 non-sworn staff members. The department is organized into three divisions: the Administrative Services Division, the Patrol Division, and the Criminal Investigations Division. Each division is led by a deputy chief who reports to the police chief. The police chief functions with

wide latitude under the administrative direction of the city administrator. The chosen candidate will hold a Bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice or related area with at least 15 years of experience in law enforcement and seven years of supervisory and command experience. Graduation from the FBI National Academy is preferred. The city of Fort Smith is looking for qualified candidates who have continued their educational training with an emphasis on leadership. The salary for this position is up to \$111,904, depending on qualifications and experience, plus a \$450/month car allowance. View complete position profile and apply online at: <http://bit.ly/SGRCurrentSearches>. For more information contact: Gary Holland, senior vice president, Strategic Government Resources, GaryHolland@GovernmentResource.com.

POLICE CHIEF—Tontitown is accepting applications for the position of police chief. Resumes and qualifications may be mailed to City of Tontitown, P.O. Box 305, Tontitown, AR 72770.

PATROL OFFICERS—The Arkadelphia Police Department is accepting applications for full-time patrol officers. Applicants must be a U.S. citizen, at least 21 years of age, and must possess a HS diploma or equivalent and a valid DL. Applicants should have a clean criminal background free of felony convictions, be able to pass physical and psychological examinations, certified officers preferred. Entry-level base salary for a certified officer is \$32,123 plus \$3,049 holiday and uniform pay. Applications can be picked up 8-5 M-F at the Police Department, 514 Clay Street, Arkadelphia, AR 71923. Applications will be accepted until June 15. Any received after that date will be retained for the next year's hiring cycle. A full written copy of the hiring procedure is available upon request. EOE and Affirmative Action Employer.

POLICE OFFICER—City of Rison is accepting resumes for a full-time, preferred certified police officer. Will consider non-certified on individual basis. Resumes may be mailed to Mayor Vernon Dollar, P.O. Box 405, Rison, AR 71665; or email judgevern2003@yahoo.com.

SANITATION DIRECTOR—North Little Rock seeks a sanitation director. General responsibilities: Directs the activities and employees of the Sanitation Department by performing the following duties personally or through subordinate managers. Minimum requirements: Bachelor's degree in a related field from an accredited college or university and two years' experience managing a solid waste or sanitation facility; or HS diploma or equivalent and six years progressively responsible experience with solid waste or sanitation management; or equivalent combination of education and experience which provides the necessary skills, knowledge, and abilities. A Class D driver's license and good driving record are required and must be maintained throughout employment. Salary: \$65,159.96- \$77,000. Closing date: Open until filled. Applications must be completed and returned by the closing date. Only online applications are accepted at www.nlr.ar.gov/jobs. EOE. ♿

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