

Census Day 2020

April 1, 2020, is getting closer. The North Little Rock Mayor's 2020 Census Complete Count Committee (CCC) continues to meet to brainstorm creative strategies to make sure EVERYONE in North Little Rock is counted!

More than \$675 BILLION in federal funds are distributed to tribal, state, and local governments. Distribution of these funds is based on the number of residents.

A COMPLETE COUNT is critical for future funding in our city.

Below is a list of the top 16 federal assistance programs that distribute funds based on census data.

1. Medical Assistance Program (Medicaid)
2. Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)
3. Medicare Part B (Supplemental Medical Insurance) - Physicians Fee Schedule Services
4. Highway Planning and Construction
5. Section 8 Housing Vouchers
6. Title I Grants to Local Education Agencies
7. National School Lunch Program
8. Special Education Grants (IDEA)
9. State Children's Health Insurance Program (S-CHIP)
10. Section 8 Housing Assistance Payments Program (Project-Based)
11. Head Start/Early Head Start
12. Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC)
13. Foster Care (Title IV-E)
14. Health Center Programs (Community, Migrant, Homeless, Public Housing)
15. Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)
16. Child Care and Development Fund—Entitlement.

In the 2010 Census, the city of North Little Rock had a count of 62,304 residents. The Mayor's CCC has a goal of 70,000 plus for 2020!

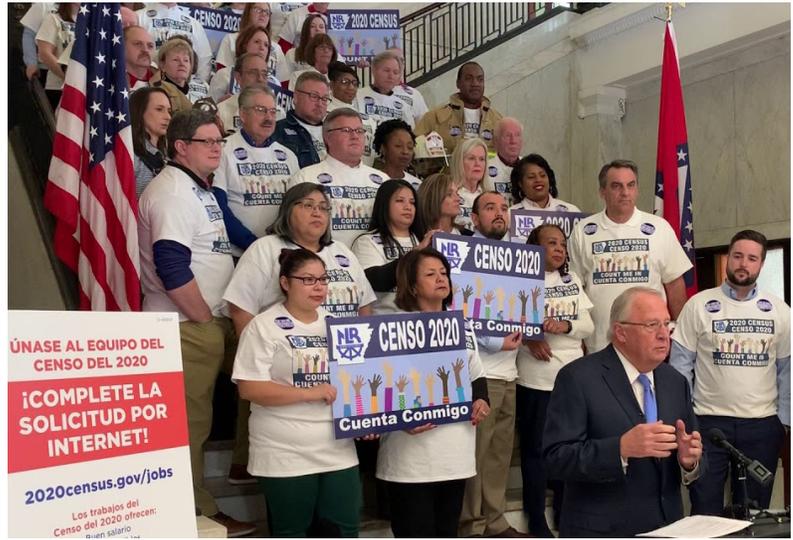
COUNT ME IN is the tag line for 2020.

Funding for each resident is approximately \$3,300 per year over the next 10 years. This is a lot of money for our city.

If residents do not fill out the census, the city will lose money to fund valuable programs like those mentioned above.

For the first time, there will be three different ways to fill out the census form: Online, By Phone, or by Mail.

Beginning March 12, the Census



Bureau will mail a postcard to each residence. If no response is given online, another postcard will be mailed in early April. If there is still no response, a third post card will be sent in mid to late April. If still no response, a paper census will be mailed in May.

If there is still NO RESPONSE, a Census Bureau employee will begin visiting homes to collect the census information.

All responses are CONFIDENTIAL and protected under Title 13 of the U.S. Code. Information from citizens AND non-citizens will not be shared with immigration enforcement agencies, like ICE, or used to determine eligibility for government benefits. Results of any census data are reported in statistical format ONLY. Also, under Title 13, Census Bureau employees swear a lifetime oath to protect respondent data. It is a FELONY for any Census Bureau employee to disclose confidential information.

A SAMPLE 2020 Census questionnaire is on the city's website site, www.nlr.ar.gov. The SAMPLE can be found under the link 2020 Census. One crucial aspect to know about the 2020 Census questionnaire, there will NOT be a question concerning citizenship.

All residents of the city must fill out the Census form either online, by telephone, or through the mail to ensure that our city receives its share of \$675 BILLION which will benefit everyone! EVERYONE COUNTS in North Little Rock! COUNT ME IN!

For more information contact Steve Shields at sshields@nlr.ar.gov.



"Where's Mel"? Mel has been in hiding the past couple of months...but this month he's back! Be the first person to call 501-975-8617 and tell us where he's hiding and win a prize! (Only 1 win per year!)

North Little Rock Animal Shelter

For more information
call **501-791-8577**

About Pets & People

Found at cdc.gov/healthypets/health-benefits/index.html

There are many health benefits of owning a pet.

They can increase opportunities to exercise, get outside, and socialize. Regular walking or playing with pets can decrease blood pressure, cholesterol levels, and triglyceride levels. Pets can help manage loneliness and depression by giving us companionship. Most households in the US have at least one pet.

Studies have shown that the bond between people and their pets can increase fitness, lower stress, and bring happiness to their owners. Some of the health benefits of having a pet include:



- Decreased blood pressure
- Decreased cholesterol levels
- Decreased triglyceride levels
- Decreased feelings of loneliness
- Increased opportunities for exercise and outdoor activities
- Increased opportunities for socialization

However, pets can sometimes carry germs that can make us sick even when the pet appears healthy.

Pick the Right Pet

Before adopting a new pet, make sure it is the right one for you and your family. Do some research beforehand about the specific needs of the animal. Ask yourself these questions BEFORE getting a pet:

- How long will the animal live?
- What does the pet eat?
- How much exercise does the pet need?
- How large will it get?
- Do you have enough time to properly care for and clean up after the pet?
- What type of habitat does the pet need to be healthy?
- What type of exercise does the pet need?
- Are pets allowed in your home, apartment or condo?
- Are there young children, older people, or people with weak immune systems who will care for or be around the pet?

Stay Healthy Around Pets

Wash Your Hands!

Whether you are playing with, feeding, or cleaning up after your pet, it is important to wash your hands to help reduce the risk of getting sick from germs pets may carry.

If you or a family member are concerned about illness, talk to a doctor and mention the animals you have had recent contact with.

Always wash your hands...

- After touching or playing with your pet
- After feeding your pet or handling pet food
- After handling pet habitats or equipment (cages, tanks, toys, food, water dishes, etc.)
- After leaving areas where animals live (coops, barns, stalls, etc.) even if you did not touch an animal
- Before eating or drinking
- Before preparing food or drinks
- After removing soiled clothing or shoes.

Running water and soap are best for hand washing, but you can use hand sanitizer until running water and soap are available. Adults should always assist young children with hand washing.

Keep Your Pet Healthy

Whether you have a dog, cat, horse, parakeet, gerbil, bearded dragon or other pet, providing regular, life-long veterinary care is important for keeping your pet and family healthy. Regular veterinary visits are essential to good pet health. Talk to your pet's veterinarian about how to keep your pet healthy. Provide your pet with a good diet, fresh water, clean bedding, and plenty of exercise. Keep up with your pet's vaccines, deworming, and flea and tick control. Some pets can carry ticks that can spread serious diseases like Lyme disease and Rocky Mountain spotted fever to people. In areas with plague—including some rural areas in the western US—fleas can be a risk to both animals and their owners.

By keeping your pet healthy, you help to keep yourself and your family healthy. Contact your veterinarian if you have any questions about your pet's health or if you think your pet may be sick.



Need a new
addition to your
family?

Call
501-791-8577
...we've got the
perfect compan-

Our shelter is full of dogs, cats, puppies and kittens in need of a forever home. Please consider adopting a shelter pet for your next pet.



Support spaying and neutering in Arkansas by getting your own Arkansas Specialty *Please Spay or Neuter* License Plate at any State Revenue Office.

**Please Don't Litter
Spay or Neuter
Your Critter**





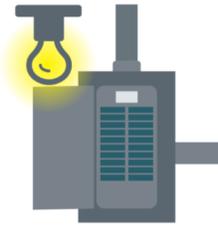
North Little Rock Fire Department



Be fire smart with electricity in your home.

45, 

There are approximately **45,000** home electrical fires each year.



Half of all home electrical fires involve lighting equipment or home electrical wiring.



Home electrical fire deaths peak between **midnight and 8 a.m.**



Peak months for electrical fire deaths are **November through March.**

Plug only 1 heat-producing appliance (like a coffee maker, space heater or microwave) directly into a wall outlet at a time.



Never use an extension cord with a heat-producing appliance.



Extension cords should only be used temporarily. Have an electrician install additional wall outlets where you need them.



For more information about electrical fire safety, visit www.usfa.fema.gov and www.nfpa.org/public-education.



Highlights from some City Departments

Mayor Joe A. Smith holds a monthly department head meeting. Department heads provide a report of activities, projects and accomplishments. Below are a few highlights from the last meeting (January events).

Hays Center— 122 new members. 12,082 visits for the month. Activities included new Chicago Style Steppin class and 28 trips (Searcy Senior Center, Swan Lake at Red Apple Inn) and public Senior Housing residents were transported to medical appointments, grocery stores, and pharmacies. Volunteers contributed 1,302 hours.

Sanitation—Garbage/Yard Waste—2,184.88 tons (4,369,760 lbs.), Yard Waste—47 loads = 1,337.40 cubic yards (green waste). 738 waste tires collected. 19 Sanitation Code Inspections and issued 14 notices for non-compliance and 0 citations. Leaf crews picked up 81 loads (2,625.14 cubic yards) of loose leaves. *Bagged leaves will be picked up weekly.*

Traffic—104—barricade permits, signs and posts repaired or replaced—561, city vehicles marked with logo—9, AR One Call requests—60.

Police—2019 crime numbers show increase in violent crime of 8%. . Property crime up 7% (mostly auto thefts), . Theft from Motor Vehicles up—10% (*vehicle thefts continue to be a result of unlocked vehicles with valuables inside, along with key fobs being left in the vehicle*). Homicides were down with a total of 13 in 2019. 7 new officers were hired in December. 2 long term officers retired in January: Chip Goree—Investigations and Mike Shahan—Patrol. Construction of Justice Building began in January.

Fire—Total incidents—931
Total Unit Responses—1,616
Residential Fires—16
Vehicle Fires—3
False Alarms/Malfunctions—63
Rescue/Emergency Medical—517
Mutual Aid—1
Hazardous Material Response—9
Structure Fire fatalities—0
Vehicle fire fatalities—0
Training hours—3,911
Total Building Surveys—40

Office of Emergency Services/911—

Total incoming calls: 12,020
Non-911 calls: 6,533
Wired 911: 603 Abandoned
Wireless 911: 20
Wireless 911: 4,884 Abandoned
Wireless: 284
Total dispatch computer entries: 8,173



Planning—1 new commercial permits (\$27 million). Issued 17 new single family residence permits (permit average \$124,703). Issued 12 Sign permits and 5 Banner permits. Inspectors completed 717 inspections and covered 3,288 miles: 199 Electric; 121 Building; 174 Plumbing; 223 HVAC.

Electric Department—38,967 customers, \$6,487,465 revenue, 122,030 KW peak power, 11,252 Transformers, 11,060 Street Lights, 4,341 Security Lights, 39,401 Smart Meters. One major outage—Palm Street—blown arrester/burned disconnect switch—2,307 customers out 2 hours, 18 minutes. Customer Service Payments: Lobby (City Services Bldg) 5,326, Drive-Thru 2,816, and Mailroom 13,599. Bad debt \$8,005.

Code Enforcement—65 assigned calls, 605 initiated calls, 33 citations, 490 violation notices, 238 vehicles tagged, 51 structures inspected, 23 rental inspections, 6 food service inspections, 5 search warrants, 1 house demolished by city, 10 houses demolished by owner. Code Maintenance—75 assigned calls, 68 vacant lots cleaned, 2 lots with structures cleaned, secured 13 vacant houses, 1 vacant lots mowed, 0 lots with structures mowed.

North Little Rock Convention & Visitors Bureau—Arkansas Inland Maritime Museum was featured on Explore Arkansas—KARK Channel 4. 698 visitors.

North Little Rock Animal Control

Incoming animals—174/YTD-174
Dogs—121/YTD-121
Cats—52/YTD-52
Other—1/YTD-1
Adoptions
Dogs—21/YTD-21
Cats—16/YTD-16
Other—1/YTD-1
Reclaimed
Dogs—29/YTD-29
Cats—2/YTD-2
Euthanized
Dogs—51/YTD-51
Cats—38/YTD-38
Calls for service—522/YTD-522
Citations issued—41/YTD-41
Vouchers (Spay/Neuter) issued—39/YTD-39



Pulaski County (accepted at NLR)-0
YTD=Year to date

****Non-adoptable animals are those that are sick, injured, unweaned (puppies and kittens), vicious, court ordered or by owner request.****

Finance—December/January Reports—Revenues (MTD) will be in next e-Newsletter.



North Little Rock Chief Fire Marshal John Pflasterer celebrated his retirement during a ceremony at the Patrick Henry Hays Senior Citizen Center last month. Pictured left with his wife, they make plans to embark on many new and fun journeys in life.

Chief Pflasterer has led the North Little Rock Fire Marshal's Office with a sense of pride that has made the office what it is today.

During his tenure, he was instrumental in organizing and promoting the annual Fire Fest activities along with many other Fire Safety Programs to help make North Little Rock a safe place to work and live.



Congratulations to newly promoted **Chief Jerry Robinson, Captain Gary Williams, and Lieutenant Daniel Ashley** pictured right with Chief Pflasterer.



North Little Rock District Court and Police employees got together February 14, 2020 for a Valentine's Day feast. From the looks of the photos provided by John Breckon, it looks like Police Chief Mike Davis was either the entertainment or in the holiday spirit!



Where are they now?

Lee Shaw, retired North Little Rock Office of Emergency Services Director

I have been busy building a new life after living in North Little Rock for 35 years. I loved North Little Rock for the trees and bringing up my daughter there.

In January of 1974, I went to work for the North Little Rock Fire Department and was with them for almost 10 years. During that time, I implemented a combined 9-1-1 center. The opportunities and education I received led to the successful career I retired from after 31 years.

So many people guided me with advice and connections in the metro area, state and federal. This provided me with access to generous people which benefited the city.

I'll never forget the time, after 9/11, that former Mayor Patrick Henry Hays, and then Police Chief, Danny Bradley and I went to Washington D.C. While there, we were able to visit with key people that could help us with funding for public safety. That opportunity led to funding which was crucial for training and equipment.

So, what have I done since I left NLR? I gave myself time, 4 years as a matter of fact, to get used to the move and get a handle on a different pace. I also needed time to be able to access my next move. I started volunteering here, in Rowlett, (a suburb of Dallas) in 2009. I retired again in December 2019, after 10 years with fire department and I planned on continuing to volunteer in another direction, following a 3 month break.

After my husband, Kenny passed away, I decided to assist veterans register for their benefits. When Kenny got sick I was able to get a different perspective of VA benefits. Navigating through the system was exhaustive. That gave me the idea that I could do it. Now I have helped friends by word-of-mouth and help those who may not know how or have given up getting what (benefits) is due them. I'm a regular at the VA Administrative building and often personnel there, wave to me and probably think... here she is again.

On the personal side, I've gone mountain hiking in New Mexico, attended the Balloon Festival, and Gathering of Nations for Native Americans. I have traveled to many national league baseball stadiums with my grandson, which included Canada and taken family trips to the west coast. I cruised to Alaska, and took road trips through Colorado and many more adventures.

What I've learned in retirement is that we must continue to give to our community, nurture, and be a mentor to employees and friends. Join a church so that you will have 3 families (your own, at your workplace, and your church). Take care of your health...we aren't promised tomorrow.

Thank you to Mayors that put up with me and department heads that mentored me (especially Police and Fire Chiefs and Finance Director Bob Sisson). Thank you also to my friends at City Hall, employees in the 9-1-1 Center that work so hard, and MEMS. Loyalty means everything.

Don't take your days for granted we are not guaranteed tomorrow. Do *and* live the best you can.

God bless the employees of North Little Rock...you are among the very best.

Lee Shaw



2020 Primary Election—Tuesday, March 3, 2020

Early voting began February 17 and will end Monday, March 2, 2020 at 5:00 p.m.

The only site that will be open **Monday, March 2, 2020 is at the Pulaski County Regional Building, 501 West Markham Street, Little Rock.**



Due to the number of names of Presidential and Judicial Candidates, please visit votepulaski.net. Scroll down to **NOTICE OF ELECTION** and select **Preferential Primary/Nonpartisan General and Annual School Election March 3, 2020**. This will take you to a pdf file that includes *polling locations* in Pulaski County (page 1), *Candidate List* and *Ballot Questions* (pages 2 and 3).

If you have any questions or run into any issues, please contact the office of Pulaski County Circuit Clerk Terri Hollingsworth at **501-340-8336**.



Above: William F. Laman Public Library—2801 Orange Street, North Little Rock, Arkansas

North Little Rock’s Library Continues Service to Surrounding Communities

William F. Laman Public Library is funded by the property millage paid by North Little Rock residents. For more than 20 years, Laman Library has had a reciprocal borrowing agreement with the Central Arkansas Library System (CALs), which means residents of Pulaski County, or those who work or attend school in Pulaski County, are eligible for a Laman library card with full borrowing privileges. Laman does not separate patron types according to residency of Pulaski County patrons.

CALS has chosen to withdraw from this reciprocity, as well as the Gateway Project, which allows residents in good standing in one county to apply for library cards in another, including many counties across the state, for no additional charge. With CALs’s withdrawal, Laman has assumed administration of the Gateway Project.

“Laman will continue to provide services to all Pulaski County residents and participate in both the Gateway Project and the Arkansas Digital Library Consortium,”



according to Laman’s executive director, Crystal Gates (pictured left). “Folks may be wondering why Laman hasn’t joined CALs,” Gates said. “It’s not just a matter of dollars and cents. It’s more a matter of a library being able to tailor services to its community. We are NLR’s municipal library. The city chose not to join back in the 1970s. The

option was considered again later, and then again last year. The two library systems have very different philosophies and policies. We’re interested in cooperating with other institutions, such as innovation hubs, technology centers, chambers of commerce, business groups, other libraries, and more, all in an effort to provide the best access possible to our community. We are also a fine-free library. These differences make us who we are. If we joined a regional system, we would lose our autonomy and tailored services.”

Gates has been working with the local Library Development District on a method for sharing resources among libraries all over Central Arkansas (at least seven different systems) in a way that would be more efficient than traditional Interlibrary Loan.

“We are considering striving to meeting our community’s needs,” she said. “We have computer skills classes ranging from basic use like how to use a mouse and set up email to Microsoft Word, and all the way up to graphic design and Microsoft and Adobe software suites. We have databases to help with job searches, resume building, and job interview skills. We have volunteer opportunities for those needing experience to fill in their resume. We have a new Quiet Lab for those needing to focus on study, and we are almost ready to offer specialized audio/visual software in The Studio for those wanting to learn to use that software for video editing, audio editing and creating. We also take requests and are working on a “check out the librarian” service that would open up individual, personalized classes. Our Teen Center and Art Galleries are world-class. If there is something you would like to see us offer, please let me know. You are most welcome to come visit with me about how we can continue to improve our offerings and services.”

*This article was found in
The Daily Record February 17-23, 2020
For more information about The Daily Record go to
www.dailyrecord.us*



Above is the Argenta Branch of the Laman Library which is located in the historic old Post Office Building in downtown North Little Rock—420 Main Street. 7

All About Sugar Substitutes

Found at webmd.com/diet

What's a Sugar Substitute?

A sugar substitute is an artificial (made in a lab) or natural (plant-based) substance that sweetens food and drink in place of sugar. Typically, sugar substitutes are hundreds of times sweeter than sugar and have few to no calories. They're a common sweetening choice for "diet" products such as sodas, sauces, baked goods, or sugar-free candies or gum.

Aspartame

Made from the amino acids aspartic acid and phenylalanine, it's a popular artificial sugar. It has calories, but



because it's some 200 times sweeter than sugar, you use less. It's in soda, gum, yogurt, desserts, and medicines. Equal and NutraSweet are common brands. You can't bake with it, because it isn't sweet after you heat it. People

with the rare condition phenylketonuria (PKU) shouldn't eat it because their bodies can't process it.

Saccharin

This lab-made sweetener has been around since 1879. It's calorie-free, and can sometimes leave a bitter aftertaste. You can use it in baking. You'll find it in processed foods like baked goods, canned fruit, gum, and soft drinks. If you're pregnant, you many want to avoid it, because it can cross through the placenta to your growing baby.

Sucralose

This product is about 600 times sweeter than sugar. It's made in a lab by altering a sucrose (sugar) molecule, so you might hear it called a non-nutritive sweetener. Your body doesn't absorb it, so it doesn't give you any calories. One brand name for it is Splenda. Often sucralose is in sodas, juices, sauces, syrups, candy, and desserts. You can buy it in a bag and use it to bake.



Stevia

This natural sugar substitute gets its sweet taste from the extract of

Stevia rebaudiana leaves. You'll often find it as liquid drops in the store, or as an ingredient in yogurts, baked goods, candy, and gum. You can use it as a sweetener in coffee or tea, or you can bake with it.

Monk Fruit

This sweetener is an extract from the Chinese monk fruit melon. The Chinese have used it for hundreds of years, but it's fairly new in the U.S. It's calorie-free and often mixed with other sugar substitutes. Monk fruit, or *lo han guo*, is in some juices, soft drinks, dairy products, condiments, and candies.



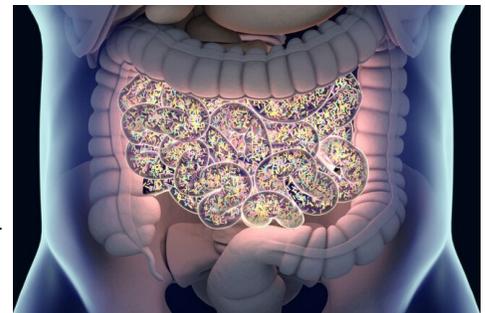
Sugar Alcohols

Sugar alcohols have features of both sugar and food alcohols (not the kind you find in drinks). They're carbohydrates that are either lab-made or

come from certain fruits. Most have "-itol" at the end of their name, like erythritol, maltitol, sorbitol, and xylitol. You can find them in processed foods like gum, hard candies, ice cream, and pudding, as well as mouthwash and toothpaste.

Are They Safe?

The FDA (Food and Drug Administration) has approved these artificial and natural sugar substitutes. The National Cancer Institute says there's no proof they cause cancer.



But there are some risks, especially if you overdo it. They may change your gut bacteria and cause digestive problems.

They're also linked to diseases such as type 2 diabetes and high blood pressure.

Are They Good for Weight Loss?

Yes, swapping out your sugar for a substitute might mean fewer calories in your food and drinks. But there's no strong proof that using them helps you lose weight.



Are They OK if You Have Diabetes?

Sugar substitutes can be a good option for satisfying your sweet tooth while keeping blood sugar levels under control. Keep your daily intake below the recommended level, and get your calories from whole, nutritious foods.



What is WebMD? It is an American Corporation known primarily as an online publisher of news and information pertaining to human health and well-being.

Stove Top Chicken Pie

Found in *The Essential Southern Living Cookbook*

- 8 frozen buttermilk biscuits
- 1 small sweet onion, diced
- 1 Tbsp. canola oil
- 1 (8 oz) pkg sliced fresh mushrooms
- 4 cups chopped cooked chicken (rotisserie would work!)
- 1 10 3/4 oz can reduced-fat cream of mushroom soup
- 1 cup low-sodium chicken broth
- 1/2 cup dry white wine
- 1/2 (8 oz) pkg 1/3-less fat cream cheese, cubed
- 1/2 (0.7 oz) envelope Italian dressing mix (about 2 tsp)
- 1 cup frozen baby peas, thawed

Bake biscuit according to package instructions.

Meanwhile, sauté onion in hot oil in a large skillet over medium-high heat 5 minutes or until golden. Add mushrooms, and sauté 5 minutes or until tender. Stir in chicken and next 5 ingredients; cook, stirring frequently, 5 minutes or until cheese melts and mixture is thoroughly heated. Stir in peas, and cook 2 minutes. Spoon chicken mixture over hot split biscuits.



Summer Squash Casserole

- 1 1/2 lb yellow squash
- 1 lb zucchini
- 1 small sweet onion, chopped
- 2 1/2 tsp salt, divided
- 1 c grated carrots
- 1 (10 3/4 oz) can cream of chicken soup
- 1 (8 oz) container sour cream
- 1 (8 oz) container whole water chestnuts, drained and chopped
- 1 (8 oz) package herb-seasoned stuffing mix
- 1/2 cup butter, melted

Preheat oven to 350°. Cut squash and zucchini into 1/4-inch-thick slices; place in a Dutch oven. Add chopped onion, 2 tsp. salt, and water to cover. Bring to a boil over medium-high heat, and cook 5 minutes; drain well.

Stir together grated carrots, next 3 ingredients, and remaining 1/2 tsp. salt in a large bowl; fold in squash mixture. Stir together stuffing and 1/2 cup melted butter, and spoon half of stuffing mixture in bottom of a lightly greased 13 x 9-inch baking dish. Spoon squash mixture over stuffing mixture, and top with remaining stuffing mixture.

Bake at 350° for 30 to 35 minutes or until bubbly and golden brown, shielding with aluminum foil after 20 to 25 minutes to prevent excessive browning, if necessary. Let stand 10 minutes before serving.



Laman and Argenta Branch Libraries

Both branches **close Monday and Tuesday, March 30 and 31**, for staff development training. Digital items are available through our website, lamanlibrary.org.

Dr. Seuss Celebration – Happy Birthday, Dr. Seuss! Argenta Branch hosts a special Storytime at 10 a.m. **March 7**.

DIY Diamond Galaxy – Introducing our Main Branch Makerspace Studio with a canvas painting program 1 p.m. **March 9** and 4 p.m. March 12. Registrations accepted under the Events & Programs tab at lamanlibrary.org.

Gardenfest 2020 – Bring items for the plant/seed swap, check out our new seed library, or just come enjoy the fun! With family crafts and activities, Gardenfest has something for everyone noon to 3 p.m. **March 14** at the Main Branch. Children will enjoy making edible "dirt." Plus, free hot dogs and lemonade will be given away while supplies last starting at 1 p.m., and Raptor Rescue of Central Arkansas will show magnificent birds of prey at 2. Master gardeners will be on hand with time for Q&A as well.

Professional Development Coaching Workshops - In March, Laman offers professional development continuing education credit in the Main Branch upstairs gallery on Wednesdays from noon to 1 p.m., Wednesdays 2 to 3 p.m., and Saturdays, March 7 and 21, from 10 to 11 a.m. No registration needed.

Argenta Branch Gallery and ArtWalk Opening – Laura Dierks Weishans' abstract exhibition, *The Shape of Things*, continues with free admission through March 13. Argenta Branch highlights the work of local sculptor Andy Huss with a Third-Friday opening reception, 5 to 8 p.m. March 20, and the exhibit continues through April 10.

Compassion Cultivation Training - Led by June Stewart, a certified CCT instructor, this eight-week class includes guided meditations, group exercises, and discussions designed to deepen compassion for ourselves and others. Classes are held at the Main Branch on Saturdays from 2 to 4 p.m. beginning March 21. Each week builds on the last as the discussion develops. Registrations accepted under the Events & Programs tab at lamanlibrary.org.

Spring Break Kids in the Kitchen – Ages 8 and up prepare and taste nutritious food at 10:30 a.m. during Spring Break, March 23 to 27, at Main Branch. Registrations accepted under the Events & Programs tab at lamanlibrary.org.

Movies – Enjoy free popcorn and a drink at Argenta Branch Library on Mondays at 1 p.m. with *American Made* on March 2, *Out of Liberty* March 9, *Spider-Man Far From Home* March 16, and *Frozen II* March 23. Main Branch LINC shows films upstairs at 6 p.m. Wednesdays with *Beauty and the Beast* March 4, *Cinderella* March 11, *Mary Poppins Returns* March 18, and *The BFG* March 25. All showings are free and open to the public.

Free Main Branch Computer Classes & Clubs – Take a closer look at films, podcasts, anime, and video games with our special clubs. **Film Club** meets March 2 at 6 p.m. **Anime Club** meets at 4 p.m. March 5. **Podcast Club** examines *Hell and Gone* 6 to 7 p.m. March 23. **Game Club** explores, plays, and discusses video games, role-playing games, and board games at 6 p.m. March 26. **Computer Basics** are covered 11 a.m. to noon on Tuesdays and Fridays. **Table Top Tuesdays** feature old-school gaming from 5 to 6 p.m., and **Retro Gaming** is 1 to 2 p.m. March 7 and 21. **Cyber Saturday** is 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on March 14 and 28 with tournaments beginning at 1 p.m. Soul Caliber Before is March 14, and Street Fighter V is offered March 28.

Argenta Branch Mini D&D - Polish your Dungeons and Dragons skills with a short campaign at 4 p.m. March 18.

Main Branch's Book Clubs – **Book Club** is open to all at 1 p.m. March 3. This month's story is *The Hill Women* by Cassie Chambers. Share your thoughts about T.D. Jakes' *Crushing: God Turns Pressure into Power* with the **Essence of Books** meeting at 6 p.m. March 24.

Argenta Branch Rock Painting - Kids paint one to take home or hide to spread good cheer throughout the community at 3:30 p.m. March 3 and 10.

Tolkien Tea Party – The Main Branch Teen Center invites 12- to 18-year-olds at 4 p.m. March 19.

Lit Tuesdays – Main Branch's literacy, learning and fun starts at 4 p.m. March 3 and 17.

Elementary Homework Help - A staff member explains the concepts at 4 p.m. March 5 and 19 in the Main Branch Children's Department.

Free Main Branch Fitness and DIY Classes – Register now for these 1 p.m. workshops: Kitty Planter on March 18, Magnolia Wreaths March 24, and an adorable Teddy Bear Towel on March 26. Registrations are accepted through our Calendar under the Events and Programs tab at lamanlibrary.org or at (501) 758-1720. In March, Main Branch offers **Adult Yoga** at 6 p.m. on Thursdays, and **Mixed Fit** is 11 a.m. on Saturdays. Meditation is 1 p.m. Thursdays.

Free Bingo Games - Everyone's a winner at 1:30 p.m. March 17 at Main Branch and 1 p.m. March 20 at Argenta Branch.

Argenta Branch Kids' Kitchen – Children of all ages enjoy reading a story and making a snack at 10:30 a.m. and 4 p.m. March 17.

Meditation and Mindfulness – Thirty minutes of relaxation at the Argenta Branch starting at 4 p.m. Mondays.

Equal Heart - Free meals are provided for ages 1-18 at the Main Branch from 3:30 to 4:15 p.m. weekdays and 2 to 2:45 p.m. Saturdays, except Feb. 17, when the library is closed.

Storytimes - Preschoolers enjoy stories, songs, and playtime at 10:30 a.m. on Tuesdays and Wednesdays at the Main Branch and Thursdays at the Argenta Branch. Lapsit Storytime is 10:30 a.m. on Wednesdays at the Main Branch.

We have these **March Birthdays**:

STACY PURDY	Laman Library	2	JASMINE ROBERTS	Laman Library	5
GINNY WILLIAMS	Laman Library	7	KENNETH FRAZIER	Laman Library	9
SUSAN SHIRLEY	Laman Library	17	FREDONNA WALKER	Laman Library	10 19

And this **March Anniversary**:

SHELBY REED	Laman Library	4 years
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**Peddlers Permit
City of North Little Rock**

Issued to: **Mel Dun**
Issued: **11/10/19**
Expires: **12/31/19**



EXAMPLE

Sex: Male
Eyes: Brown
Hair: Dun
Height: 15 hands
Employer: **Equine sunglasses**
Type of Goods Sold: **Sunglasses for horses**

City Clerk and Treasurer Diane Whitbey

By: **SAMPLE ONLY**
only valid with signature

Deputy City Clerk / Treasurer, Revenue

Question: *I am a lawyer but do not have an office or see clients in my home, am I required to have a business license?*

Answer: **Yes**...if you use your home address as your mailing address for your business, AND/OR if you advertise that you are doing business you are required to have a valid business license. This can include electronic ads, etc.

Reminder to residents:

If someone comes to your door, you do not have to answer or let them in. **If someone comes to your door and makes you uncomfortable please call the police.** If someone comes to your door and is unable to produce an ID issued by the City of North Little Rock City Clerk and Treasurer's Office (similar to the example on this page), please call **501-758-1234**.

In all cases, if you call **please provide a description of the person, location and vehicle description and license number if possible.** You can also call the North Little Rock City Clerk/Treasurer's Office Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m.— 4:30 p.m. to verify any business license or peddlers permit in our city at 501-975-8617.

North Little Rock History Commission



If you or someone you know has items of a historical interest (photos, newspaper clippings, keepsakes, etc.) to City of North Little Rock, please consider donating them to the NLR History Commission.

For more information, call 501-371-0755 or email nlrhistory@comcast.net.

The North Little Rock Convention & Visitor's Center wants to know about your upcoming events!

To submit events, visit www.NorthLittleRock.org or call Stephanie Slagle, Public Relations Representative at 501-758-1424.

All businesses of any type are required to have a current City of North Little Rock Business/Privilege License if they conduct business within the city.

All businesses conducting business on January 1 of the new year will be required to have a current license for that day and/or any subsequent date. (Example: Business is open in January, then closes January 31...full fee is due).

Please contact 501-975-8617 with any questions regarding North Little Rock Business License requirements and fees.

To see a list of issued permits, visit the city website at www.nlr.ar.gov, then click on City Clerk/Treasurer, followed by Licensed Peddlers.

To see an individual ID/Permit, click on the person's name. **All licensed door to door peddlers are required to have the ID issued by the City Clerk's Office with them at all times.**

Currently, we have the following permitted door to door solicitor:

Melvin Jackson, Legalshield—expires 3-1-2020

All 2019 Business / Privilege Licenses expired December 31, 2019.

All persons doing business **of any kind** within the city limits of North Little Rock are required to have a Business/Privilege License. This includes home-based such as lawn care or internet sales.

****If a business operates 1 day into the new year, it is required to obtain a business license at the full fee.****

If you have been licensed in North Little Rock previously and **HAVE NOT** received a renewal letter, please contact us **ASAP!**

If you have any questions, please contact the North Little Rock City Clerk's Office at 501-975-8617.

North Little Rock City Council Schedule

The North Little Rock City Council meets the 2nd and 4th Monday of each month at **6:00 p.m.** in the City Council Chambers in City Hall (300 Main Street, North Little Rock).

For more information, please contact the City Clerk's Office at 501-975-8617 or email Diane Whitbey at Dwhitbey@nlr.ar.gov.

The City Council Agenda can be found at www.nlr.ar.gov, then click on the Government tab, followed by Council Agenda.

City Offices located at 120 Main

IS/Data Processing, Kathy Stephens	975-8820
Finance, Ember Strange	975-8802
Information	975-8888
Human Resources, Betty Anderson	975-8855
Planning, Shawn Spencer	975-8835
Purchasing, Mary Beth Bowman	975-8881
Utilities Accounting, Terrell Milton	975-8888

City Council Members

Ward 1	Debi Ross Beth White	753-0733 758-2738
Ward 2	Linda Robinson Maurice Taylor	945-8820 690-6444
Ward 3	Steve Baxter Ron Harris	804-0928 758-2877
Ward 4	Charlie Hight Jane Ginn	758-8396 749-5344

Utility Payment Assistance and Other Numbers

Central AR Development Council.....	501-603-0909
Little Rock Catholic Charities...	501-664-0640 ext 459
Saint Francis House.....	501-664-5036
Watershed.....	501-378-0176
Helping Hand of Arkansas.....	501-372-4388
River City Ministries.....	501-376-6694
Arkansas Metro.....	501-420-3824
Arkansas Food Bank.....	501-565-8121
American Red Cross.....	501-748-1021
Salvation Army.....	501-374-9296

Other Elected Officials

Mayor Joe A. Smith	975-8601
City Clerk/Treasurer Diane Whitbey	975-8617
City Attorney Amy Fields	975-3755
District Court Judge Randy Morley	791-8562
District Court Judge Paula Juels Jones	791-8559

Telephone Numbers for City Hall

Mayor's Office.....	501-975-8601
Joe A. Smith	
City Clerk & Treasurer.....	501-975-8617
Diane Whitbey	
Communications.....	501-975-8833
Jim Billings	
External Relations.....	501-975-8605
Margaret Powell	
Fit 2 Live.....	501-975-8777
Isaac Henry	
Special Projects.....	501-975-3737
Steve Shields	

North Little Rock Curbside Recycling schedule for the month of March



Mar 2—6 recycle
Mar 9-13 no pickup
 Mar 16—20 recycle
Mar 23-27 no pickup
 Mar 30—Apr 3 recycle

March Anniversaries

<i>Name</i>	<i>Dept</i>	<i># Yrs</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Dept</i>	<i># Yrs</i>
ERWIN, GARY	Airport	4	SPEARS, BRYAN	Parks Maint	15
JONES, PATRICIA	Animal Cont	25	O'DELL, CHARLES	Parks Maint	3
GARDNER, ANTHONY	Animal Cont	22	MARTIN, DELVIN	Parks Maint	2
KABAT, ANITA	Animal Cont	7	SMITH, ZACHARY	Parks Maint	2
WYATT, DANIEL	Animal Cont	1	MORGAN, YESENIA	Parks Maint	1
BREEN, JOSEPH	Courts 1st	8	SHUMPERT, JAMES	Parks Maint	1
MEADOWS, DONELL	Courts 1st	3	HENSON, REGINA	Parks Rec	33
PRICE, RUTH	Courts 2nd	15	WILBON, KATRINA	Parks Rec	32
GREGORY, LANA	Electric	22	HOLDER, PATRICIA	Parks Rec	9
HALSEY, JACKIE	Electric	22	CARUTHERS, QUINTTONIA	Parks Rec	3
POZZA, RICHARD	Electric	22	BRIMLEY, JOHN	Parks Rec	3
HOUSTON, JAMES	Electric	18	CARTER, TALON	Parks Rec	3
NICHOLAS, CHRISTOPHER	Electric	15	SPENCER, SHAWN	Planning	18
HARRIS RAY, CHRISTOPHER	Electric	15	BOWERS, JOSHUA	Planning	1
WILSON, JAMES	Electric	13	KELLEY, SCOTTIE	Planning	1
DUNLAP, MARTIN	Electric	4	ALSTON, JOHN	Police	23
BONNER, AMANDA	Finance	20	GANN, CHRIS	Police	23
HARPER, SHELIA	Finance	1	GARRETT, PATRICK	Police	23
BENNETT, RENALDO	Fire	35	KING, JEN-CHUAN	Police	23
GRIMES, STEVEN	Fire	35	MERLO, MICHAEL	Police	23
POUNDERS, JOHN	Fire	35	FELTON, LINDA	Police	22
ALBERS, RICKY	Fire	30	BLEVINS, MICHAEL	Police	20
EVANS, STEPHEN	Fire	30	FORNEY, JOSHUA	Police	20
PLATT, CHARLES	Fire	30	LACY, DENISE	Police	20
TUCKER, GERALD	Fire	30	STEELE, DONALD	Police	19
DIXON, MATTHEW	Fire	29	THOMAS, MATTHEW	Police	19
MUNDY, BENJAMIN	Fire	29	CRAIG, REBA	Police	18
JONES, BILLY	Fire	26	CROWDER, JON	Police	18
CHASSELS, AARON	Fire	21	CUPPS, ROBERT	Police	17
DURAN, DANTANIEL	Fire	9	HALEY, DANIEL	Police	17
HENDERSON, AARON	Fire	9	KINKAID, BRYAN	Police	16
SCHMIDT, JACOB	Fire	9	MODDRELL, LINDA	Police	3
WORTHAM, CODY	Fire	9	BLAND, TIMOTHY	Police	2
ANDERSON, BETTY	HR	19	EDWARDS, LUCAS	Police	2
JONES, KRISTEN	HR	3	STEWART, NICHOLAS	Police	2
MAXEY, BRECK	IT	26	WILBOURN, DAVID	Public Works	9
BARBER, JOHN	IT	17	GUNN III, WALTER	Public Works	8
FLEMING, CAMILLE	Legal	6	PRIDMORE, RICKY	Sanitation	9
MILLER, MARIE-BERNARDE	Legal	4	RODGERS, DAVID	Sanitation	6
FIELDS, AMY	Legal	3	RHODES, BERNADETTE	Senior Center	9
SADLER, LEEANN	OES	11	AGNEW, COZETTA	Senior Center	3
ANDERSON, KYRA	OES	2	BANKS, VERTINA	Senior Center	2
BRYANT, JAMIE	Parks Fundland	3	VANG, BRUCE	Senior Center	1
DANIELS, TEANA	Parks Fundland	1	JERNIGAN, EDWARD	Street	13
JOHNSON, DAJSAMONE	Parks Fundland	1	STEELE, JASON	Street	13
ARMSTRONG, HANNAH	Parks Fundland	1	LEE, CLIFFORD	Street	6
TAYLOR, NAQUIA	Parks Fundland	1	ROARK, KRISTOPHER	Street	6
BARENTINE, RONALD	Parks Golf	6			

March Birthdays

Name	Dept	Date	Name	Dept	Date
EVANS, BENJAMIN	Fire	1	LESTER, JESSICA	Police	15
THOMPSON, MICHAEL	Fire	1	JOSEPH, MARK	Parks Golf	15
HOPE, IAN	Parks Maint	1	KNIFE, JASON	Fire	16
COONEY, KENNEDY	HR	2	JORDAN, MICHAEL	Fire	17
GRADY, TAMIA	Parks Funland	2	HUMPHRIES, TODD	Police	17
HEISER, DAVID	Traffic	3	GARDNER, OMAR	Parks Maint	17
JENKINS JR, ERICK	Parks Funland	3	PEEBLES, JAYLEN	Parks Golf	17
HORSLEY, FARRAH	Electric	4	USSERY, SHELLEY	City Clerk/Treas	18
BRADLEY, CHRISTOPHER	Fire	4	GARRINGER, DONALD	Fire	18
FROST, DOMINIQUE	Police	4	POOLE, DENNIS	Fire	18
CROSS, JUSTIN	Police	5	USSERY, BRANDON	Fire	18
BRUCKS, SAMUEL	Police	6	FISHER, JON	Police	18
HANKIR, NASEEM	Parks Golf	6	JONES, ALYSON	Planning	19
WETZLER, DIANNE	Electric	8	SPRIGGS, ROBERT	Police	19
SMITH, BRODY	Fire	8	TUBBS, MARK	Police	19
BARNES JR, HERMAN	Senior Center	8	JONES, JAVIAN	Parks Rec	19
KEATHLEY, STEVEN	Parks Maint	8	BRYANT, JAMIE	Parks Funland	19
SHIELDS, STEVE	Admin	9	TAYLOR, BECKY	City Clerk/Treas	21
GRAYSON, BRIAN	Animal Contr	9	EVANS, STEPHEN	Fire	24
CARTER, JARROD	Fire	9	MIDDLETON, WILLIAM	Street	24
ALMON, WARREN	Fire	10	ANTHONY, ORLANDO	Parks Maint	24
WILSON, CHRISTOPHER	Fire	10	MIDDLETON, DEBORAH	Courts 1	25
MAULDIN, ROBERT	HR	10	BURKS, CINDY	OES	26
WEBB, HEIDI	Police	10	WARD, PATRICK	Police	26
NORTHCUTT, JARED	Electric	11	KIMES JR, NATHAN	Police	27
MONTGOMERY, ERIC	Fire	11	AMBROSE, DOMINIQUE	Electric	28
FERGUSON, EARMON	Police	11	FENNESSEE JR, CORNELIUS	Fire	28
SPENCER, LESLIE	Sanitation	11	WILLIS, CRYSTAL	Commerce	28
SMITH, JOHN	Street	11	MCEUEN, ELLISA	Police	28
HARLAN, TRENT	Fire	12	EVERETT, THOMAS	Traffic	29
ROBINSON, DAVID	Fire	12	CAPLINGER, JEFFREY	Parks Spec Proj	29
BEASTON, RICHARD	Police	12	KINCAID JR, WILLIAM	Electric	30
TEMPLE, JOHN	Police	12	HELTON, CARMEN	Police	30
THORNTON, GARY	Code	12	RAY, VINCENT	Police	30
HADDOCK, TYSON	Fire	13	PERALTA, MAGDALENA	HR	31
TUCKER, ALTORIA	Sanitation	13	MCGOWAN, SEAN	Police	31
BROOKS, BLAKE	Parks Maint	13	BOWIE, TYLER	AIMM	31
ROE, JASON	Fire	15			

Information regarding employee anniversaries and birthdates is provided by Human Resources the prior year (i.e. 2019 was provided in 2018). So if an employee name is on the list that has retired or resigned, please disregard. Also, typos happen! Please let me know if a name is spelled wrong and a correction will be included next month! For employees who leave the city and come back in a different capacity or department, your length of service may change as well. Example, I worked in the Mayor's Office 10 years, then was elected City Clerk. I have been in the City Clerk's Office 19 years. My total service with the city is 29 years. If this scenario applies to you, please email me at least one month before the month of your anniversary month so I can include your total service to the City of NLR! Diane (Dwhitbey@nlr.ar.gov)

Arkansas Historic Preservation Program—Sandwiching in History



The Arkansas Historic Preservation Program will visit The Baker, located at 501 Main Street in North Little Rock on March 6, 2020.

Constructed by A. E. Colburn and Henry Glenn from 1897 to 1899, this house is one of the last surviving Queen Anne style residences in North Little Rock. After several owners, the house was purchased by the Baker family in 1916, who owned the property until 1977. After a restoration in the 1980s, the house was transformed into a bed-and-breakfast during the 1990s. Today the house is known as The Baker, a boutique hotel.

This event is free and open to the public. This event does not require and RSVP. Those attending the tours are encouraged to wear comfortable shoes, seasonally and weather appropriate clothing, and exercise respect for property owners and pedestrians when parking. Tours general occur rain or shine.

The Baker is a new concept in traveling. It includes designer amenities, full service housekeeping, and complimentary minibars, just like full-service hotels. Also includes self-check-in, keypad door locks, and text responses to every guest request. The Baker is a historic icon right on Main Street in the Argenta Arts District of North Little Rock. Owners of this beautiful historic property are North Little Rock residents Stacy and Nathan Hamilton. For more information visit www.stayatthebaker.com.



History...what does it mean?

According to Merriam-Webster (*online*) history is:

1. A tale or story...
2. A chronological record of significant events (such as those affecting a city) often including an explanation of their causes (*example: On the Opposite Shore—The Making of North Little Rock by Cary Bradburn...*)
3. A branch of knowledge that records and explains past events...
4. Events that form the subject matter of a history.

How about a bit of **North Little Rock History**? *The founding of North Little Rock is shaded by nuance that requires some explanation. No lone date can fix the beginning; even the city's name has changed more than once. But it is true that the **City of North Little Rock** sprang into existence on February 23, 1904, after waging a fight for independence in the legislature and courts. Thus, **North Little Rock** celebrated it's 100th year in 2004.*

Our history includes political, economic and social developments.

So, what is your history? Were you born and raised in **North Little Rock**? Are your parents from **North Little Rock**? How many generations of your family have called our city home?



Have you ever visited the **North Little Rock Heritage Center** (fka History Commission Building) at **506 Main Street** in the downtown area of our city known as **Argenta**? Did you know the building is the oldest remaining **Little Rock** Fire Station structure? Did you know it housed North Little Rock City Hall offices while a new building at 300 Main Street was under construction? Which by the way, still houses City Hall.

North Little Rock is a city full of history. A group of volunteers have joined together and created the non-profit **Friends of North Little Rock History**. The Friends group is kicking off a major fundraising effort. Funds collected will be used to create a state of the art exhibit space within our building at 506 Main.

In case you've missed the news lately, downtown **North Little Rock—Argenta** IS a destination!

We hope you will be a part of our project! To find out how to *get involved* or *make a donation*, please contact **501-371-0755**.



Annual Gala Carousel Ball

will be held ***Saturday, April 4, 2020***
at the ***Patrick Henry Hays Senior Citizens Center***
401 Pershing Boulevard, North Little Rock

Dinner • Dancing • Entertainment

Live and Silent Auctions

Music by the Warren Crow Band

Black Tie Optional

Master of Ceremonies
Brooksie Reed-Duncan

Auctioneer Donald R. Weese, III

\$50 per person (\$25 is tax deductible)
Table Reservations Required

RSVP by April 1, 2020

For more information call
Jeanette Flemister at 501-868-1348

Proceeds benefit **North Little Rock Heritage-Bowker-Willow Houses**
the **Patrick Henry Hays Senior Citizens Center**,
and other **community service projects** of the
North Little Rock Woman's Club

The
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
North Little Rock

The
DIFFERENCE is YOU!



Honoring Outstanding Individuals
in North Little Rock's Police, Fire
and Emergency Services Departments

PUBLIC SAFETY AWARDS BANQUET

TUESDAY, APRIL 7 • 11:30 AM
WYNDHAM RIVERFRONT HOTEL
INDIVIDUAL TICKETS \$25/TABLE OF TEN \$250

To Sponsor or Purchase Tickets Contact Brenda at
501-372-5959 or brenda@nlrchamber.org

Presenting Sponsors:

*Centennial Bank
Smith Family Funeral Homes
CHI St. Vincent*

*Ashley Group Commercial Real Estate
Baptist Health
Manpower*

North Little Rock Lions Club
Annual Bob Moore Memorial
Fish Fry
Friday, April 17, 2020



Pond Raised Catfish And Breaded Chicken Strips
With All The Trimmings

Serving 4:30PM Until 6:30PM
Burns Park Hospitality House In North Little Rock
Price: \$12.00

Tickets will be available at the door



We Serve

Since 1917, Lions clubs have offered people the opportunity to give something back to their communities. From involving members in projects as local as cleaning up an area park or as far reaching as bringing sight to the world's blind, Lions clubs have always embraced those committed to building a brighter future for their community.