

North Little Rock e-Newsletter

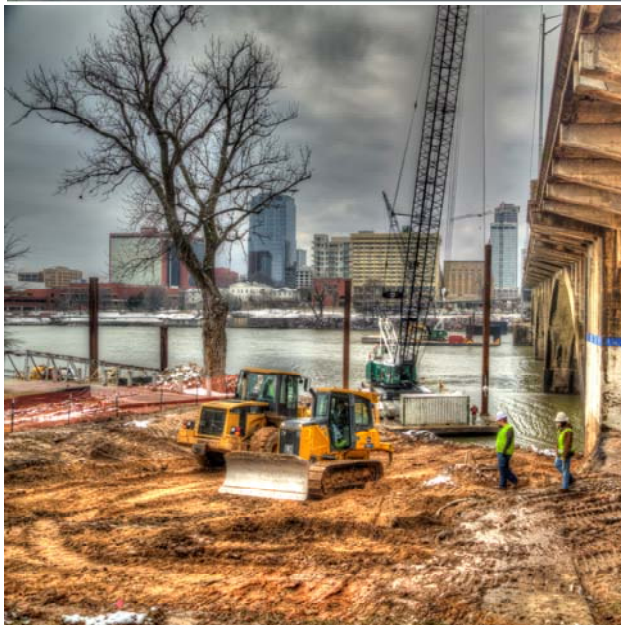
Provided by Diane Whitbey, City Clerk and Treasurer

March 2015

North Little Rock e-Newsletter

If you have information you would like to share with other city employees, residents and businesses throughout North Little Rock, then let us know. The City Clerk's office provides a monthly *e-letter* to those who subscribe through the North Little Rock website. To sign up, email Dwhitbey@nlr.ar.gov.

New Route for Pedestrian/Bike Trail



The first public inconvenience resulting from the Broadway Bridge replacement began last month. The staging areas and pre-construction work is making it necessary to detour the Arkansas River Trail onto Riverfront Drive for about a quarter of a mile. New signage and crosswalks have been added to help facilitate the new, temporary route. Thanks for your patience and understanding.

The existing Broadway Bridge will be demolished and closed to traffic for six months beginning May 27, 2016, and the new bridge will open by Nov. 27 of the same year, according to a preliminary schedule put together by the contractor for the \$98.4 million project.

Much of the work in the 20 months leading up to the closure will take place underneath the existing bridge that crosses the Arkansas River between the downtowns of Little Rock and North Little Rock or off site.



"Where's Mel"? Be the 1st person to call 975-8617 and tell us where you found him hiding and win a prize!

**North Little Rock
Animal Control**
For more information call
501-791-8577

Why Spay or Neuter?

The decision to spay or neuter is an important one for pet owners. But it can be

the single best decision you make for his/her long-term welfare.

Did you know...

Getting your pet spayed or neutered can:

- Reduce the number of homeless pets killed
- Improve your pet's health
- Reduce unruly behavior
- Save on the cost of pet care

Pets are homeless everywhere

In every community, in every state, there are homeless animals. In the US, there are an estimated 6—8 million homeless animals entering animal shelters every year. Very few are adopted. Tragically, the rest are euthanized. These are healthy, sweet pets who would have made great companions.

Not all animals euthanized in shelters are the offspring of homeless "street" animals—these are the puppies and kittens of cherished family pets and even purebreds.

Spaying and neutering is the only permanent, 100% effective method of birth control for dogs and cats.

Your pet's health

A USA Today article (May 2013) cites that pets who live in the states with the highest rates of spaying/neutering also live the longest. According to the report, neutered male dogs live 18% longer than un-neutered male dogs and spayed female dogs live 23% longer than unspayed females. The report goes on to add that in Mississippi, the lowest-ranking state for pet longevity, 44% of the dogs are not neutered or spayed.

Part of the reduced lifespan of unaltered pets can be attributed to their increased urge to roam, exposing them to fights with other animals, getting struck by cars, and other mishaps.

Another contributor to the increased longevity of altered pets involves the reduced risk of certain types of cancers. Unspayed female cats and dogs have a greater chance of developing pyometra (a fatal uterine infection), uterine cancer, and other cancers of the reproductive system.

Medical evidence indicates that females spayed before their first heat are

Did you know female felines usually go into heat 4 to 5 days every 3 weeks during breeding season?

typically healthier (Many veterinarians now sterilize dogs and cats as young as eight weeks of age.)

Male pets who are neutered eliminate their chances of getting testicular cancer, and it is thought they have lowered rates of prostate cancer, as well.

Getting your pets spayed/neutered will not change their fundamental personality, like their protective instinct.

Curbing bad behavior

Unneutered dogs are much more assertive and prone to urine-marking (lifting his leg) than neutered dogs. Although it is most often associated with male dogs, females may do it, too. Spaying or neutering your dog should reduce urine-marking and may stop it altogether.

For cats the urge to spray is extremely strong in an intact cat, and the simplest solution is to get yours neutered or spayed by 4 months of age before there's even a problem. Neutering solves 90 percent of all marking issues, even in cats that have been doing it for a while. It can also minimize howling, the urge to roam, and fighting with other males.

In both cats and dogs, the longer you wait, the greater the risk you run of the surgery not doing the trick because the

behavior is so ingrained.

Other behavioral problems that can be ameliorated by spay/neuter include:

Roaming—especially when females are "in heat."

Aggression: Studies also show that most dog bites involve dogs who are unaltered.

Excessive barking, mounting, and other dominance-related behaviors.

While getting your pet spayed/neutered can help curb undesirable behaviors, it will not change their fundamental personality, like their protective instinct.

Cost cutting

In many city's renewing your pet's license can be more expensive. Many areas have spay/neuter laws that require pets to be sterilized, or require people with unaltered pets to pay higher license renewal fees.

Low cost Spay/Neuter

The city of North Little Rock Animal Control and non-profit North Little Rock Friends of Animals provide low cost spay and neuter for qualifying families. For information call 791-8577.



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

Need a new addition to your family?
Call
501-791-8577
...we've got the perfect companion for you!



North Little Rock Fire Department

PROMOTIONS

Last month, the North Little Rock Fire Department held a Promotion Ceremony.

Members promoted were (left to right)
 Captain John Pflasterer to Chief of the Fire Marshal's Office

Lieutenant Ed Faubion to Captain

Firefighter Dustin Free to Lieutenant

Below: Captain Lynn Dereuisseaux presented Lt. Free a plaque in honor of his contributions to the Union and the community for his work heading up the 2014 Christmas Bicycle Drive.



Disaster Supply Kit

Arkansas Department of Emergency Management

Preparedness is everyone's responsibility. During the first few hours or days following a disaster, essential services may not be available. Citizens must be prepared for self-sustainability until help arrives.

So, where do you start? Put together an Emergency Supply Kit that will meet the needs of your family (and pets). The kit should be tailored to meet the basic needs of your family for a 72 hour period. Store your emergency supplies in one location that is easily accessible if evacuation is required. Items may be stored in a large storage bin, suitcase, duffel bag or individual packs.

Emergency Needs

Battery-Powered Radio

Water Storage (1 gal/day/person)

Manual Can Opener

Candles

Flashlight and Batteries

Sleeping Bag and Blankets

Utility Knife

Non-Perishable Food Items

First Aid Kit

Water Purification Tablets

Waterproof Matches

Extra Eyeglasses/Contacts

(Suggested non-perishable food items: ready-to-eat foods in non-breakable containers, canned meats, juice, fruits and vegetables, powdered milk, infant foods, crackers, peanut butter, freeze-dried and dehydrated foods.)

Sanitation Kit

Plastic Bucket with Lid

Aluminum Foil

Paper Cups and Plates

Plastic Utensils

Toilet Paper

Disinfectant

Personal Hygiene Needs

Baby Supplies

Plastic Bags and Ties

Paper Towels

Personal Toiletries

Soap (Bar or Liquid)

...continued from page 3...

Other Emergency Needs

- Pen and Paper
- Money
- Address Book and Phone #s
- Work Gloves
- Basic Tools

Standard First Aid Kit

- First Aid Manual
- Aspirin or Pain Relievers
- Prescription Medication
- Laxatives
- Diarrhea Medicine
- Syrup of Ipecac
- Petroleum Jelly
- Soap
- Salt
- Gauze
- Band-aid
- Thermometer
- Matches
- Tweezers
- Baking Soda
- Micropore Adhesive, Paper Tape
- Cotton Balls
- Cotton Swabs
- Safety Pins
- Scissors
- Rubbing Alcohol
- Needles
- Heavy String
- Splints (popsicle sticks)

Car Survival Kit

- Maintain at least 1/2 tank of gas
- First Aid Kit
- Radio and Batteries
- Flashlight and Batteries
- Jumper Cables
- Non-perishable Food Items
- Bag of Sand, Shovel and Tools
- Blanket or Sleeping Bag
- Sundry Kit, Paper and Pencil, Tissues
- Baby Wipes, Essential Medications
- Waterproof Matches and Candles
- Fire Extinguisher
- Bottled Water
- Reflectors and Flares

Make Copies of All Legal Papers

- Marriage License
- Wills
- Insurance Policies
- Home Mortgage/Rental Agreement
- Auto/Motor Home Ownership
- Boat/Trailer Ownership
- Jewelry Appraisals
- Drivers License
- Bank Accounts

Establish and Out-of-State 24 Hour Telephone Contact

Calls out will not overload phone lines as will calls coming into a disaster area. Relatives should be informed on procedures to call the phone contact **before** a disaster occurs. Individual location and status should be requested. Take color pictures of every room plus pictures of valuables. Send one copy of legal papers and one copy of pictures to an out-of-state contact.



Plan How Your Family Will Stay in Contact if Separated by Disaster

- Pick two meeting places:
1. A location that's a safe distance from your home in case of fire.
 2. A place outside your neighborhood in case you can't return home.

Meet with Neighbors

Plan how the neighborhood could work together after a disaster. Know your neighbors' skills (medical, technical). Consider how you could help neighbors who have special needs, such as elderly or disabled persons. Make plans for child care in case parents can't get home.

How to Store Water

If you need to find water outside your home, use the following sources and be sure to purify the water by:

- Boiling
- Disinfection (household liquid bleach: 16 drops/gal. of water, stir and let stand 30 minutes)
- Distillation (boil pot water and collect the vapor by tying a cup to the upside down pot lid—the cup shouldn't dangle in the water—it will condense back to water in the cup)

Sources:

- Rainwater
- Streams, rivers, and other moving bodies of water
- Ponds and lakes
- Natural Springs

Other Considerations:

- Stock supplies to last several days to a week for each family member
- Be prepared to relocate to a shelter during a prolonged power outage
- Have extra cash on hand in case electronic transactions (ATM card, credit cards, etc.) cannot be processed
- Work with your family in taking about steps each needs to take to be ready if disaster happens.

Emergency Kit for Pets

- Extra Food
- Extra medications
- Kitty Litter
- Large Capacity self-feeder and water dispenser



For more information contact:
501-683-6700 or email www.adem.arkansas.gov

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).

Central Arkansas Water—began work on water rates for 2016-2019...no anticipated increase in 2016. Long time employee Darrell Boggs retired and will become CEO of Arkansas One Call and ARKUPS.

Laman Library—71 programs had 1,461 attendees. 833 people visited 'Small Works' exhibit at Laman Library. 1,256 people visited 'The Grand Ole Opry' and 'Beyond Layers' exhibits at the Argenta Branch.

Neighborhood Services—Mailed 3 neighborhood group and Neighborhood News newsletters to 3,790 households. Attended various meetings and assisted neighborhood associations with a variety of issues.

Hays Center—960 new members joined in 2014. Trips included Bryant Senior Center, Murray's Dinner Theater, Leon's Steak House in Pine Bluff, Hot Springs Jazz Society, Searcy Senior Center, Hot Springs Winery Tour with lunch at Zoe's, Dondies Sea Food Buffett and a Red Hat Trip. Reopened Aerobics pool which had been closed to refinish the plaster. Researching request for WiFi at center. In December had 1,533 volunteer service hours in 35 departments citywide.

IS—112 work orders, 9 web postings (departments are now posting their own information), multiple ongoing projects in majority of city departments.

Utilities Accounting—

Electric bad debt expense January: \$21,819
New accounts installed: 973
Accounts finalized: 868

Customer related calls—8,239, direct contact with Customer Service—2,204, inside teller payments received 8,490, drive-thru teller payments—4,955.

Street Department—Patchwork citywide. Cut and cleaned alleys in downtown area. Ran down Greenlea Lake, flushed pipes and basins around city. Repaired sinkhole in Stonelinks and on East Bethany. Cleaned ditch along edge of airport.

Sanitation—Collected and disposed of 1,556.73 tons (3,113,460 lbs) of household garbage/rubbish. Yard Waste crews collected and disposed 164 loads; 369 cubic yards of mixed debris along with 4,383 cubic yards of green waste. Leaf crews collected 99 loads (3,637.0 cubic yards) of loose leaves (note: Leaf crews working 9 hour days 6 days a week. Several move-outs picked up and 327 tires. Issued 56 Sanita-

tion Code notices/letters and 6 citations for non-compliance.

Traffic Services—approved 539 barricade applications for permits. Repaired or replaced 84 signs and 20 posts.

Safety Department—settled claim for replacement of camera \$12,266.64, settled claim for pole and light \$1,592.90. Trying to collect on claim involving Traffic Control Cabinet—\$11,780.35.

Police—End of year: Theft from motor vehicles – 31.55%, all property crimes –24.25%, Robbery – 36.96%. No homicides. Use of Social Media through Facebook up to 5,666. Use of Facebook resulted in arrests related to convenience store robbery where clerk was shot. January 1, 30 officers transferred within the Patrol Division to new areas to allow fresh eyes in neighborhoods. Shop With A Cop Program provided 50 pairs of winter gloves to the Friendly Chapel to be given to homeless people.



Fire—Total Incidents: 910

Residential Fires: 23
Vehicle Fires: 8
Rescue/EMS: 504
Other Responses: 306
Total Responses: 1,610
Other Structure Fires: 1
False Alarms/Malfunctions: 55

Haz Mat Responses: 11
Total Fire Losses: \$355,154
Total Value: \$2,444,654
Total Saved: \$2,089,500
Training: 3,822 hours
Building Surveys: 62

Office of Emergency Services/911—

Calls for service: 19,992
CAD incidents: 9,947
For the year 2014 received 115,263 (911) calls.

Electric Department—

38,516—customers, Peak Power—141,574 KW, Territory— 60 square miles, miles of wire—544.8 miles, # Transformers—11,248, Street lights—10,999 (246 repaired), Smart meters 35,692— Revenue \$6,422,786.
No major outages.



City Clerk/Collector—1%

Hotel—\$20,400.10; 2% Hotel/Motel—\$40,295.51; Mixed Drink Tax—\$47,136.39; Restaurant Tax—\$477,747.77. Issued 60 new business licenses, processed 1,652 renewals (including Beer / Liquor), 175 accounts under review.

Continued on next page...



Code Enforcement—66 assigned calls, 335 initiated calls, 57 citations, 299 notices, 95 vehicles tagged, 35 structures inspected, rental inspections 16, 15 food service inspections, 2 search warrants, 2 houses demolished by city, 5 houses demolished by owner.

Secured 3 vacant houses, mowed 0 vacant lots, mowed 0 with structures, picked up 162 tires.

Animal Control—NLR

Incoming Animals—187, Adopted 65, Reclaimed 27, Euthanized 109 Citations issued 109 Vouchers (low cost spay/neuter) Dogs 24, Cats 20, Calls for Service 576



Pulaski County Incoming Animals—75, Adopted 23, Reclaimed 3, Euthanized 38

Hosted class for Animal Control and Law Enforcement Officers from multiple agencies statewide covering basics of Animal Control, Rabies and laws pertaining to Rabies Quarantine. Participated in Southern Paws Transport event at Little Rock's Bar Louie where lots of puppies found new homes. East Initiative Class at Lakewood Middle School hosted Paws and Claws Pictures event which raised over \$400 for Friends of Animals. Participated in North Shore Animal League's 2nd Annual Kitten Bowl event January 31 in conjunction with Hallmark Channel's event. Impounded 21 illegal Pit Bull dogs and sent three rabies specimens to the State Health Department for testing.

North Little Rock Visitors Bureau / A&P

Visitor Information Center (Burns Park) had 703 visitors. Arkansas Inland Maritime Museum had 889 visitors including birthday parties, overnight stays, school groups, etc. RV Park had 730 RV's with an average stay of 4.15 days. Top 5 restaurants (based on sales) Golden Corral, Red Lobster, Chick Fil-A, Olive Garden and Cracker Barrel.

Parks and Recreation—Free Basic Tax Assistance is available to taxpayers making \$53,000 or less, with disabilities, elderly and/or limited English speaking persons. The service is provided by Volunteer Income Tax Assistance retired/trained IRS employees every Tuesday through April 13, 2015 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the North Little Rock Community Center. Park Ranger Ian Hope and his partner Shep are educating youth about snake habits, habitat, behavior, eating preferences and more through presentations.

The Park Ranger has three 'staff snakes' named Twisty, Corny and Reggie. For more information on this presentation call Ian at 580-7095. A new sport is being considered called 'Foot-Golf' where players kick a soccer ball into a 21" hole on the golf course. Burns Park has a fully handicapped accessible canoe and kayak launch (the only one in central Arkansas) build with a grant from the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission. It is located on White Oak Bayou by the archery range. People are encouraged to visit the new and improved nlrpr.org website for information and upcoming events. North Little Rock Parks and Recreation Starz competed in the CheerSport Little Rock Grand Championships and won the *Best of Recreation Award*.

Finance—

Revenues (MTD—January)

Taxes	\$ 328,076.34
Licenses/Permits	\$ 906,005.50
Fines/Forfeitures	\$ 228,749.16
Local Option Sales Tax	\$1,999,872.36
Intergovernmental-State	\$ 0.00
Franchises	\$ 321,918.69
Investment/Misc	\$ 16,111.90
User Fees	\$ 94,417.98
Utility Transfer	\$ 44,454.43
Grants & Other	\$ 83,313.57
Transfer from Electric	\$ 923,080.00
Total Revenue:	\$4,945,799.93

Expenditures

Administration	\$ 547,726.00
Animal Shelter	\$ 54,022.30
Special Appropriations	\$(1,378,961.23)
City Clerk	\$ 23,704.07
Emergency Services	\$ 144,578.05
Finance	\$ 63,978.13
Fire	\$1,064,897.11
Health	\$ 8,436.66
Legal	\$ 41,211.05
1st Court	\$ 46,444.60
2nd Court	\$ 43,155.28
Public Defender	\$ 645.02
Human Resources	\$ 48,733.94
Commerce	\$ 17,578.18
Planning	\$ 19,404.63
Police	\$1,651,339.14
Code Enforcement	\$ 48,202.44
Public Works	\$ 54,150.55
Neighborhood Services	\$ 12,161.92
Sanitation	\$ 305,407.08
Vehicle Maintenance	\$ 99,508.27
Senior Citizens Center	\$ 64,914.43
Communications	\$ 6,861.18
Fit 2 Live	\$ (10,066.09)
Total Expenditures:	\$2,978,033.00

Practice Safe Computer & Email Use

From the North Little Rock IT Department



A common (and unfortunately, effective) technique for luring e-mail users into opening virus-

launching attachments is to send messages that would appear to be relevant or important to many of their potential recipients.

One way of accomplishing this feat is to make the virus-carrying messages appear to come from some type of business entity that many people commonly deal with, such as eBay, UPS, USPS, FedEx, or a national bank (or other financial institution), or a major provider of a common service. You have to remember these emails appear to be from reputable companies containing messages which cause you concern, or attempt to get you to take action by clicking on a link in the email.

A mass mailing of this type is bound to hit quite a few people who during the past holiday season may have shipped parcels, made online purchases, sent mail and therefore might easily be lured into opening the virus-launching attachment.

NEVER click on a link in the email, even if you think it is valid. Remember, there is always another way to verify the information. **INSTEAD**, go to the actual website through your internet browser or call the company to verify.

Please be aware there are very dangerous emails out there which can contain virus links, resulting in computers being infected or potentially damaged with files corrupted or destroyed in the process.

We discourage the use of USB or portable/removable drives since malware can originate from these devices as well as destroy files when portable drives are plugged while you open email or do internet searches.

In addition, we all know better than to give our credit card information or social security information to someone who **calls** on the phone **no matter who or what they tell you**. Instead, get a phone number and return the call or research the company and get the phone number. Nor, should you risk financial information.

Make sure you know what you are opening and why you are opening it, especially in an email. It is better to be safe than to be curious when you see links in your email, or while searching the internet.

Using Public Wi-Fi

Found at KATV.com

Smartphones are now a staple of everyday activities. Whether it's for work or play, the average American uses their cell phone throughout the day. But, logging on could make you a victim of the fastest growing crime in America—identity theft.

Free Wi-Fi is everywhere. It's a draw for businesses to get you in the door. And with everything we do on our phones, we use it everywhere. However, using public Wi-Fi can put your personal information at risk. 17 million people were victims of identity theft over a 12 month period in 2012.

How does someone steal your identity? All they need is a phone and Wi-Fi. There are two types of Wi-Fi attacks. Passive attacks which watch your network traffic, and active attacks.

Think of a passive attack as someone eavesdropping on your conversation, watching for the important information.

People need to realize that Facebook or checking email can open you up to attacks. Partly, because it is common for a person to use the same user name and password for multiple sites. If a hacker can intercept your password from one site, he may be able to use it for another, more important site—like your bank.

How can you protect yourself?



Connect to the right Wi-Fi hotspot. Don't use an unsecured one. If at all possible, ask the business or facility you're in if they have a password protected hotspot, and use that one. Sometimes hackers will sit inside say

McDonalds or Starbucks and set up their own hotspot and call it 'McDonalds Free Wi-Fi' or 'Starbucks Free Wi-Fi' hoping that people who come in will use it.

Don't enter any usernames or passwords if you're not sure that connection is encrypted. Check for the green lock in your computer browser. On your smart phone, you should see a similar lock.

Never log on to any bank or credit card websites through a public Wi-Fi source.

Wherever you are or whatever you are doing, always be mindful of who else is out there looking for an easy way to get your information.



Below is the content of a letter recently sent to members of the North Little Rock Senior Citizens Commission—
shared by Commissioner Mary Ruth Morgan

The Hays (**Patrick Henry Hays Senior Citizens Center**) Center is an amazing place. One of a kind. First of it's kind.

It's a community focal point where older adults come together, meet up, congregate.

We exercise, workout, play cards, sing, dance, work puzzles, travel, eat, talk, talk with friends, talk with instructors, talk with nurses, talk with staff (we talk a lot!), drink coffee, play bean bag baseball, play volleyball, swap stories, swim, walk, run, stretch, do yoga, Tai Chi, Pilates, Water Aerobics, Zumba, learn computers, make music, meet old friends, make new friends, do arts and crafts of all sorts and laugh...Laugh A Lot!

The center responds to our diverse needs and interests, enhances our dignity, supports our independence, and encourages our involvement in and with the center and the community.

The feeling, the 'vibe' of the place is, well,...it's just Up!...Great!...Positive!

For my first 3 or 4 years here, I thought "boy, I sure have met a lot of good people." Then it slowly dawned on me that, #1, out of hundreds and hundreds of people I've met at Hays, hardly ever was there an "old grump" or even a disagreeable soul, and, #2 almost every one of those hundreds & hundreds were pleasant, nice, friendly and easy to become friends with.

So...I've formed a theory: The Hays Center is a Filter. I believe this is unintentional and accidental, but a

filter none the less, and I believe this is great! People who join Hays want to do better, be better. They are optimistic, up, positive. The negative old grumps don't join (mostly).

So, we end up with this huge group of way above average, positive, optimistic people, and what a pleasure they are to be around. A wonderful antidote to the non-stop stream of 24-hr news (which, if you watch or listen to very much, might lead you to believe people are uncaring, mean or worse!)

The people here, members and staff, are the counterpoint and rebuttal to the news. They are, quite simply, wonderful!

I tell people that the Hays Center saved my life. I do not say this lightly and it is no exaggeration. When I joined 11 years ago, I was 50 pounds heavier, with very high blood pressure, very high cholesterol, just diagnosed with Type II Diabetes, and suffering from recurrent low grade depression.

From the day I joined Hays, I started getting better. I get better each year and eagerly anticipate this amazing expansion of happiness, contentment, and gratefulness.

In my not so humble opinion, the Hays Center is one of, maybe even *the* finest examples of what a city can do for it's citizens.

I will forever be in debt to the visionaries who conceived this; the movers and shakers who made it happen; and the staff in the trenches who daily toil to care for us and our endless concerns, complaints and confusion. You may not hear it enough, but every member I know readily admits the staff is outstanding, and go above and beyond to accommodate us and keep us safe.

This letter was sent anonymously.

What is Domestic Abuse?

Found at Arkansas Coalition Against Domestic Violence

Arkansas law defines "domestic abuse" as physical harm, bodily injury, assault, or the infliction of fear of imminent physical harm, bodily injury or assault, between family or household members, or sexual contact between family or household members, whether minors or adults, which constitutes a crime under Arkansas laws.

The victim must show that they are in immediate and present danger of domestic abuse to meet the criteria for obtaining an Order of Protection. There are rules stating that a victim must show recent injuries or have suffered a physical attack. Many judges recognize that the victim is aware of impending attacks due to the history of abuse and the verbal threats of the batterer.

There is no excuse for domestic violence. If you are a victim of domestic abuse, or suspect a friend or family members may be, contact the Arkansas Coalition Against Domestic Violence at 501-902-5612 or 800-269-4668 or go to domesticpeace.com.



7 Steps To A Happier Pet—Humane Society of US

- 1) Make sure your pet wears ID (tag) to enable him to be returned to you if lost.
- 2) To prevent animal behavioral problems, enroll your new puppy or dog in behavioral training classes.
- 3) Animal behavioral issues can be health-related. Make sure your pet has a complete medical exam at least once a year.
- 4) Prepare for disasters. Make sure you have a plan for your pet in the event of a tornado, fire, power outage etc.
- 5) Plan for your pet's future in case something happens to you.
- 6) Learn how to avoid dog bites and how to prevent your dog from biting at humanesociety.org/avoidbites.
- 7) Have a heart, be smart and make sure your pet is spayed or neutered.

For more info visit humanesociety.org.

Phishing Scams

Recently, the second-largest U.S. health insurer said their data breach likely began as early as December after attackers first used *phishing e-mails to trick up to five of its employees into visiting malicious websites* or executing malware—and that related intrusions likely continued until late January, when suspicious database queries were first detected, the company spokesperson to the Associated Press. Investigators, who confirmed the breach found unauthorized data queries that date from the December date, although some of those queries were blocked by the company's automated defenses.

These scams are designed to capture personal information—known as 'phishing' - are designed to appear as if they are from a legitimate company, for credit monitoring. Some e-mails are phishing e-mails from a fictitious source subject line "Cyber Attack Against grammatical errors.

Longstanding advise from security **links in e-mails, because they may attacker-controlled website or run a ommend that users type the address into their browser.**



and e-mails may include a 'click here' link not from the company. Some samples of being circulated online may contain in the *name of company,*" and have multiple

experts recommends that users **never click be disguised to redirect recipients to an malicious script. Instead, expert's rec- of any website they want to visit directly**

Folks should also beware anyone who calls on the telephone to discuss a breach of information, disconnect of service, etc. North Little Rock Electric Department customers have received some of these calls. The North Little Rock Electric Department will not call you on the phone and ask for credit card or social security number information.

This information provided by Kathy Stephens, North Little Rock IT Department and revised to exclude names of companies with breaches.



CONGRATULATIONS MIKE WILKINS ON YOUR RETIREMENT



MIKE WILKINS CAME TO THE NORTH LITTLE ROCK POLICE DEPARTMENT ON AUGUST 7, 2006 AND HAS WORKED IN THE SUPPORT SERVICES DIVISION SINCE THAT TIME. HE WAS AN ARMY HELICOPTER PILOT IN THE VIETNAM WAR AND WORKED FOR MANY YEARS AT THE ARMY CORP OF ENGINEERS.

HE LOVES TO RIDE HIS JET SKI AND ATV, AND WILL NOW HAVE MORE TIME TO DO BOTH. MIKE HAS BEEN A GOOD FRIEND TO HIS COWORKERS AND A LOT OF FUN TO WORK WITH. HE WILL BE GREATLY MISSED.

Smothered Chicken Casserole

Betty Crocker

- 1 Tbsp oil
- 4 boneless skinless chicken thighs
- 1/2 tsp garlic salt
- 1/4 tsp pepper
- 6 oz uncooked angel hair pasta
- 1 can (10 3/4 oz) condensed Cream of Chicken Soup
- 1 1/4 cups half-and-half
- 1/2 tsp smoked paprika
- 2 cups Green Giant Steamers frozen broccoli florets (cut into smaller pieces (or maybe any frozen broccoli chopped)
- 3 slices precooked bacon, crumbled



Heat oven to 350°F. Spray 2 1/2 quart casserole with cooking spray. In 10-inch skillet, heat oil over medium-high heat. Add chicken thighs; sprinkle with garlic salt and pepper. Cook chicken 8 to 10 minutes, turning once, until golden brown and juice of chicken is clear when thickest part is cut (at least 165°F). Cook pasta as directed on package; drain. In large bowl, mix soup, half-and-half and paprika; reserve 3/4 cup sauce. Stir in cooked pasta and frozen broccoli. Place pasta mixture in casserole; top with chicken thighs. Spoon reserved sauce over chicken thighs. Top with bacon. Cover and bake 20 minutes; uncover and bake 10 to 15 minutes or until sauce bubbles.

Serves 4



Frank Griffin Retirement

Last month, Frank Griffin, Vehicle Maintenance Director (pictured above with new director Kenny Brock and Kathy Dillon; and below with Mayor Joe A. Smith) retired after 22 years of service. Frank was a member of the Arkansas Public Fleet Managers Association and retired from the Arkansas Army National Guard.



Below: **Kenny Brock** is the new Vehicle Maintenance Director. Kenny is a long-time member of the department and has earned this promotion through his hard work and dedication.





**Peddlers Permit
City of North Little Rock**

Issued to: **John Doe**
Issued: 1/30/15
Expires: 5/1/15

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 and Treasurer

The following have Peddlers permits in NLR:
Melvin H. Jackson
LegalShield through 5-1-2015
Tyler Williams
Protection 1 through 5-4-2015
There are NO other licensed peddlers as of this date. (2/27/15)

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 (similar to above example), 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.

The North Little Rock 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.

Leaf vacuums are making final rounds.



Do not rake leaves into the street

If you want your leaves vacuumed, rake them to the curb (within 6 feet) next to the street (*but not in the street*). Also, please do not block

the sidewalk. Crews must have access to the leaves, so do not block them with vehicles, etc. Bagged leaves will be picked up weekly on your regular trash pickup day.



Do not block with vehicles

North Little Rock History Commission



The North Little Rock History Commission is now on Facebook! Search for North Little Rock History Commission and join their page today!

Also, the Friends of North Little Rock History have formed a Non-Profit Organization whose purpose is to protect and promote our city's rich history.

If your family has been in North Little Rock for 50 years or longer, the History Commission wants to know.

If you have items that represent our city's past and would like to donate them for future generations to enjoy, contact the History Commission staff.

For more information, contact the History Commission at 501-371-0755.

Fit 2 Live Coordinator Mrs. Bernadette Rhodes has moved to 120 Main (City Services Building), first floor.
Special Projects Director Mr. Jim Billings moved into the former Fit 2 Live office in City Hall at 300 Main Street and Mr. Isaac Henry has been hired as Special Assistant to the Mayor and moved into the former office of Mr. Billings.



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 501-340-5317 or email Diane Whitbey at Dwhitbey@northlittlerock.ar.gov.

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

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 Bruce Foutch	804-0928 658-9714
Ward 4	Murry Witcher Charlie Hight	835-0009 758-8396

Other Elected Officials

Mayor Joe A. Smith	975-8601
City Clerk and Treasurer Diane Whitbey	975-8617
City Attorney C. Jason Carter	975-3755
City Treasurer Mary Ruth Morgan	753-2028
District Court Judge Jim Hamilton	791-8559
District Court Judge Randy Morley	791-8562

North Little Rock Curbside Recycling schedule for the month of March:

Mar 2—6 no pickup

Mar 9—13 recycle

Mar 16—20 no pickup

Mar 23—27 recycle

Mar 30—April 3 no pickup



City Offices located at 120 Main

IS/Data Processing, Kathy Stephens	975-8820
Finance, Karen Scott	975-8802
Information	975-8888
Human Resources, Betty Anderson	975-8855
Planning, Robert Voyles	975-8835
Purchasing, Mary Beth Bowman	975-8881
Utilities Accounting, David Melton	975-8888

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

Telephone Numbers for City Hall

Mayor's Office.....	501-975-8601
Joe A. Smith	
City Clerk & Treasurer.....	501-975-8617
Diane Whitbey	
Legal.....	501-975-3755
C. Jason Carter / Matt Fleming	
Communications.....	501-975-8833
Nathan Hamilton	
External Relations.....	501-975-8605
Margaret Powell	
Fit 2 Live.....	501-975-8777
Bernadette Rhodes	

March Anniversaries

<i>Name</i>		<i>Dept</i>	<i># Yrs</i>	<i>Name</i>		<i>Dept</i>	<i># Yrs</i>
PATRICIA	JONES	Animal Shelter	20	RUTH	PRICE	2nd Court	10
ANTHONY	GARDNER	Animal Shelter	17	KAREN	FLETCHER	UAD	27
TIMOTHY	VANYA	Comm Dev	11	BRECK	MAXEY	UAD	21
RICKY	EZELL	OES	10	BETTY	ANDERSON	HR	14
LEEANN	SADLER	OES	6	CAMILLE	FLEMING	HR	1
LINDSEY	HOWARD	OES	6	SHAWN	SPENCER	Planning	13
ROY	MCPHAIL	Electric	42	JOHN	BARBER	Police	12
CHRISTOPHER	RAY	Electric	10	DENISE	CANTERBURY	Police	15
RICHARD	POZZA	Electric	17	DANIEL	HALEY	Police	12
DONALD	FRIDAY JR	Electric	4	JOSHUA	FORNEY	Police	15
JAMES	HOUSTON	Electric	13	MICHAEL	BLEVINS	Police	15
LANA	GREGORY	Electric	17	DONALD	STEELE	Police	14
CHRISTOPHER	NICHOLAS	Electric	10	MATTHEW	THOMAS	Police	14
ZACHARY	BROWN	Electric	8	ROBERT	CUPPS	Police	12
JACKIE	HALSEY	Electric	17	MATTHEW	BRUSH	Police	7
JAMES	WILSON	Electric	8	BRYAN	KINKAID	Police	11
CAREY	WALKER JR	Electric	4	JOHN	ALSTON	Police	18
AMANDA	BONNER	Finance	15	CHRIS	GANN	Police	18
JOHN	POUNDERS	Fire	30	PATRICK	GARRETT	Police	18
BENJAMIN	MUNDY	Fire	24	JEN-CHUAN	KING	Police	18
GERALD	TUCKER	Fire	25	ROBERT	WARD	Police	18
STEPHEN	EVANS	Fire	25	MICHAEL	MERLO	Police	18
CHARLES	BLACK	Fire	26	REBA	CRAIG	Police	13
STEVEN	GRIMES	Fire	30	LINDA	FELTON	Police	17
RICKY	ALBERS	Fire	25	JON	CROWDER	Police	13
CHARLES	PLATT	Fire	25	DAVID	RODGERS	Sanitation	1
KEVIN	TACKETT	Fire	24	WAYNE	WRIGHT	Sanitation	11
MATTHEW	DIXON	Fire	24	EDWARD	JERNIGAN	Street	8
DANTANIEL	DURAN	Fire	4	JASON	STEELE	Street	8
BILLY	JONES	Fire	21	CLIFFORD	LEE	Street	1
RENALDO	BENNETT	Fire	30	KRISTOPHER	ROARK	Street	1
AARON	CHASSELLS	Fire	16	DAVID	WILBOURN	Traffic	4
JOHNNY	GOFF	Fire	4	RICKY	PRIDMORE	Vehicle Maint	4
AARON	HENDERSON	Fire	4	ANTHONY	RIPPEE	Parks Maint	2
TERENCE	METCALF	Fire	24	JAHRAILL	RAYE	Parks Maint	1
JACOB	SCHMIDT	Fire	4	BRYAN	SPEARS	Parks Maint	10
CODY	WORTHAM	Fire	4	TRAVIS	DOUGLAS	Parks Maint	1
WALTER	GUNN III	Health	3	REGINA	HENSON	Parks Rec	28
MATTHEW	FLEMING	Legal	2	KATRINA	WILBON	Parks Rec	27
JOSEPH	BREEN	1st Court	3	RONALD	BARENTINE	Parks Golf	1
				BERNADETTE	RHODES	Fit 2 Live	4

March Birthdays

Name	Dept	Date	Name	Dept	Date
MICHAEL THOMPSON	Fire	1	MARK JOSEPH	Parks Golf	15
BENJAMIN EVANS	Fire	1	JACKIE PEACH	Electric	16
CHASSITY WILKINS	UAD	1	DEBORAH SCHERZ	Electric	16
IAN HOPE	Parks Special	1	JASON KNIFE	Fire	16
JOHN BLASINGAME	Street	2	MICHAEL JORDAN	Fire	17
DAVID HEISER	Traffic	3	TODD HUMPHRIES	Police	17
CHRISTOPHER BRADLEY	Fire	4	RICKY CARRINGTON	Vehicle Maint	17
CODY REESE	Traffic	4	CLINT BUTLER	Fire	18
JUSTIN CROSS	Police	5	DENNIS POOLE	Fire	18
MICHAEL REYES	Police	5	JON FISHER	Police	18
DONNIE ADAMS JR	Traffic	7	MARK TUBBS	Police	19
DIANNE WETZLER	Electric	8	ROBERT SPRIGGS	Police	19
LARRY SHOOK	Fire	9	ANTHONY CHUKES	Street	20
JARROD CARTER	Fire	9	MARY DENTON	OES	21
PRECIOUS COLLIER	1st Court	9	THOMAS LATINA	Police	21
HEIDI WEBB	OES	10	DAVID SCHMIDT	Police	23
WARREN ALMON	Fire	10	STEPHEN EVANS	Fire	24
ROBERT MAULDIN	HR	10	DANIEL CUSHING	Electric	26
JERRI PAGE	Police	10	NATHAN KIMES JR.	Police	27
ROBERT BARTON	Fire	11	CORNELIUS FENNESSEE	Fire	28
JOHN SMITH	Sanitation	11	ROBIN SISSON	1st Court	28
JAMES MURPHY	Fire	12	DOMINIQUE AMBROSE	UAD	28
ZAKARY WARD	Fire	12	CRYSTAL WILLIS	Commerce	28
JAMES BRILEY	Planning	12	ELLISA MCEUEN	Police	28
RICHARD BEASTON	Police	12	DWIGHT AKINS	Sanitation	29
GARY THORNTON	Code	12	THOMAS EVERETT	Traffic	29
LINDA MARSHALL	City Clerk	13	JEFFREY CAPLINGER	Parks Special	29
TYSON HADDOCK	Fire	13	VINCENT RAY	Police	30
ALTORIA TUCKER	Sanitation	13	CARMEN HELTON	Police	30
JASON ROE	Fire	15	TRAVIS DOUGLAS	Parks Maint	30

A spreadsheet including all North Little Rock employees is provided at the end of the previous year for Birthday and Anniversary information (to be used the following year). If you see an employee's name who is no longer with the city, keep in mind that the current information was provided during the previous year when those individuals were employees of the City of North Little Rock. If someone is omitted, please let me know!

TONIGHT!!!! (Feb 27) North Little Rock Friends of Animals Chili Supper

5 to 8 p.m.

Park Hill Christian Church, 4400 John F. Kennedy

Tickets available at the door for only \$9.00 for adults and \$6.00 for children 9-12

For more information call 501-758-5482 or 791-8577

If you have news, an upcoming event, recipe, photos, etc. you would like to share with others in North Little Rock, please email Dwhitbey@nlr.ar.gov by the 15th of the month.

Notice: to be eligible to offer a discount to North Little Rock City Employees, a business must be properly Licensed to do business in the city and current on all monies due to the City of North Little Rock.

North Little Rock Lions Club

Annual

Bob Moore Memorial

Fish Fry

May 1, 2015



*Pond Raised Catfish
And Breaded Chicken Strips*

With All The Trimmings

Serving 4:30PM Until 7:00PM

Burns Park Hospitality House

In North Little Rock

Adults

\$12.00

Children Under 12

\$10.00

Tickets Available At The Door

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.





Fun for the whole family!

For more information, contact:
Sarah Harmon or Kat Cromer
Instructors, Hearts & Hooves
501-834-8509

SUPERHEROES COMMUNITY FAIR AT HEARTS & HOOVES...

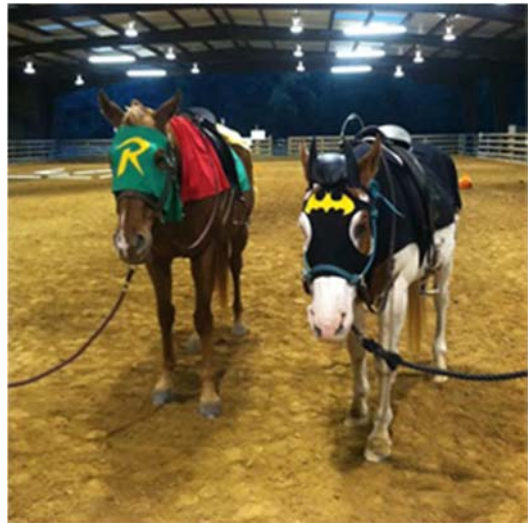
It's going to be epic!

Hearts & Hooves will be hosting a community fair open to the public on Saturday, April 18th from 3:00 to 5:00 PM.

Join us for this epic day of fun and games. The horses of Hearts & Hooves will be dressing up as their favorite super heroes. All proceeds from this event will go to fund our super horses for our therapeutic riding program.

Admission will be \$5 per person at the gate, or \$20 per family.

This epic day of fun and games will include a horse hero parade and super hero themed games for everyone. For a small additional cost, we will also have opportunities to take a picture with your favorite super hero and super hero themed

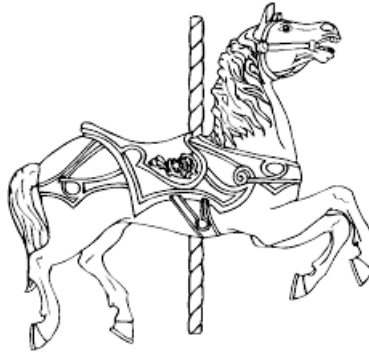


concessions. You are encouraged to come dressed as your own favorite super hero!

Festivities will be located at our barn at 2308 Kellogg Acres Road in Sherwood. If you have questions please call our office at 501-834-8509 and speak to Kat or Sarah. Or email kcromer@heartsandhooves.com.

Check out ongoing event details at our website at www.heartsandhooves.com or on our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/heartsandhoovesar>.

North Little Rock Woman's Club
25th Annual Carousel Ball



April 18, 2015

Hays Senior Center

401 West Pershing, North Little Rock

5:30 p.m. doors open

Black-tie optional

Live and Silent Auctions

Music by *Exit 123 Band*

Dancing

Tickets \$50.00 each

For tickets or more information, please call
Mrs. Joan Weese at 501-753-7246 or
Club President Mrs. Helen Greenfield at 501-835-5019.

*Proceeds benefit the following community projects:
Biannual Senior Art Show, Ten Penny Art, Boys and Girls Club,
Bowker-Heritage-Willow-Campus Towers houses,
Dorcus House, Friendly Chapel, Hays Senior Center, River City Ministries,
Shepherd's Center, Arkansas Scholars, Scholarships for High School students,
Dictionary Project, North Little Rock High School Post Prom,
Nurses' Scholarship Fund, Teachers' Scholarship Fund and
Volunteers in public schools.*



North Little Rock's First Soap Box Derby Race

Sponsored by
Lakewood Middle School's East Initiative

Tentative...
When: 8-22-15
Where: Argenta Area — Main Street Bridge
Time: 9 a.m.—4 p.m.

Goal of Project:

To connect positive adult role models with young adults that are lacking in there types of relationships. The youth will be kids form the North Little Rock area through the Big Brother and Big Sister's organization, Boys and Girls Club, as well as Lakewood Middle School. Through this experience, it is our hope that a quality relationship will be established between adult and child, and that the child will have the opportunity to learn life skills, as well as just simply get to do something that they would never have the opportunity to do other wise.

Sponsors needed:

A car kit costs \$850. Sponsorship levels are following:

Platinum	\$850
Gold	\$650
Silver	\$450
Bronze	\$250

(Sponsors will need to supply their logo so it can be displayed on the car. Sponsors may also store the car after the race so it can be used the following year.

Donations need to be made to **Lakewood East Initiative** and mailed to:
Lakewood Middle School EAST
Attention: Shelly Jones
2400 Lakeview Road
North Little Rock, Arkansas 72116

For more information, contact Ms. Jones at 501-351-4042 or email joness@nlrsd.org or shelly1962@gmail.com.

Thank you in advance for your interest in sponsoring or volunteering in this event and we hope you will be part of our TEAM!

