

north
little
rock

PROUD

Winter 2025, Vol. 08, No. 04.

A Publication of the North Little Rock Mayor's Office

INSIDE:
North Little Rock Event Center
Holiday Ice Rink



Please take time this holiday season to enjoy your family and friends. We are proud to have so many things happening in North Little Rock. We are excited about the grand opening of the new North Little Rock Event Center, as well as the Central Fire Station. The atg Pavilion is an exciting addition to Argenta, as well as the two new hotels. Our parks and community centers remain places for everyone to enjoy. We have many wonderful departments that work diligently to make up this great City. Thanks for everything you do. Remember the reason for the season. Merry Christmas and have a Happy New Year!



Nighttime photo of downtown during Northern Lights. Photo credit: Brent Walker Films.

Terry C. Hartwick
Mayor Terry C. Hartwick

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north little rock **PROUD**

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-  [YouTube @cityofnlr](https://www.youtube.com/c/cityofnlr)

CENTRAL FIRE Station

Our partners at Alessi Keyes are making excellent progress on the new Central Fire Station. Exterior finishes are rapidly nearing completion, with the final metal panels being installed. Work will begin soon on the plaza that will unify the station's public face along 13th and Main streets. Inside, a wide range of trades are hard at work each day to complete the living quarters and administrative offices. The apparatus bays and mechanics areas are virtually finished, requiring only minor final touches. With steady progress across all areas, we remain on track for the highly anticipated grand opening on April 9, 2026. Everyone is invited to the Grand Opening. 



North Little Rock
est. Class 1 1904
Fire Department

Grand Opening

CENTRAL FIRE STATION
13TH & MAIN STREETS, NORTH LITTLE ROCK

THURSDAY, APRIL 9, 2026
11:00 AM

ARCHITECT: JACKSON BROWN PALCULICT
CONTRACTOR: ALESSI KEYES CONSTRUCTION

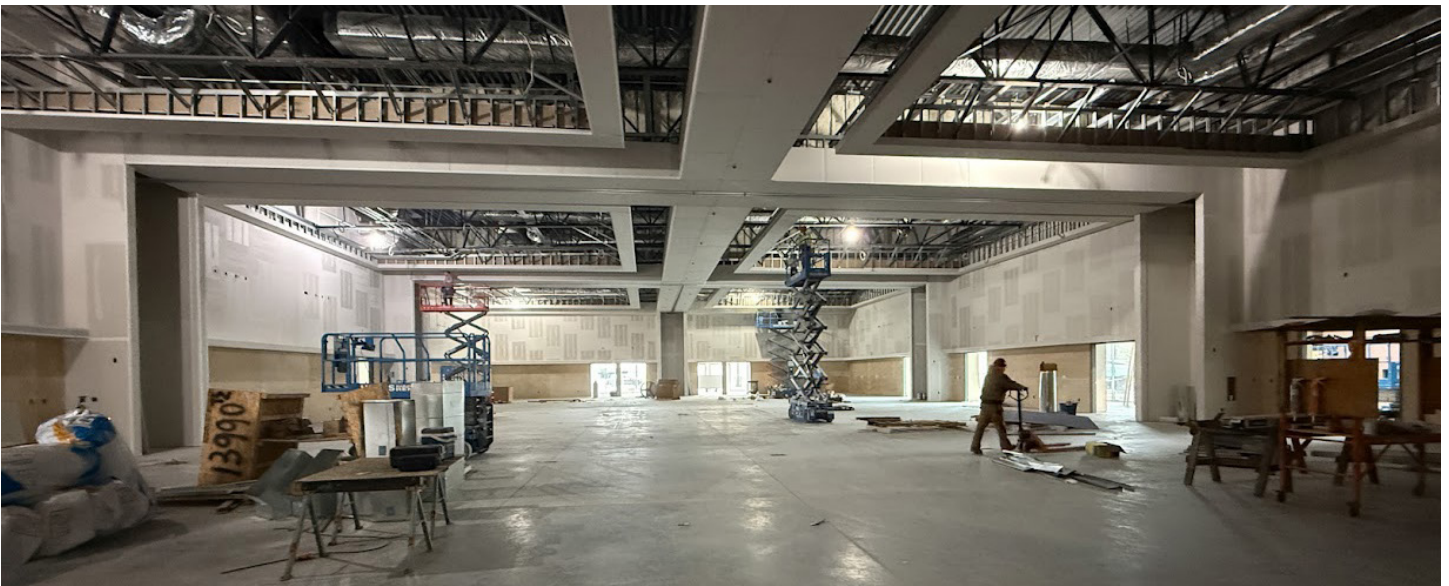


NORTH LITTLE ROCK EVENT CENTER



The North Little Rock Event Center, the premier destination for prestigious events, corporate meetings, conferences, and gala dinners, will open in March 2026. The new event center is perfectly nestled in the heart of Argenta's downtown arts district, which includes restaurants, art galleries, live theaters, shopping, and nightlife all within walking distance. Boasting over 30,000 square feet of flexible space, the North Little Rock Event Center features a grand ballroom, two meeting rooms, and additional versatile spaces designed to accommodate events of every size. With state-of-the-art audiovisual technology, the North Little Rock Event Center will ensure seamless presentations and unforgettable experiences.

Please contact Kim Korycki at 501-975-8866 or by email, nlreventcenter@nlr.ar.gov, for more information or to schedule an event.





You are invited to join us for an

OPEN HOUSE AND TOUR

for the new

North Little Rock
Event Center

TUESDAY, MARCH 10, 2026

4:00-6:00 PM

PROGRAM WILL BEGIN AT 4:00 PM

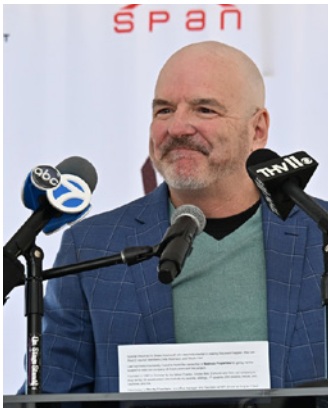
Nabholz UNVEILS new

Nabholz Properties recently unveiled plans for a \$25 million mixed-use development next to Simmons Bank Arena and the Second Street Promenade, featuring a new 90-room Aloft Hotel, a 7,000-square-foot event venue, and the future home of Willy D's dueling pianos. Part of a \$25 million mixed-use development beside Simmons Bank Arena and next to the new Aloft Hotel.



The Arena District includes:

- Two-story building with a wrap-around mezzanine and 24-foot ceilings for incredible stage views.
- Patios and New Orleans-style balconies overlooking the promenade, perfect for night crowds.
- The focus is on the high-energy, interactive dueling-piano experience you know and love. Removable pianos for full-band shows, events, and private parties.
- Partnership with John Daly's Perky's Pizza.
- A VIP section and large video wall above the stage for visuals and big-game nights.
- Valet service through the new Aloft Hotel plus plenty of nearby lots and street parking.
- Opening targeted for late summer 2026 (or fall if timelines shift).
- North Little Rock has plans to extend the entertainment district from Argenta to the Arena District with music, food, and nightlife. 🎷



THE RINK AT LAKEWOOD

PRESENTED BY NLR TOURISM

OPENING SELECT NIGHTS & WEEKENDS BEGINNING 11/29

RESERVATIONS REQUIRED @ LAKEWOODPOA.COM



Mayor's Youth Council in Action



Mayor's Youth Council members volunteered at the AR FoodBank after the Summer Cereal Drive wrapped up! Left to right: Derell Wheatley, Reece Mills, Monserrat Olvera-Ramirez, Sarah Harris, Max Trevino, and Eduardo Hurtado.



Elissa Frierson completed her summer service project! Elissa has been collecting bottled water for our unsheltered friends and neighbors.



Shy'Ryah Parillon face painted at the Lakewood Property Owners Association Annual Picnic. This precious girl asked for a tiger and Shy made it happen!

Dog Town Fails Tales

The *New York Yankees* in Park Hill

By: Carole Baxter

The New York Yankees played a barnstorming exhibition game in Little Rock on April 7, of 1930, following spring training. Bill Dickey from Little Rock was on that team. His high school friend, John Matthews, lived in a newly constructed and futuristic Art Deco home in a subdivision being developed by John's family called Park Hill in North Little Rock. With visions of showing off a level of sophistication for his home state, John invited the Yankee team to his home for a party following the game.

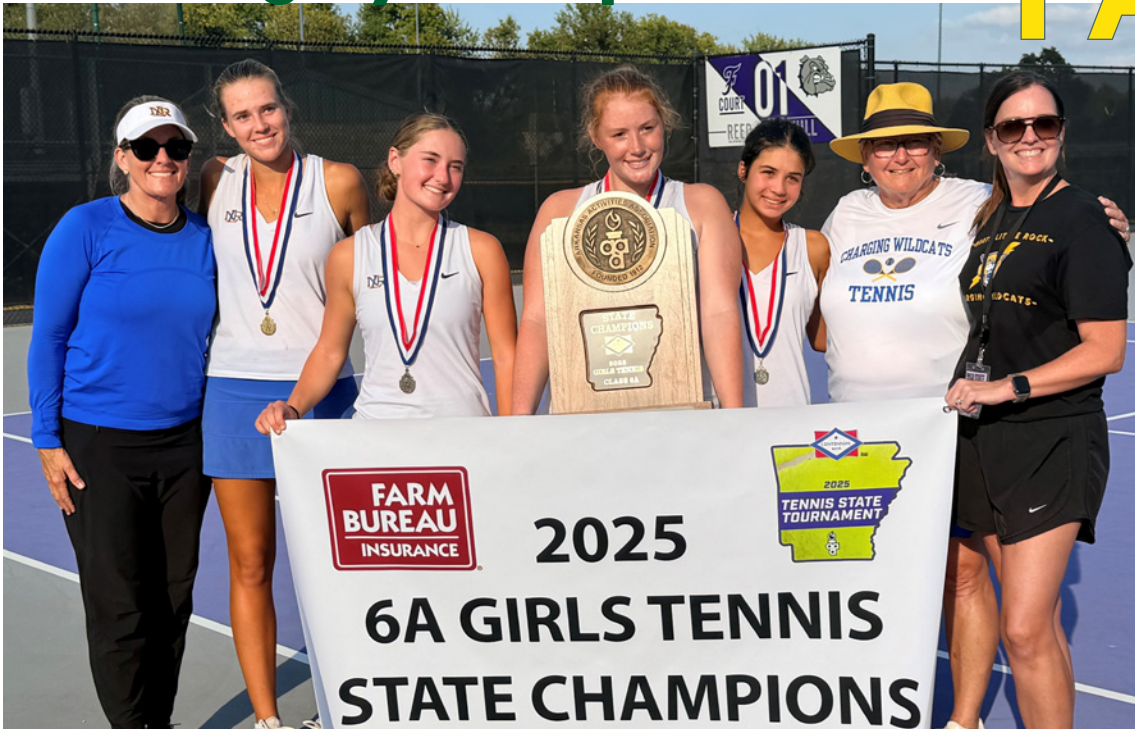
During the visit, a couple of local thugs decided they would take the opportunity to rob the Yankees, entering the house with a pistol, demanding jewelry and money from the guests. John Matthews, embarrassed that the Yankees would be robbed in his home, jumped the man with the pistol. When the gun failed to fire, the robber dropped the gun and he and his accomplices ran . . . as if they might outrun the New York Yankees! The Yankees chased and easily overtook them. The police were called, arrested the men, and returned the valuables to the Yankee guests. The gun that had misfired was taken to the front yard and fired into the ground by the police. It fired properly! Telling this story always prompts a question about whether Babe Ruth had been at the house. According to Mrs. Martha Matthews, hosting the party, he had remained at the bar at the Capitol Hotel that evening.

As told to Charley Baxter in the early 1980s by Mrs. Martha Matthews.

Do you have a funny story or fond memory of North Little Rock? For more information on how to share, contact: Dogtowntailtales@gmail.com



Recharge your spirit in our **PARKS**



The North Little Rock High School girls' tennis team recently won the 2025 team title at the 6A State tournament at Fayetteville High School. Scoring points for the North Little Rock Charging Wildcats were Caroline Jones, winner of girls' singles; Georgia King, runner-up girls' singles; and Anna Kay Johnston and Emma McEwen, runners-up girls' doubles. The team was coached by Paula Jones, Lee Tackett, and Courtney Phaup.



BIKE TRAILS



EQUESTRIAN TRAILS



DISC GOLF



CRYSTAL BLUFF AT BIG ROCK QUARRY

Burns Park Baseball League

REGISTRATION OPEN NOW
UNTIL MARCH 6TH
WWW.BURNSPARKBASEBALL.COM

Available Groups:

- TEE BALL 4 & 5/6
- COACH PITCH 7/8
- LIVE ARM 9/10, 11/12, & 13-15

Who Can Join?

- AGES 4-15
- ALL SKILL LEVELS WELCOME

SEASON DATES MARCH 9 - JUNE 6, 2026



Early Bird Discount:

**REGISTER BY FEBRUARY 6
\$50 OFF!**

Contact Us:





WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU

Help us plan a new water quality & environmental workshop! Tell us what topics matter most to you.

If you own a business related to conservation, landscaping, or water quality, we invite you to reach out to find out how to become a sponsor of this event!

NATIVE PLANTS

SAMPLING

STORMWATER

DEVELOPMENT

SCAN
ME!



UofA
DIVISION OF AGRICULTURE
RESEARCH & EXTENSION
University of Arkansas System

You can contact Lyndsey Holloway at
LHolloway@nlr.ar.gov or 501-371-8339
for more information.

Piccolo Zoppé Winter Circus



NLR North Little Rock Tourism
PRESENTS

NORTH LITTLE ROCK

RESTAURANT

MONTH

JAN. 1 - JAN. 31, 2026

**LEARN
MORE!**



*Thank You,
North Little Rock!*

*Thank you for showing up,
celebrating, and supporting the
Argenta Arts District in 2025.
Your energy keeps our streets
alive with creativity and
community spirit.*

*We can't wait to see you again in
2026 for more art, music, food,
and fun at Argenta Vibe Music
Series, Dogtown Throwdown and
Third Friday Art Walk.*



Stay connected!



ARGENTA
DOWNTOWN COUNCIL

Our LIBRARY




Dirt, Determination, and Community: *A Year of Growth*

As the 2025 growing season comes to an end, North Little Rock's Community Garden Program stands as a testament to the power of determination and collaboration to transform a city. This year marked significant milestones for the program:

- Funded 15 active gardens across the city.
- Added six new garden sites this season.
- Hosted 50 workdays and events for planting, harvesting, and community connection.
- Provided supplies through seed donations and 1,000+ greenhouse grown starter plants.
- Produced and shared thousands of pounds of fresh food with our community.
- Logged 1,500+ volunteer hours and welcomed 200+ participants to monthly garden meetings.
- Delivered 67 yards of compost donated from American Composting, Incorporated.

The program also partnered with numerous organizations: Potluck Food Rescue, North Little Rock School District, North Little Rock CARES Youth Coalition, Central Arkansas Sphinx Foundation, St. Joseph's Center, Growing Urban Farmers, Calm + Confidence Beekeeping, North Little Rock Public Library System, Master Gardeners, and Master Naturalists. Education was the central focus. Managers and volunteers attended the Arkansas Grown Conference, workshops through the Master Gardener Program, the University of Arkansas Cooperative Extension Service, the North Little Rock Public Library System. They earned Master Gardener and Master Naturalist certifications, bringing new skills back to their communities.

Program Manager Rachelle Kelly reflected, "Each garden shows what is possible when community comes together with purpose. I am so proud of what we have grown together and excited for what is ahead." As the gardens rest, their impact continues to spread, reminding us that when people unite, growth is inevitable. Fall Funding Applications are due June 15, 2026. Applications can be found at: nlr.ar.gov/communitygardens. Contact Rachelle at RKelly@nlr.ar.gov or call 501-351-0184. 





*Thank
you*

for supporting our
Unsheltered Community in
our city at the annual
Unsheltered Fair.



BIG

CHANGES IN 2026



In 2026, North Little Rock Electric will launch our new customer experience, giving our customers an updated customer portal, new payment methods, and more.

We're rolling along with the software changes and getting things ready for a mid-2026 start.

Watch for more updates from us at the beginning of the new year.

Mayor's Tree Lighting



VOLUNTEER

in North Little Rock

WE NEED YOU!

We recruit citizens to participate in our city to maintain a strong volunteer workforce and provide training for those who wish to volunteer in the City of North Little Rock.

Scan this code to complete a volunteer application and start volunteering today!



For more information:

Angela Wirt, Manager of Mayor's Volunteer Services
awirt@nlr.ar.gov or 501-516-0911



Holiday Schedule★

★ City offices will be closed:
Christmas Holiday: December 24 & 25
New Year's Holiday: January 1

Sanitation routes will be delayed on these dates.

Helpful Numbers

Central Arkansas Water
501-372-5161
customerservice@carlw.com

Recycling
501-565-0191
cscmidsouth@wm.com

Rock Region Metro
501-375-6717
www.rrmetro.org

Summit Utilities
800-992-7552
customerservice@summitutilities.com

Waste Water
501-945-7186
nlrwu@nlrwu.com

It's everything City of North Little Rock, **in your pocket.**



News



Events



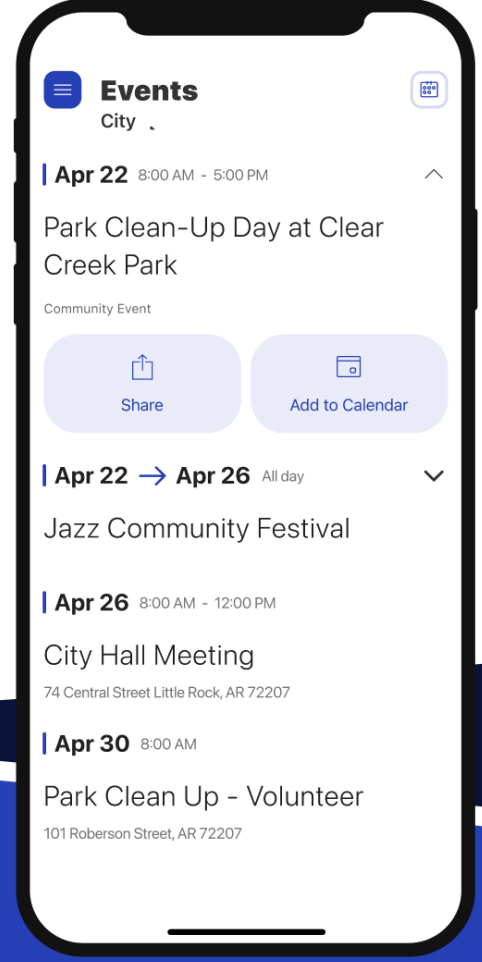
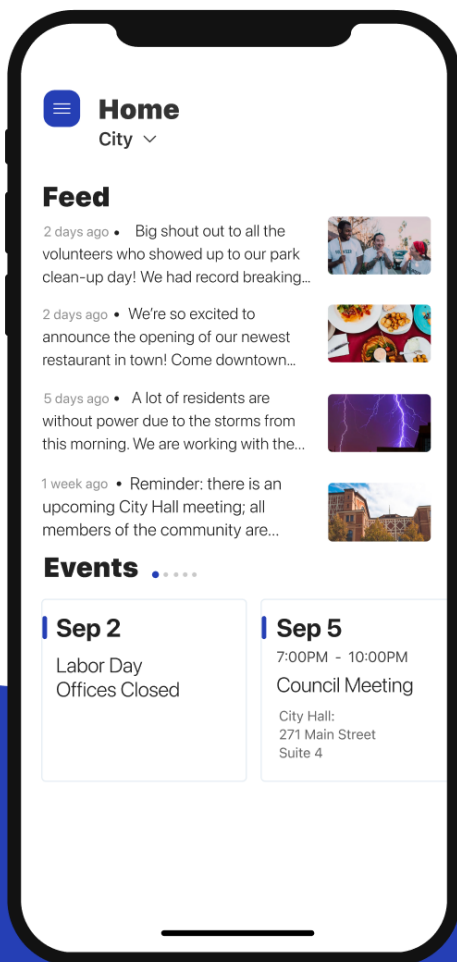
Documents



Staff



Notifications



Download the **City of North Little Rock** app from the iOS App Store or Android Play Store and enable Notifications.

North Little Rock Contact Information

Mayor	Terry C. Hartwick	501-975-8601	mayor@nlr.ar.gov
City Clerk/Treasurer	Diane Whitbey	501-975-8617	cityclerkoffice@nlr.ar.gov
City Attorney	Amy Fields	501-975-3755	nlrlegal@nlr.ar.gov
Judge (Traffic)	Judge Randy Morley	501-791-8562	melinda.johnson@nlrpolice.org
Judge (Criminal/Civil)	Judge Paula Juels Jones	501-791-8559	christina.bowen@nlrpolice.org
Chief of Staff	Mike Davis	501-975-8601	mdavis@nlr.ar.gov
City Council			
Ward 1 Council Member	Nathan Hamilton	501-952-7679	nhamilton@nlr.ar.gov
Ward 1 Council Member	Debi Ross	501-753-0733	dross@nlr.ar.gov
Ward 2 Council Member	Linda Robinson	501-945-8820	lrobinson@nlr.ar.gov
Ward 2 Council Member	Nicole Hart	501-960-2461	nhart@nlr.ar.gov
Ward 3 Council Member	Steve Baxter	501-804-0928	sbaxter@nlr.ar.gov
Ward 3 Council Member	Ron Harris	501-758-2877	ronharris@nlr.ar.gov
Ward 4 Council Member	Vince Insalaco III	501-951-0786	vinsalaco@nlr.ar.gov
Ward 4 Council Member	Scott Fowler	501-765-5868	sfowler@nlr.ar.gov
Departments			
Airport	Virginia Young	501-835-5654	vyoung@nlr.ar.gov
Animal Control	Adam Tindall	501-791-8577	animalservices@nlr.ar.gov
Code Enforcement	Felecia McHenry	501-791-8581	codedirector@nlr.ar.gov
Communications	Shara Hutchcraft	501-975-8833	shutchcraft@nlr.ar.gov
Community Development	Bailey Noland	501-340-5342	bnoland@nlr.ar.gov
Construction & Building Services	Mary Beth Bowman	501-690-9657	mbowman@nlr.ar.gov
Economic Development	Colleen Bailey	501-442-5329	cbailey@nlr.ar.gov
Electric	Ryan Wilson	501-975-8888	custserv@nlr.ar.gov
Emergency Services	Kim Francisco	501-340-5365	emergencyservices@nlr.ar.gov
Engineering	David Cook	501-371-8339	nlrengineering@nlr.ar.gov
Event Center	Kim Korycki	501-975-8866	kkorycki@nlr.ar.gov
Finance	Ember Strange	501-906-6332	nlrfinance@nlr.ar.gov
Fire	Gerald Tucker	501-340-5385	nlrfd@nlr.ar.gov
Health	Gabrilla Couch-Winters	501-791-8551	Gabrilla.Couch-Winters@arkansas.gov
History Commission	Sandra Taylor-Smith	501-371-0755	nlrhstory@nlr.ar.gov
Housing (Northbridge)	Yulunda White	501-758-8911	director@northbridgehs.org
Human Resources	Betty Anderson	501-975-8855	banderson@nlr.ar.gov
Library	Crystal Gates	501-758-1720	crystal.gates@lamanlibrary.org
Mayor's Office	Stacia Chastain	501-975-8601	schastain@nlr.ar.gov
Mayor's Volunteer Services	Angela Wirt	501-906-6268	awirt@nlr.ar.gov
Mayor's Youth Council	Jill Mills	501-804-8950	jillmillsnlrmc@yahoo.com
Neighborhood Services & Community Gardens	Dan Scott	501-791-8500	nlrneighborhoodserv@nlr.ar.gov
Parks & Recreation	Kenny Stephens	501-791-8538	kastephens@nlr.ar.gov
Planning	Shawn Spencer	501-975-8835	sspencer@nlr.ar.gov
Police	Patrick Thessing	501-771-7102	nlrpd@nlrpolice.org
Safety	Kenny Stephens	501-371-8337	safety1@nlr.ar.gov
Sanitation	Condo Breedlove	501-371-8340	nlrsanitation@nlr.ar.gov
Patrick Henry Hays Senior Center	Dustin Free	501-366-3289	dfree@nlr.ar.gov
Special Projects	Dr. Arnessa Bennett	501-975-3737	abennett@nlr.ar.gov
Street	Patrick Lane	501-340-5355	nlrstreet@nlr.ar.gov
Traffic	Kenny Stephens	501-340-5352	traffic@nlr.ar.gov
Training Development & Fit2Live	David Baxter	501-975-8842	dbaxter@nlr.ar.gov
Tourism	Karen Trevino	501-758-1424	karen@northlittlerock.org
Unsheltered Community	Officer Shana Cobbs	501-975-8780	nlrunsheltered@nlr.ar.gov
Vehicle Maintenance	Kenny Brock	501-340-5371	nlrgarage@nlr.ar.gov