

north
little
rock

PROUD

Fall 2022, Vol. 05, No. 04.

A Publication of the North Little Rock Mayor's Office



INSIDE:
PROGRESS IN OUR CITY
North Little Rock Air Show

On August 9, North Little Rock residents voted to continue the half penny which shows our city’s commitment to growth and progress. Thank you to everyone who came out to vote. As your Mayor, I am excited for the improvements we will make for our citizens. We look forward to building a new Central Fire Station as well as adding a new fire station in the east part of our city. We will also renovate all five of our community centers which were built in the 1970s. This is an exciting time for North Little Rock and I love hearing your feedback and ideas about how we can continue to make our city a great place to live, work, and play!

Terry C. Hartwick
Mayor Terry C. Hartwick



After a five-year hiatus, the thrilling North Little Rock Air Show is back!

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north little rock **PROUD**

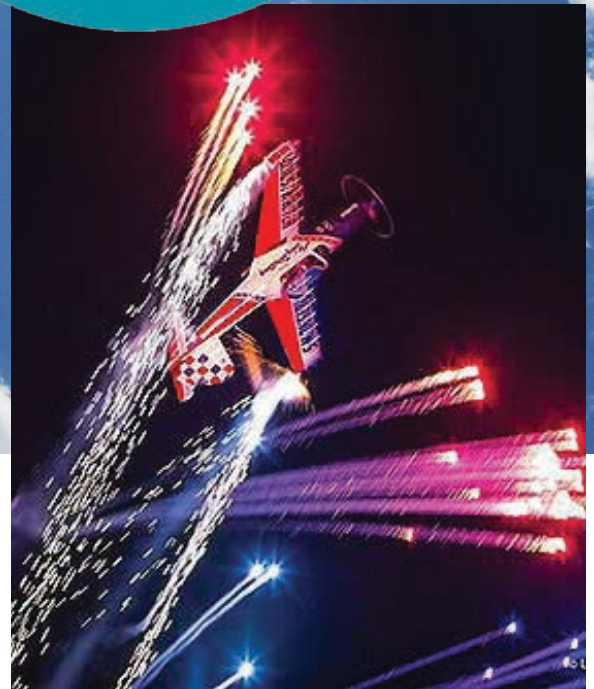
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After a five-year hiatus, the North Little Rock Airshow is back and will feature aerial performances by some of the world's finest display teams, mini jets, drones, jet trucks, a parachute team, military aircraft, scale models and more!




The North Little Rock Airshow is scheduled for October 21 and 22, 2022, at the North Little Rock Municipal Airport. The first-ever “night” show will be the evening of October 21. Tickets are \$20 online at nlrairshow.com and \$25 at the gate, with children under seven years old free. There will also be free parking at the event. VIP tickets are also available at nlrairshow.com and include food, drinks, private bathrooms and close parking.

“This year we’ve got some of the most thrilling air show performers in the business, as well as exciting new features such as a kids’ zone featuring bounce houses and activities from The Wonder Place and Arkansas Regional Innovation Hub. We will also have a craft beer tent, food vendors, static displays, and everything you need for a day of fun at the North Little Rock Airshow,” said North Little Rock Airport Director Clay Rodgers.

A variety of food and drinks will be available for purchase at the airshow. The North Little Rock

Airshow has partnered with the Arkansas Regional Innovation Hub, schools and local organizations this year to provide children with the opportunity to participate in STEM projects and hands-on activities in addition to the other activities available in our children’s area.

During the Airshow on Saturday, the North Little Rock Municipal Airport will be awarding the Hometown Hero Award, sponsored by Russell Chevrolet, to a member of Military or a first responder (past or present) living in Central Arkansas. To submit a nomination for the Hometown Hero Award visit nlrairshow.com/hometown-hero-award. 

For more information about the event or to purchase tickets visit NLRAirshow.com.



North Little Rock Police Athletic League

The North Little Rock Police Athletic League was organized on the strong belief that sports, life skills, and activity programs help instill positive social and moral values in our youth. If young people are reached early in their life journey, they can develop a strong, positive attitude toward law enforcement and with proper guidance a better chance at a successful life.

The North Little Rock Police Athletic League (NLRPAL), the North Little Rock Police Department, and a host of community volunteers work together in a public and private partnership to provide quality athletic and educational activities for North Little Rock children at no cost to the participants. NLRPAL reaches across neighborhood, cultural, and socioeconomic lines to form lasting relationships between our youth and role models in our community.

The NLRPAL was the first Police Athletic League Program in the state of Arkansas. It began in October 1998 when a group of police officers created several flag football teams from young people in different areas of North Little Rock. In the past two decades, NLRPAL has served 10,000 kids in North Little Rock and has spent about 500,000 hours developing and maintaining positive relationships with officers and other role models.


NLRPAL's team building programs help foster productive futures and instill responsible values in our children. The program strives to provide safe and healthy activities that will guide kids toward becoming upstanding citizens for generations to come. Children ages 5-16 can participate in baseball, cheerleading, football, softball, tee ball, kickball, taekwondo, jujitsu and tennis.



How Can I Get Involved in PAL?

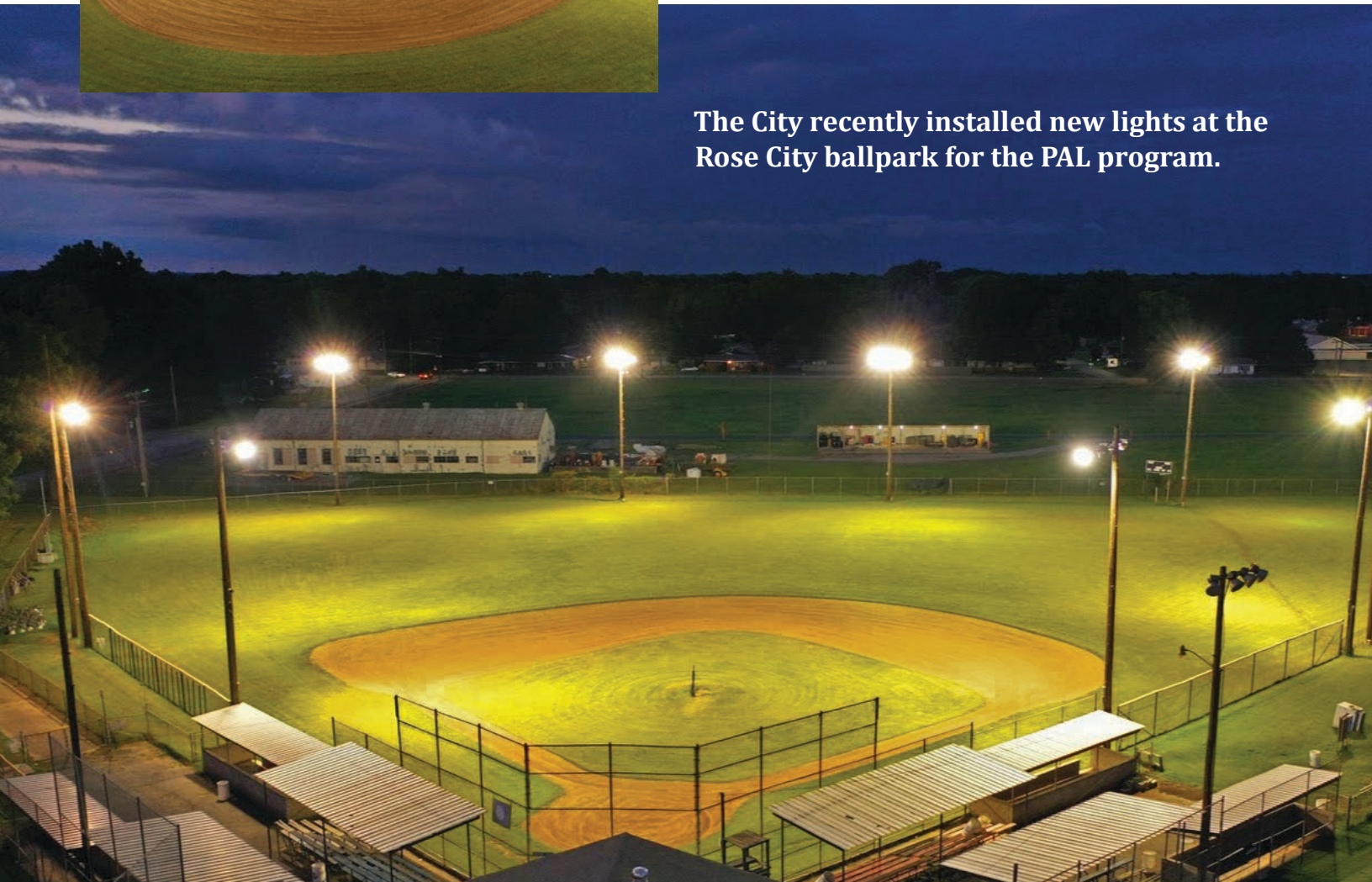
VOLUNTEER. Whether it's 20 minutes, an hour, or more, you can be a part of NLRPAL by volunteering a little of your time. You can volunteer to run a scoreboard, assist with the operation of the concession stand, admission gates, umpiring on the field or just providing support to the coaches and children. If you'd like to volunteer as a coach, the results of your background check must be satisfactory with the Director, Officer Shelby Hunter.



SPONSORSHIP. We have NLRPAL ball fields at North Heights, Rose City and Vestal Park. If you are interested in sponsoring a sign at any of our ballparks or making a monetary donation to NLRPAL, please contact the NLRPAL Director, Officer Shelby Hunter at nlrpal@nlrpolic.org 



The City recently installed new lights at the Rose City ballpark for the PAL program.



911

Dispatchers Needed



911: 911, North Little Rock.
What is your emergency?

Caller: Someone just got hit by a car!

911: Okay. What is your name?

Caller: Meghan.

911: What is your location/address?

Caller: In the library parking lot.

911: Which Library?

Caller: The one by the community center.

911: Are they breathing?

Caller: Yes! Please send someone!

911: Okay, help is on the way.



NOW HIRING
911 DISPATCHERS

Apply online at nlr.ar.gov/jobs



EMPLOYEE *Spotlight:*

The North Little Rock History Commission is located in the North Little Rock Heritage Center at 506 Main Street, downtown in the Argenta neighborhood. Sandra Taylor Smith has been a preservation consultant since 1980 and the Director of the North Little History Commission and the North Little Rock Historic District Commission since 1992.


If you look at historic preservation efforts across our entire state, you will find Sandra Taylor Smith's fingerprints on a great many of them. Her efforts not only started the rehabilitation of the Argenta neighborhood in North Little Rock, but has affected neighborhoods throughout Arkansas. Sandra has a remarkable list of accomplishments:

- Sandra worked as the National Register Coordinator for the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program, 1975 – 1979.
- Sandra has conducted architectural resource surveys in North Little Rock, Little Rock as well as 23 other cities in Arkansas.
- Sandra has presented National Register of Historic Places nominations for sixty-two nominated sites in Arkansas.

Thanks to Sandra's perseverance and research, Argenta Historic



District was the first working-class neighborhood in the state of Arkansas, and helped promote working-class neighborhoods as worth preserving. Sandra was a founding board member of the Argenta Community Development Corporation and a member of the Main Street Argenta Design Committee from 1995 to 2002. She drafted the ordinance establishing

the Argenta Local Ordinance Historic District which was approved by the North Little Rock City Council in 1993. She wrote the design guidelines for our district and authored design guidelines for eight historic districts throughout Arkansas. We in North Little Rock are lucky enough to have a preservation warrior in our midst. 

Check out our NLR LIBRARIES



The Balloon Man, Marty Boone visited Argenta Library.



Party on the Plaza with NLR Parks and Recreation



Tommy Terrific's Wacky Magic



NLR High School Class of 1972 used equipment from the Laman Makerspace to make mugs for their class reunion.



The North Little Rock Bow-lievers performed at Laman and Argenta libraries in June.



Both Laman and Argenta libraries donated over 100 boxes of cereal to Amboy Community Food Pantry.



Nitro Joe wowed children at Laman Library with his interactive science show this summer.



Children at Argenta Library attended an outdoor Summer Paint and Sip.

Community Gardens

At 12 years old, Adara Kelly stands as one of the youngest gardeners in the North Little Rock Community Garden Program. Her gardening journey began at just five years old with her mother, Chelle Kelly, at the St. Joseph Center of Arkansas (SJCA) Community Garden. Adara jokingly states that the pair started their gardening journey with a “brown thumb,” but after a few years of trial and error (and lots of research), they have morphed into some of the most knowledgeable gardeners. Chelle Kelly currently serves as the St. Joseph Center Community Garden Manager.


Adara maintains her own plot at the St. Joseph Center Community Garden, and it's chock-full of

cosmos, Malabar spinach, dill, heirloom tomatoes, and ghost peppers. Reflecting on the brutally hot and dry summer, Adara's biggest challenge was staying motivated in the heat. What keeps her going? Her answer is community. She enjoys sharing resources, giving advice, and the quirky nature of impromptu garden talk. Most of all, she loves forming friendships with the gardeners and on-site staff including Executive Director Sandy DeCoursey, Program Manager Brianna Ham, and the North Little Rock Mayor's Summer Youth Intern Emily Harris.

Adara encourages more young folks to join the collective gardening movement! In a time where most of us are glued to

screens, she says, “gardening gives us the opportunity to disconnect from our phones, reconnect with nature, and recharge our social battery.” In addition to gardening at SJCA, Adara maintains an at-home garden, volunteers at the Amboy Elementary School garden, and participates in our program's monthly Garden Manager meetings held every fourth Wednesday from 5:00 – 6:00 pm at North Little Rock Neighborhood Services.

Adara's Top Five Gardening Tips:

- 1. Do your research.** It is important to understand the environmental conditions needed for a specific plant to thrive.
- 2. Proactively approach pest management.** Identify the early warning signs of bug infestation and disease and treat organically. The later you address the issue, the worse your problem becomes.
- 3. Water appropriately.** Too much water can drown a plants root systems, but too little water can cause them to wilt and die.
- 4. Save your seeds.** Harvesting seeds at the end of a plants lifecycle saves money and allows you to keep growing your favorite variety of produce.
- 5. Build your soil.** Adding nutrients to your garden throughout the year enhances the soil food web, making for healthier and more productive plants. 





Leaf Removal

- ☛ NLR leaf trucks will begin pickup this year when the leaves begin to fall.
- ☛ **BE PREPARED!** The City will keep you posted on Facebook with weekly updates on the current work area and the next area the NLR leaf trucks will visit.
- ☛ NLR leaf trucks make **THREE (3)** trips throughout the City each leaf season.
- ☛ NLR leaf trucks must be emptied, so, if a truck leaves your street unfinished or misses your house, **THEY WILL BE BACK!**
- ☛ Ideally, all NLR leaf trucks work together in a specific area of the City; however, trucks require maintenance and therefore may be in for servicing.
- ☛ Factors that affect the schedule and timeliness of leaf pick up in our City:
 - ☛ **WHEN** the leaves fall and the **AMOUNT** of leaves
 - ☛ Rain or inclement weather
 - ☛ Wet leaves
 - ☛ Equipment failure. Sometimes items in your leaves can cause damage to the trucks.
 - ☛ Shortage of employees: illness/absenteeism/job vacancies





**Please contact the NLR Sanitation Department with questions:
501-906-6327 or nlrsanitation@nlr.ar.gov**

Neighborhood Services

North Little Rock Neighborhood Services is a resource for your local neighborhood association. The purpose is to assist and coordinate with neighborhood action groups in furthering goals of reducing crime and preserving the history and culture of the neighborhoods in North Little Rock. Neighborhood Services assists with preventing blight and deterioration of property values and improving the quality of life in our residential neighborhoods.

North Little Rock Neighborhood Services currently assists with preparation of meeting announcements/newsletters and provides supplies for distribution as well as materials and equipment for meetings. Neighborhood Services has a small supply of tables, tents and chairs that they loan for neighborhood use or non-profit events in North Little Rock. They may be reserved by calling the Neighborhood Services office at 501-791-8500.

Neighborhood Services also serves as the liaison with residents, providing notifications such as crime information, the possibility of flooding, and city plans to focus services on a specific neighborhood. Neighborhood Services publishes a bi-monthly newsletter which contains a calendar of city and neighborhood meeting dates, contact information for neighborhood groups, and helpful information from the city. A subscription to the newsletter is free and available in either paper or digital format by calling the office. 

Tuesday, October 4, 2022, is National Night Out! This annual event is neighborhood-driven and the official slogan this year is "Give Crime a Going-Away Party". Please contact us if you are planning a National Night Out block party for your neighborhood so we can provide goodies for the children and include your event in our calendar. 



Progress in our city



The City of North Little Rock is excited about the new health clinic in Rose City. Dr. Stan Kellar with Baptist Health was an integral part of the development of this partnership. Ward 2 Council members Linda Robinson and Maurice Taylor worked closely with Mayor Hartwick to bring this facility to North Little Rock residents.

Members of the Park Hill Business Association broke ground recently for the Park Hill Jump Start project along with members of the North Little Rock Chamber of Commerce, city leaders including Ward 1 Council members Debi Ross and Nathan Hamilton. The Park Hill Jump Start project is funded through a Metroplan grant.





North Little Rock Fire Chief Gerald Tucker is picture with Ward 1 Council member Debi Ross at the Ground Breaking Ceremony for Fire Station 8 in Burns Park held this summer. Construction has now begun on station 8 which was funded by the half penny tax approved by voters in 2017. By relocating station 8, firefighters will be providing immediate access to a larger portion of their response area, both east, west and also to Interstate 40. Construction should be completed in late 2023.



North Little Rock is pleased to welcome the PACE program to their new location on Springhill Drive. Baptist Health PACE is an all-inclusive program for the aging population that allows them to stay in the home they love and still get the care they need. PACE understands the demands of working while still trying to care for a loved one, especially a frail or elderly parent. Through this program, PACE provides and coordinates all the medical care—including home care, therapies, transportation, and other services—that your loved ones need to live a healthy, safe life in their home.

In 2019 this 450 acre site was a corn farm. Over 2350 jobs have been created to date with a private investment of approximately \$370,000,000 in North Little Rock. Work has begun on the 120 acre site that will house the new Lowe's Distribution Center. The 1.2 million square foot facility will service stores in Arkansas, Tennessee, and Mississippi and is projected to create at least 500 new jobs in 2023. The new Dollar General Distribution Facility is set to kick off in late September. The 146 acre site will house dry and refrigerated goods and supply stores in Arkansas and east Mississippi. This facility will help push Dollar General's fresh food initiative for their local stores and create at least 350 new jobs in North Little Rock. Development of site three will be announced soon! More jobs! More investment in North Little Rock!



North Little Rock Chief of Police Patrick Thessing and Captain Kim Francisco are pictured with Faulkner Lake neighbors Marie Hollowell, President of Stone Links Neighborhood Association and Billy Brooks.



North Little Rock residents living near Faulkner Lake Road have dealt with flooding issues for years. Mayor Hartwick and the North Little Rock City Council have listened to the residents in the Faulkner Lake neighborhoods and are making much needed improvements along Faulkner Lake Road to mitigate flooding. A ground breaking was held in August to celebrate the project which is scheduled to be completed in early May 2023.

Mark your Calendar

OCTOBER

- 4** **National Night Out**, neighborhoods throughout NLR, various times
- 7** **BLUE & FAITH Blood Drive**, 8:00 am - 2:00 pm
NLR Justice Center, #1 Justice Center Drive, NLR
Sponsors: NLR First Baptist Church and the NLR Police Department
- 8** **BLUE & FAITH Movie in the Plaza**, 6:30 - 9:30 pm
Argenta Plaza, 510 Main Street, NLR
Sponsors: NLR First Assembly of God and the NLR Police Department
- 9** **BLUE & FAITH Child Safety Seat Installation**, 1:00-3:00 pm
Park Hill Baptist Church, John F. Kennedy Blvd. & "C" Street, NLR
Sponsors: Park Hill Baptist Church and the NLR Police Department
- 10** **BLUE & FAITH Community Forum**, 6:00-8:00 pm
Full Counsel Metro Church, 1521 Main Street, NLR
Sponsors: Full Counsel Metro Church and the NLR Police Department
- 15** **More Than Pink, Run & Walk**, NLR Riverfront Park, Race begins at 8:00 am
- 21/22** **North Little Rock Air Show**
NLR Municipal Airport, 8200 Remount Road, NLR
Friday, 4:00 pm and Saturday, 9:00 am
- 28** **NLR Unsheltered Outreach Fair**, NLR Riverfront Park, 10:00am - 3:00 pm
- 29** **National Prescription Drug Take Back**, McCain Mall, 10:00 am - 2:00 pm

NOVEMBER

- 6** Daylight Savings Time Ends
- 11** Veterans Day, City Offices Closed
- 15** Mayor's Annual Christmas Tree Lighting, Argenta Plaza, 6:00 pm
- 19** Northern Lights Festival, Downtown Argenta, 3:00 - 8:30 pm
- 24/25** Thanksgiving Holidays, City Offices Closed

DECEMBER

- 4** **NLR Christmas Parade**, 2:00 pm
- 23/26** Observation of Christmas Eve and Christmas Day, City Offices Closed



Argenta Community Theater's SUMMER WORKSHOP



The Argenta Community Theater (ACT), founded in 2008 and opened in 2010, has become a centerpoint for downtown North Little Rock. Argenta Community Theater's ACTing Up program is an annual summer camp provided to students in 3rd - 12th grade. This past summer was ACTing Ups first time presenting a fully student produced musical as well as offering diverse courses such as technical theatre. This year's ACTing Up class consisted of 105 students. ACT is excited to continue the ACTing Up program as well as new class offering to be announced in the near future. In partnership with the City of North Little Rock, ACT would like to express our appreciation to Mayor Terry Hartwick and the North Little Rock Council Members for their support as well as our sponsors: The Tenenbaum Foundation, Tiffany and Will Feland, Legacy Termite, the NLR Convention & Visitors Bureau, Pulaski County Government, The Insalaco Scholarship Fund and the Arkansas Arts Council. If you would like to become involved with ACT, please contact Sydney Wolfe or Alyson Courtney at 501-353-1443 or visit our website at argentacommunitytheater.org

ACT 2022-2023 Season

<p><i>DRIVING MISS DAISY</i></p> <p>October 27 - November 5, 2022</p>	<p><i>WHITE CHRISTMAS</i> THE MUSICAL</p> <p>December 7 - 17, 2022</p>	
<p><i>THE PRODUCERS</i> A MEL BROOKS MUSICAL</p> <p>February 22 - March 4, 2023</p>	<p><i>Cinderella</i></p> <p>April 19 - 29, 2023</p>	<p><i>Crimes of the Heart</i></p> <p>May 11 - 20, 2023</p>

North Little Rock Animal Shelter Mobile Adoption Unit



The North Little Rock Animal Shelter Mobile Adoption Unit is excited about getting out in the community later this fall. The shelter makes posts on Facebook each week containing pictures of animals that need a good home. You can view pictures posted by visiting nlr.ar.gov (animal shelter) or directly on the NLR Animal Shelter Adoptable Facebook page.

North Little Rock Electric Drive-thru Services Permanently Closed

What should I do now?

NLR Electric offers five easy ways to pay your electric bill with NO payment processing fees:

- **Website** - View and pay your electric bills online at your convenience, 24 hours a day, seven days a week, with NLR Electric's "My Account".
- **Mobile App** - NLR Electric's "My Account" is now available for mobile devices and tablets. With one click, you can now access your account anytime, anywhere. Download from the App Store or Google Play.
- **Phone** - You can pay your bill, 24 hours a day, using your checking account, debit card, or credit card by calling 501-975-8889.
- **Mail** - NLR Electric still accepts checks and money orders sent through the United States Postal Service. Please remember, if you need to make a payment by a certain date, please allow for the extra delivery time.

North Little Rock Electric Department
P.O. Box 936
North Little Rock, Arkansas 72115

- **MoneyGram** - NLR Electric has partnered with MoneyGram to increase the number of locations (Walmart, Kroger, etc.) and hours of operation available for you to pay your electric bill. Please use code 19020 when paying.



Other services such as Start/Stop/Transfer service, forms, rates, and payment billing options are also easily available online or by phone at 501-975-8888.

For more information, please visit nlrelectric.com/moving



North Little Rock Contact Information

Mayor	Terry C. Hartwick	501-975-8601	mayor@nlr.ar.gov
City Clerk/Treasurer	Diane Whitbey	501-975-8617	dwhitbey@nlr.ar.gov
City Attorney	Amy Fields	501-975-3755	nlrlegal@nlr.ar.gov
Judge (Traffic)	Judge Randy Morley	501-791-8562	kathy.davis@nlrpolice.org
Judge (Criminal/Civil)	Judge Paula Juels Jones	501-791-8559	vicki.weed@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	Maurice Taylor	501-690-6444	mtaylor@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	Jane Ginn	501-749-5344	jginn@nlr.ar.gov
Ward 4 Council Member	Charlie Hight	501-944-0670	chight@nlr.ar.gov
Departments			
Airport	Clay Rogers	501-835-5654	crogers@nlr.ar.gov
Animal Control	Adam Tindall	501-791-8577	atindall@nlr.ar.gov
Code Enforcement	Felecia McHenry	501-791-8581	codedirector@nlr.ar.gov
Commerce	Mary Beth Bowman	501-975-8881	mbowman@nlr.ar.gov
Communications	Shara Brazear	501-975-8833	sbrazear@nlr.ar.gov
Community Development	Bailey Noland	501-340-5342	bnoland@nlr.ar.gov
Convention & Visitors Bureau	Karen Trevino	501-758-1424	ktrevino@northlittlerock.org
Economic Development	Robert Birch	501-516-0839	rbirch@nlr.ar.gov
Economic Development	Colleen Bailey	501-247-1852	cbailey@nlr.ar.gov
Electric	Ryan Wilson	501-975-8888	custserv@nlr.ar.gov
Emergency Services	Leonard Montgomery	501-340-5365	leonard.montgomery@nlrpolice.org
Engineering	Chris Wilbourn	501-371-8339	cwilbourn@nlr.ar.gov
External Affairs & Pandemic Office	Margaret Powell	501-975-8605	mpowell@nlr.ar.gov
Finance	Ember Strange	501-975-8802	nlrfinance@nlr.ar.gov
Fire	Gerald Tucker	501-340-5377	gtucker@nlr.ar.gov
Fit2Live	LaKaisha Shelby	501-975-8628	lshelby@nlr.ar.gov
Health	Lucille Rose	501-791-8551	lucille.rose@arkansas.gov
History Commission	Sandra Taylor-Smith	501-371-0755	nlrhistory@comcast.net
Human Resources	Betty Anderson	501-975-8850	banderson@nlr.ar.gov
Laman Library	Crystal Gates	501-758-1720	crystal.gates@lamanlibrary.org
Mayor's Youth Council	Jan Scholl	501-951-0866	nlrmc22@aol.com
Neighborhood Services & Community Gardens	Dan Scott	501-791-8500	nlrneighborhoodserv@nlr.ar.gov
Parks & Recreation	Steve Shields	501-791-8538	parksandrec@nlr.ar.gov
Planning	Shawn Spencer	501-975-8835	sspencer@nlr.ar.gov
Police	Patrick Thessing	501-771-7101	nlrpd@nlrpolice.org
Recycling	Customer Service	501-565-0191	wmcares@wm.com
Safety/Traffic Services	Kenny Stephens	501-371-8330	kastephens@nlr.ar.gov
Sanitation	Condo Breedlove	501-371-8340	nlrsanitation@nlr.ar.gov
Special Projects	Dr. Arnessa Bennett	501-975-3737	abennett@nlr.ar.gov
Senior Citizens Center	Steve Carr	501-975-4297	scarr@nlr.ar.gov
Street	Patrick Lane	501-340-5356	plane@nlr.ar.gov
Unsheltered Community	Officer Jhailan Rathey	501-975-8780	nlrunsheltered@nlr.ar.gov
Vehicle Maintenance	Kenny Brock	501-340-5371	kbrock@nlr.ar.gov
Wastewater	Michael Clayton	501-945-7186	mclayton@nlrwu.com