



NLR Neighborhood News

Precinct and Voting Location Changes and Requirements

The Pulaski Election Commission has approved changes in voting locations for the May primary elections. This election not only decides the candidates from each party that will be on the ballot in November, it also is THE election for judicial candidates. Typically the races for judges would take place in May with any necessary runoff elections for those positions in November. Since there are no judicial races with more than two candidates in this election, the May election will effectively select our judges.

The Election Commission consists of three members: two are appointed by the majority party and one by the minority party. Currently that would be two members selected by the Republican Party and one by the Democratic Party. The county precinct map was changed after the 2020 Census data was available. The Election Commission decided to have only one polling location per precinct. The number of polling sites was reduced from 104 to 89 in Pulaski County at a meeting of the Election Commission on February 25th.

In practical terms in North Little Rock this means the polling location at Glenview Community Center was closed and voters who went there must now go to the Sherman Park Recreation Center to vote. This follows the changes in the previous election when the Rose City and Meadowpark polling sites were closed and moved to Glenview. Now voters from Rose City, Glenview, Meadowpark, and Sherman Park will be voting at one location – the Sherman Park Recreation Center at 624 N. Beech Street. Concerns raised about consolidating all four neighborhoods into one polling location include possible parking shortages, longer lines, and the fact that the Sherman Park neighborhood is not served by a bus route.

The polling location in downtown Argenta at City Hall has also been moved. Voters formerly voting at that polling location will now need to go to the Maple Place at 2500 Willow Street (formerly known as the Willow House).

There have been changes in voting requirements as well after the state legislature passed laws affecting who and when we can vote. Act 128 requires that all counties put sample ballots for each polling site online for voters to review. Act 249 amends the state Constitution to end the right to vote for people who lack certain forms of identification. Prior to this change, voters without ID could sign a statement swearing to their identity. This can affect elderly and rural residents who lack transportation to get to county offices to obtain ID cards. Act 973 moves up the deadline to return absentee ballots in person to the Friday before the election. Act 249 also requires submission of a photocopy of a voter's ID with an absentee ballot. Act 739 creates new signature matching requirements for absentee ballots. If the signature on the absentee application looks different from the signature on the original voter registration card, no absentee ballot will be provided. It is now illegal to purposefully hand out bottles of water to voters waiting in line at polling locations. If you have questions about changes in requirements to vote, call your state representative or state senator.

If you have questions about your precinct or polling location, the Pulaski County Election Commission can be reached at 501-340-8383. Their website is votepulaski.net and their offices are located at 501 West Markham Street, Suite A in Little Rock, Arkansas 72201. You can look up your voter registration and sample ballots at that website. Watch for updated voter registration cards in your mail.

Traveling Safety -- More than 500 Americans were killed or wounded in 2021 during road rage incidents, making it the worst year on record. An average of 44 people per month are shot during road rage incidents in this country. Numbers in 2019 went from 225 wounded and 68 killed to 400 wounded and 130 killed in 2021.



In a survey of drivers, 80% admitted expressing significant anger or aggression at least once during driving in the previous year. A study showed that 56% of fatal crashes over a five year period involved aggressive driving. Males between the ages of 19 and 39 were most likely to exhibit road rage. They were three times more likely to ram another vehicle or get out and aggressively confront another driver than female drivers.

Of the drivers who admitted to road rage in the previous year, 51% tailgated, 47% yelled, 45% honked, 33% made gestures, 24% blocked someone from changing lanes, 12% cut someone off on purpose, 4% left their vehicle to physically confront someone, and 3% deliberately bumped or hit another vehicle.

Road rage is often an exemption in car insurance policies, meaning there is zero coverage for an incident in which you are exhibiting road rage. Road rage cases involving guns doubled between 2014 and 2016. The very presence of a gun in a vehicle actually seems to lead to aggressive driving according to studies. Road rage deaths are often prosecuted as deliberate murders in our court system.

Factors that breed road rage include heavy traffic, traffic delays, issues with merging, and running late. The anonymity of driving a car also increases the possibility of road rage (as anyone who reads anonymous comments on social media can attest to). A general feeling that rules apply to others and not them and a disregard of other drivers as people also increases the likelihood of road rage. Road rage also becomes a habitual behavior, turning into the norm for angry drivers. Angry drivers tend to view bad driving behavior by others as intentionally aggressive and the other driver as evil. Negative interpretation of driving events can lead to plans for revenge. Incidents inciting road rage usually involve tailgating, cutting others off, or distracted driving.

53% of drivers feel that speeding 10 MPH over the speed limit is normal. Failing to move out of the left hand lane on the interstate when others behind you wish to drive faster is not just illegal but extremely frustrating to drivers behind you. 1/3 of collisions involve road rage. 50% of drivers will respond to road rage with road rage of their own. 2% actually admit to trying to run another vehicle off the road.

Experts suggest that to avoid road rage we should leave in plenty of time to get to our destination. They also suggest we give the other driver a break. They may be lost. Or they may have just forgotten to check their mirrors when changing lanes. Allowing someone to merge ahead of you, even if they ran all the way to the merge point in the lane that was ending, doesn't really cost you anything. Your goal is to get you and any passengers to your destination safely, not to be the traffic monitor. And whatever you do, don't stop and get out to confront another angry driver.

(For more information, go to nbcnews.com "Road-rage Shootings See Worst Year on Record in 2021", Geico.com, newsroom.aaa.com, and Policyadvice.net.)

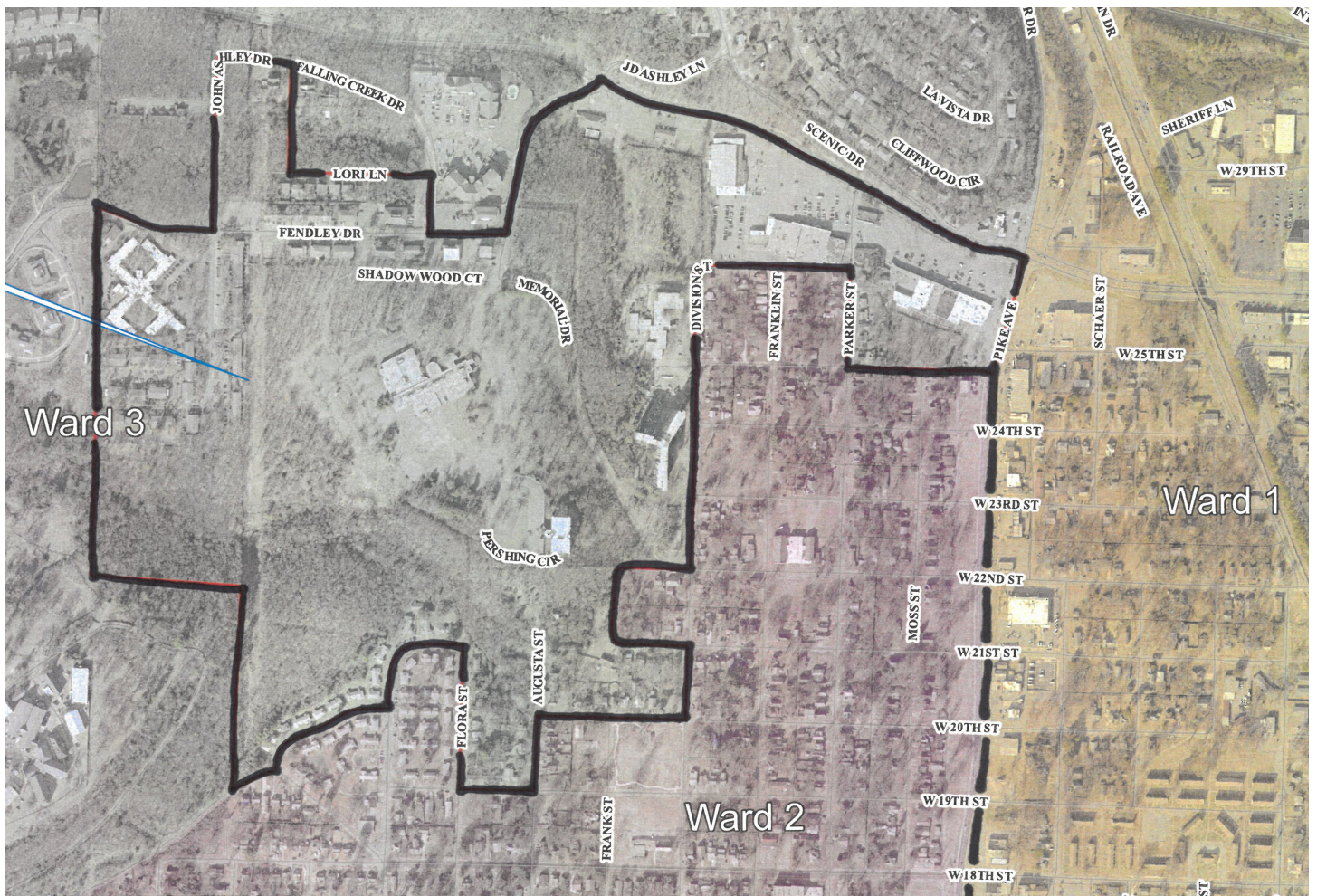
Ward Boundary Changes in North Little Rock

Following the release of the census data from the 2020 Census, the City Council has to redraw ward boundaries to ensure equal populations in each ward. This is required by state law and by equal protection guarantees. Redrawing the boundaries is an art as well as science. The Planning Department for the city looks to disturb existing ward boundaries as little as possible while at the same time making all wards equal. The City Council approved ward boundary changes in April.

Gaining area this year, and for the next ten years, are Ward Two (acquiring voters around Fort Roots from Ward Three), and Ward One (acquiring voters in Levy from both Wards Three and Four). Ward Three is smaller now, mainly because of the increase of population in the apartment complexes along Maumelle Boulevard.

Ward Two picked up residences on the north end of the Baring Cross neighborhood around Fort Roots. The Scenic Hill neighborhood is staying in Ward Three. Ward One acquired residences from Ward Three in Levy, between Pike Avenue and MacArthur Drive/Lynn Lane up to 47th Street. North of 47th from Camp Robinson Road to Pike Avenue, Ward One also picks up residences north to 51st and Allen and 52nd and Allen. Ward One also acquired the area from 47th St/McCain Blvd from Camp Robinson Road to Velvet Ridge Drive from Ward 4.

If you have questions about your ward and Council Members go to the City's website, nlr.ar.gov and click on the "How Do I..." section. Go to "Find my Ward/Council Member". Type in your address on the map, but do not put North Little Rock, AR. Hit enter and the map should bring up your Ward and Council Members names and contact information.



Questions? Contact the Following

All dates are evening meetings unless otherwise noted.



Amboy Crime Watch

3rd Monday, 6:00

Burns Park Hospitality House,
Military Drive & Joe Poch Road
Paula Lively, 501-350-7649
acw@aol.com

Amboy Neighborhood Assn.

Every 3rd Monday, 6:30

Burns Park Hospitality House
Military Drive & Joe Poch Rd.
Michelle Holt, 501-348-6953
Petminders@live.com

Argenta Neighborhood Boosters

Every 3rd Thursday, 6:00

NLR Heritage Center
506 Main Street
Katie Gleason, 501-773-6189

Baring Cross Neighborhood Assn.

Every 3rd Monday, 6:00

ACTS Church
13th & Franklin Sts.
Harlan Hunter, 501-541-1591

Cobblestone Crime Watch

2nd Tuesday, 6:30

January, April, July & October
Suni Mc Clelland, 501-920-5330
sunimcclellad@gmail.com

Dark Hollow Community Development Corporation

Every 3rd Tuesday, 6:30

1400 Pine Street
Belinda Burney, 501-376-8144

Dixie Addition Community Development Corporation

Every 3rd Monday, 6:00

914 "H" Street
Earnest Franklin, 501-563-5400

Glenview Neighborhood Assn.

Every 1st Tuesday, 7:00

Glenview Rec. Ctr, 4800 E 19th St.
Tim Deloney, 501-553-8703
timrdeloney@comcast.net

HOLT Neighborhood Assn.

3rd Monday, 6:30

March, June, August & November
Gardner Memorial United Methodist
Joy Cameron, 501-374-9520

Keep North Little Rock Beautiful

Every 2nd Monday, 6:00

Rockwater Marina Clubhouse
Randy Naylor, 501-350-8775 or
Lisa Smith, 501-791-2568;
KNLRB@aol.com
or www.Facebook.com/KNLRB

Meadow Park Neighborhood Assn.

2nd Tuesday, 7:00

May, July, September & November
Bethany Baptist Church
308 Eureka Gardens Road
Michael Davis, 501-442-0744

Melrose Outreach

Every 3rd Wednesday, 7:00

Melrose Grocery, 807 Willow St.
Phone: 501-372-3810/501-374-7842

Military Heights Outreach Assn.

Every 2nd Thursday, 6:30

North Little Rock Community Center

NAACP

Every 1st Tuesday, 6:00

P.O. Box 5571
North Little Rock, AR 72119
Deborah F. Rhodes, Ph: 501-819-3890
nlrnaacp201@yahoo.com

Neighbors United for Levy

Every 1st Monday, 6:30

No Heights Recreation, 4801 Allen
Doug McDowall, 501-758-1668

North Little Rock Landlords Assn

Every 3rd Monday, 7:00

NLR Community Ctr, 2700 Willow St.
Gail Blucker, 501-835-6679

Park Hill Neighborhood

1st Tuesday, Odd months only, 6:00

Idlewild Park Historic Building
Corner of D, No. Cedar & Plainview
John Gregan, 501-758-7159
johngregan@att.net

Ridge Road Village Neighborhood Watch

Every 4th Thursday, 5:00

4748 Ridge Rd, Phone : 501-771-7500

Rose City Neighborhood Assn.

Every 3rd Monday, 6:00

Rose City Recreation Center
400 Rose Lane
Ken Abel, 501-791-8500, lv message
Nlrrosecityneighborhood@gmail.com

Scenic Hill Neighborhood Assn.

2nd Thursday, 7:00 in

January, March, June & September
Randy Naylor, 501-350-8775

Second St Neighborhood Watch Assn

Every 3rd Wednesday, 6:00

Sherman Park Rec. Center
624 North Beech Street

Sertoma Club of NLR

Every Wednesday, 12:00 noon

US Pizza on Warden Road

Sherman Park Neighborhood

Every 3rd Monday, 6:00

8th St. Baptist Church
Corner of Hickory & SA Jones Sts.
Artis Boykin, 501-766-0200

Stone Links Neighborhood Assn.

Every 3rd Tuesday, 6:00

Stone Links Golf Course Clubhouse
Marie Hollowell, 404-259-2957

Willow Beach Neighborhood Assn

2nd Tuesday in March & October, 6:30

Church at Willow Beach
John Santaro, 501-607-1755

**City of North Little Rock
City Hall 300 Main Street**

Elected Officials

Mayor Terry Hartwick 975-8601
 City Clerk, Diane Whitbey 975-8617
 City Attorney, Amy Fields 975-3755

Council Members

Ward 1

Debi Ross 753-0733
 Nathan Hamilton 952-7679

Ward 2

Linda Robinson 945-8820
 Maurice Taylor 690-6444

Ward 3

Steve Baxter 804-0928
 Ron Harris 758-2877

Ward 4

Charlie Hight 944-0670
 Jane Ginn 749-5344

NLR Neighborhood News

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 Monday-Friday
 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Comments? We would like to hear from you. If you have neighborhood meetings or activities to be placed in the newsletter, please mail, fax, email or call the information to us. Are you reading someone else's copy? If you would like to be placed on our mailing list, contact our office.

North Little Rock Neighborhood News is a bi-monthly publication. Please note the following deadlines for information to be published:

Issue	Deadline Date
July/August	June 1
Sept/Oct	August 1
Nov/Dec	October 1



Join the movement to make North Little Rock a more diverse, equitable and inclusive city and community.

Be a part of the commitment by signing up now!

For more information contact: Dr. Arnessa Bennett at (501) 975-3737 or email: abennett@nlr.ar.gov.



**2022
Recycling
Weeks**

- May 8 & 22
- June 5 & 19
- July 3, 17 & 31
- August 14 & 28
- September 11 & 25
- October 9 & 23
- November 6 & 20
- December 4 & 18

Put your bins to the curb by 7:00 a.m. the day of your regular household garbage pick up. Put them away by 8:00 a.m. the next day.

Recycling Questions?
 Call Waste Management
 at (501) 565-0191.

**North Little Rock
City Meetings**

Thomas Cemetery Committee
 1st Monday, 6:15 pm
 Levy Baptist Church,
 3501 Pike Ave.

NLR Airport Commission
 3rd Thursday, 12:00 pm
 120 Main Street, Room A
 City Services Building

City Council Meetings
 2nd & 4th Monday, 6:00 p.m.
 NLR City Hall
 300 Main Street

Planning Commission
 2nd Tuesday, 4:00 pm
 300 Main Street

History Commission
 2nd Tuesday, 5:30 pm
 506 Main Street

Historic District Commission
 2nd Thursday, 5:30 pm
 506 Main Street

**Parks & Recreation
Commission**
 3rd Monday, 5:00 pm
 2700 Willow Street

City Beautiful Commission
 3rd Monday, 1:30 p.m.
 3427 North Magnolia Street

Senior Citizen Commission
 Every 4th Monday, 3:00 p.m.
 401 West Pershing

Planning Commission
 Board of Adjustment & Appeal
 Last Thursday of each month,
 1:30 p.m.
 120 Main Street,
 2nd floor, west end

Arkansas Game and Fish Commission (AGFC)

Randy Zellers Assistant Chief of Communications

Witt Stephens Jr Central Arkansas Nature Center — Each spring, young male black bears emerge from their dens and strike out to find new territories. While sightings of these misguided youths certainly grab the attention of people living in neighborhoods bordering bear country, they often move on as long as people don't give them a reason to stay.



Bears are part of Arkansas and have been since before the state was settled. In fact, Arkansas once was so rich with black bears that its official nickname was “The Bear State.” Unrestricted hunting for their fur and fat led to the bear’s rapid decline by the early 1900s. Thanks to the efforts of conservationists and biologists with the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission, Arkansas again has bears throughout much of the state in the areas they once roamed. But living with bears requires a brief mention about bear biology.

Female bears will spend two winters with their cubs: the first when they are newborns, and the second as adolescents. In their second year, female cubs will be allowed to stay in a portion of their mother’s territory, but male bears are forced away to find a new home on their own.

“It’s nature’s way of ensuring genetic diversity,” said Myron Means, bear program coordinator for the AGFC.

“The young males will wander for a while until they find a new home with good food resources.”

Unfortunately, that search may land young bears in some sticky situations. Open trash cans, bowls filled with pet food and areas where people have dumped cooking grease or table scraps often attract these wayward bears. Wildlife feeders also act as magnets to these young bruins, who will take advantage of the free meal.

“The first thing we tell anyone to do when they have a nuisance bear in the area is to put away any possible foods, including deer feeders, bird feeders and dog food, and to keep trash cans locked or put away where they are inaccessible for a couple of days,” Means says. “That’s usually all it takes for the bear to move on.”

Just like grandpa told you about snakes and other scary critters, bears are much more scared of people than we are of them. But if a bear is allowed to stick around, it can begin to associate people with a free meal, and that’s when trouble starts. Means suggests people who see bears where they don’t want them, make it clear they need to move on.

“Making noise, yelling and throwing a rock or two at the bear will give it the message that it’s not welcome,” Means said. “Bears aren’t aggressive animals and they don’t have a desire for revenge or anything. They just realize the area isn’t comfortable to stay in and will go away.”

More information about bear awareness and bear safety can be found on the cooperative website www.Bearwise.org. This site was developed by bear biologists throughout the Southeast and includes information specific to Arkansas.

Please notify Neighborhood Services of any address change. Bulk rate mail will not be forwarded.



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