

North Little Rock e-Newsletter

Provided by Diane Whitbey, City Clerk and Treasurer

March 2016

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.



EASTER EGG TRADITIONS

An egg hunt is a game during which decorated eggs, real hard-boiled ones or artificial ones filled with, or made of chocolate candies, of various sizes, are hidden for children to find, both indoors and outdoors. When the hunt is over, prizes may be given for the largest number of eggs collected, or for the largest or the smallest egg. Real eggs may further be used in egg tapping contests.

In the North of England, during Eastertide, a traditional game is played where hard boiled *pace* eggs are distributed and each player hits the other player's egg with their own. This is known as "egg tapping", "egg dumping" or "egg jarping". The winner is the holder of the last intact egg. The losers get to eat their eggs. The annual egg jarping world championship is held every year over Easter in Peterlee Cricket Club. It is also practiced in Italy where is called Scuccetta (Mainly in Marche Region), Bulgaria, Hungary, Croatia, Latvia, Lithuania, Lebanon, Macedonia, Romania, Serbia, Ukraine, and other countries. In parts of Austria, Bavaria and German-speaking Switzerland it is called *Ostereiertischen* or *Eierpecken*. In parts of Europe it is also called *epper*, presumably from the German name *Opfer*, meaning "offering" and in Greece it is known as *tsougrisma*. In South Louisiana this practice is called Pocking Eggs and is slightly different. The Louisiana Creoles hold that the winner eats the eggs of the losers in each round.

The central European Slavic nations (Czechs and Slovaks etc.) have a tradition of gathering eggs by gaining them from the females in return of whipping them with a pony-tail shaped whip made out of fresh willow branches and splashing them with water, by the Ruthenians called *polivanja*, which is supposed to give them health and beauty.

Egg rolling is also a traditional Easter egg game played with eggs at Easter. In the United Kingdom, Germany, and other countries children traditionally rolled eggs down hillsides at Easter. This tradition was taken to the New World by European settlers, and continues to this day each Easter on the White House lawn. Different nations have different versions of the game.

The information above was found at Wikipedia.org.



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

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



North Shore Animal League America—the world's largest no-kill rescue and adoption organization—has saved the lives of over 1 million dogs, cats, puppies and kittens at risk of euthanasia. Through their many innovative programs, they reach across the country to rescue animals from overcrowded shelters, unwanted litters, puppy mills, natural disasters and other emergencies and find them permanent, loving homes. As a leader in the no-kill movement, they are dedicated to promoting shelter pet adoptions; encouraging spay/neuter programs; reducing animal cruelty; ending euthanasia; and advancing the highest standards in animal welfare. Please join them in saving the lives of innocent animals by donating to support their lifesaving mission.

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North Shore Animal League Annual Tour For Life 2016

April 9, 2016 Lakewood Village Shopping Center

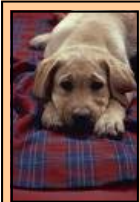
For more information call 501-791-8577



Animal League Spokesperson Beth Stern (pictured below) is an incredible advocate for the animals, and a proud parent to Animal League adopted cats Apple, Walter, Leon Bear, Charlie Boy, Bella and Yoda.

Beth helps focus national attention on the plight of shelter animals, appearing on so many TV and cable shows to help spread the word about shelter adoptions.

Beth also helps behind the scenes, lending a hand to our rescue team as they take animals from the Mobile Adoption Units to the medical facility. Beth's passion for the animals is truly unmatched — she even ran a 26.2 mile marathon to save lives.



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

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



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



North Little Rock Fire Department

Wildfire Facts found at Air Force Emergency Management

Wildfires are usually signaled by dense smoke that fills the area for miles around.

There are three different classes of wildfires. A surface fire is the most common type and burns along the floor of a forest moving slowly and killing or damaging trees. A ground fire is usually started by lightning and burns on or below the forest floor. Crown fires spread rapidly by wind and move quickly by jumping along the tops of trees.

More than four out of every five forest fires are started by people. Negligent human behaviors such as smoking in forested areas or improperly extinguishing campfires are the cause of many fires. The other cause of forest fires is lightning.

DANGER ZONES

All wooded, brush, and grassy areas, especially those in Kansas, Mississippi, Louisiana, Georgia, Florida, the Carolinas, Tennessee, California, Massachusetts, and the national forests of the western U. S.

ACTIONS TO CONSIDER BEFORE A FIRE

Protect Your Home

- ▶ Consider installing protective shutters or heavy fire-resistant drapes.
- ▶ Keep handy household items that can be used as fire tools: a rake, axe, hand or chainsaw, bucket and shovel.
- ▶ Avoid using wooden shakes and shingles for a roof. Use tile, stucco, metal siding, brick, concrete block, rock, or other fire-resistant materials.
- ▶ Create a 30-50 foot safety zone around your home. Homes built in pine forests have a minimum safety zone of 100 feet. If your home sits on a steep slope, standard protective measures may not suffice.
- ▶ Remove dead branches that extend over the roof and remove vines from the walls of the home.
- ▶ Ask the power company to clear branches from power lines.
- ▶ Stack firewood at least 100 feet (away) and uphill from your home.
- ▶ Arrange temporary housing at a friend or relative's home outside the threatened area.

ACTIONS TO CONSIDER DURING A WILD-

FIRE

- ▶ If time allows: Close windows, vents, doors, venetian blinds or non-combustible window coverings, and heavy drapes. Remove lightweight curtains. Shut off gas at the meter. Turn off pilot lights. Open fireplace damper. Close fireplace screens. Move flammable furniture into the center of the home away from windows and sliding-glass doors. Fill tubs, sinks, and other clean containers with water.
 - ▶ Turn off propane tanks and place combustible patio furniture inside. Connect a garden hose to outside taps. Place lawn sprinklers on the roof and near above-ground fuel tanks and turn them on. Place valuables that will not be damaged by water in a pool or pond.
 - ▶ Back your car into the garage or park in an open space facing the direction of escape. Shut doors and roll up windows. Leave the key in the ignition. Close garage windows and doors but leave them unlocked. Disconnect automatic garage door openers.
 - ▶ Keep pets in one room. Make plans to care for your pets in case you must evacuate.
 - ▶ If caught outside during a wildfire, crouch in a pond or river. Cover head and upper body with wet clothing. If water is not around, look for shelter in a cleared area or among a bed of rocks. Lie flat and cover body with wet clothing or soil. Breathe the air close to the ground through a wet cloth to avoid scorching lungs or inhaling smoke.
- ### **ACTIONS TO CONSIDER AFTER A WILDFIRE**
- ▶ Take care when re-entering a burned area. Hot spots can flare up without warning.
 - ▶ Check the roof immediately and extinguish any sparks or embers.
 - ▶ Check the attic for hidden burning spots.
 - ▶ Continue checking areas around and in the home for smoke and sparks several hours after fire is extinguished.

Are You Ready? Base Emergency Preparedness Information is a series of Quick Series Booklets.

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—year to date water sales for 2015 are 4.8% below the 14 year historical average. Tad Bohannon, CEO. New rates for customers 2017.

Neighborhood Services—Mailed 9,336 neighborhood association announcements/newsletters. Update the following Facebook pages: Neighborhood Services, Rose City Neighborhood Association, and Neighbors United for Levy. Prepared and mailed neighborhood flyers with information about sanitation, animal control, outdoor storage and recycling.

Hays Center—Day trips to Dondies in DesArc, Argenta Library (Bingo and movie) Feastro's buffet, Searcy Senior Center (lunch and program) Red Hat Tea, Bryant Senior Center (lunch), Charlotte's Eats and Lisa's Boutique, Scott Tea and Illalee's Plantation and Benton Old Feed House. Also provided transportation to Doctor's Office and Wal Mart for Housing Authority High Rise Residents (total 298 persons). New program: "15 Invaluable Laws of Growth—focusing on aging."

Utilities Accounting—

Electric bad debt expense January : \$18,901;

New accounts installed: 820

Accounts finalized: 791

Customer related calls—8,727, direct contact with Customer Service—1,802, inside teller payments received 7,270—electric; 8,496—gas / water, drive-thru teller payments 4,262—electric; 4,732—gas / water, Web/IVR payments—4,486.

Street—patched pot holes citywide, picked up litter and finished alleys. Cut and cleaned debris from flood. Hauled off sand, debris and trees. Filled sand bags. Cleaned drainage ditches. Set out cement barriers on Faulkner Lake Road due to flooding, ran down Greenlea Lake, flushed different pipes and basins citywide. Repaired sinkholes and sidewalks.

Sanitation—

Collected and disposed of 1,3390.02 tons (2,678,040 lbs) of household garbage/rubbish. Yard Waste crews collected and disposed



172 loads; 4,500.4 cubic yards of mixed debris along with 381.0 cubic yards of green waste. Leaf crews collected 88 loads (2,856.91 cubic yards of mulched leaves). Pickup has been hindered by weather and holidays. Several move outs and illegal dumps were serviced. Issued 25 Sanitation Code notices/letters and 5 Citations for non-compliance. Picked up 460 tires.

Traffic Services—approved 115 barricade applications for permits. Repaired or replaced 181 signs and posts, marked 4 city vehicles with logo, 37 Arkansas One Call location requests.

Police—10 new recruits hired. In December concentrated on handicapped parking enforcement (150 violations). Continue work with the Governor's Commission on People with Disabilities.

Fire—no report.

Planning—Inspectors completed 263 inspections and covered 3,134 miles in December: 95 Electric; 61 Building; 67 Plumbing; 40 HVAC. New single family permits (14) average \$122,829. Residential remodeling permits (24) average \$10,847. New commercial permits (3) average \$631,661. Major permits: Argenta Flats Apartments, Honda of NLR, AR Tool and Die, Murphy Express, and Seahawk Transport.

Electric Department—38,361—customers, Peak Power—128,695 KW, Territory— 60 square miles, miles of wire—555.1 miles, # Transformers—11,252, Street lights—11,031 (121 repaired), Security lights—3,961 (49 repaired), Smart meters—38,250, Revenue— \$5,393,523. Major outages—0.

City Clerk/Treasurer—processed \$6,936,735.96. Issued 29 new business licenses, 1,800 renewals issued, 120 accounts under review. Last month to collect Restaurant, Hotel/Motel taxes. Advertising and Promotion Commission took over collections, etc. February 1, 2016, as allowed by ordinance. New A&P Forms can be found either by going to the www.northlittlerock.org or go to our website at www.nlr.ar.gov, then City Clerk and Treasurer, then click on NLR A&P Begins Tax Collection 2/1/2016 or contact Robin Powell at 501-758-1424 or email rpowell@northlittlerock.org.

Code Enforcement—104 assigned calls, 435 initiated calls, 28 citations, 368 violation notices, 175 vehicles tagged, 62 structures inspected, 44 rental inspections, 18 food service inspections, 0 search warrant, 2 houses demolished by city, 4 houses demolished by owner. Code Maintenance—16 assigned calls, 18 vacant lots cleared, 13 lots with structures cleared, secured 5 vacant houses, picked up 15 tires.

Continued on next page..

North Little Rock Animal Control—

Incoming animals—130
Adoptions—37
Reclaimed—30
Euthanized—61
Citations issued—47
Dogs sterilized—26
Cats sterilized—6
Calls for service—477
Pulaski County (accepted at NLR)
Incoming Animals—63
Adopted—12
Reclaimed—10
Euthanized—25
One bat tested positive for rabies. Total of 12 tested.
Sent 7 dogs to out of state rescue. Seized 25 illegal pit bulls.

Parks and Recreation—Park Ranger Ian Hope and Chomps the Alligator visited youth at Glenview Community Center ASpire Program. All trails effected by flooding have reopened. Costs to clean up damage (in Burns Park)—\$96,532. Free tax preparation (VITA Free Tax Preparation Program) at North Little Rock Community Center Thursdays (simple returns only), call 501-791-8541 for hours.

North Little Rock Visitors Center—the Visitors Information Center had 534 visitors from 31 states and 9 countries. The Downtown RV Park had 596 reservations with an average state of 3.24 days. The AR Inland Maritime Museum had 586 visitors.

Boiled Eggs for Easter

From time to time we all have boiled eggs and had a “fail” when it’s time to peel them. Below is the way to produce the perfect boiled egg, not overcooked or undercooked.

Boil water, enough in the pot to completely cover eggs.

Using a large spoon, slowly lower eggs into boiling water one at a time (go slowly so your eggs don’t crack).

Boil eggs exactly 15 minutes, then turn the burner off and let eggs sit in pot on burner for 5 more minutes.

Slowly and carefully dump water and eggs into your sink.

While the eggs are still hot, turn on the cold water, and peel under running water. Once peeled, place on a paper towel on a plate to dry.

Cut eggs in half, lengthwise, and remove yolks into a bowl if you are making Deviled Eggs.

Finance—

Revenues (MTD—January)

Taxes	\$ 351,151.58
Licenses/Permits	\$ 780,178.00
Fines/Forfeitures	\$ 171,967.17
Local Option Sales Tax	\$2,028,335.33
Intergovernmental-State	\$ 0.00
Franchises	\$ 297,085.03
Investment/Misc	\$ 24,358.61
User Fees	\$ 115,305.13
Utility Transfer	\$ 46,332.67
Grants & Other	\$ 48,799.53
Transfer from Electric	\$ 923,080.00
Total Revenue:	\$4,786,593.05

Expenditures

Administration	\$ 577,670.34
Animal Shelter	\$ 23,888.77
Special Appropriations	\$(1,197,276.70)
City Clerk	\$ 20,511.25
Emergency Services	\$ 7,543.79
Finance	\$ 61,895.74
Fire	\$1,067,847.49
Health	\$ 4,312.56
Legal	\$ 50,431.33
1st Court	\$ 47,529.44
2nd Court	\$ 42,685.18
Public Defender	\$ 602.98
Human Resources	\$ 50,164.19
Commerce	\$ 16,797.51
Planning	\$ 50,800.35
Police	\$1,537,250.42
Code Enforcement	\$ 40,594.66
Public Works	\$ (9,756.81)
Neighborhood Services	\$ 12,655.17
Sanitation	\$ 207,639.63
Vehicle Maintenance	\$ 34,708.89
Senior Citizens Center	\$ 75,916.95
Communications	\$ 6,858.54
Fit 2 Live	\$ (1,265.34)
Total Expenditures:	\$2,730,006.13



See page 10 for Deviled Egg Recipe.

Zika Virus

Found at www.healthy.arkansas.gov

So if you've watched the news, listened to the radio or read the newspaper, you've heard of the Zika Virus. So what is it? The information below was found on the Arkansas Department of Health's website.

Zika virus is a relatively new disease for the Western hemisphere. It first appeared in Brazil in May of 2015. It has since spread to over 20 countries in Central and South America and the Caribbean. Zika is spread through mosquito bites, not casual person-to-person contact. According to the CDC, the most common symptoms are fever, rash, joint pain, and red, itchy eyes.

"Arkansas residents traveling to Central or South America or the Caribbean, where Zika is present, should take precautions against mosquitoes. If you are pregnant, consider postponing your trip," said Dr. Nate Smith, Arkansas Department of Health Director and State Health Officer. "Arkansas has the kind of mosquitoes that carry Zika virus, so mosquitoes here in Arkansas can become infected with the virus if they bite someone who has Zika. For this reason, people traveling to countries with Zika should avoid mosquito bites for 10 days after they return. Travelers to areas where Zika is present should also go to their doctor if



they experience any of the symptoms associated with Zika within three to seven days after they return."

Zika Virus in Pregnancy

Pregnant women are most at risk for complications from the Zika virus because serious birth defects have been reported in children born to women who are infected with the virus. The CDC is planning studies to learn more about the connection between Zika and children born with birth defects. In the meantime, the

CDC has issued travel guidance for women who are pregnant or who may become pregnant. You can stay up-to-date on their latest travel notices at www.cdc.gov/travel.

Prevention

Ways to avoid mosquito bites include:

- Using an insect repellent containing DEET, picaridin, IR3535 or lemon eucalyptus.
- Wearing long-sleeved shirts and trousers.
- Using air conditioning or window and door screens to keep mosquitoes outside.
- Reducing the number of mosquitoes inside and outside your home by emptying standing water from containers such as flowerpots or buckets. Mosquitoes can breed in as little amount of water as a bottle cap.



Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

CDC 24/7: Saving Lives, Protecting People™

Protection against Mosquitoes, Ticks & Other Arthropods

By Roger S. Nasci, Robert A. Wirtz, William G. Brogdon

Vaccines or chemoprophylactic drugs are available to protect against some vectorborne diseases such as yellow fever, Japanese encephalitis, and malaria; however, travel health practitioners should advise travelers to use repellents and other general protective measures against biting arthropods. The effectiveness of malaria chemoprophylaxis is variable, depending on patterns of drug resistance, bioavailability, and compliance with medication and no similar preventive measures exist for other mosquito borne diseases such as dengue, chikungunya, Zika, and West Nile encephalitis or tick borne diseases such as Lyme borreliosis, tick borne encephalitis, and relapsing fever.

Be aware of peak exposure times and places. Exposure to arthropod bites may be reduced if travelers modify their patterns or locations of activity. Although mosquitoes may bite at any time of day, peak biting activity for vectors of some diseases (such as dengue

and chikungunya) is during daylight hours. Vectors of other diseases (such as malaria) are most active in twilight periods (dawn and dusk) or in the evening after dark. Avoiding the outdoors or taking preventive actions (such as using repellent) during peak biting hours may reduce risk. Place also matters; ticks and chiggers are often found in grasses, woodlands, or other vegetated areas. Local health officials or guides may be able to point out areas with increased arthropod activity.

Wear appropriate clothing. Travelers can minimize areas of exposed skin by wearing long-sleeved shirts, long pants, boots and hats. Tucking in shirts, tucking pants into socks, and wearing closed shoes instead of sandals may reduce risk. Repellents or insecticides, such as permethrin, can be applied to clothing and gear for added protection.

Check for ticks. You should inspect yourself and your clothing for ticks during outdoor activity and at the end of the day. Prompt removal of attached ticks can prevent some infections. *Continued on next page...*

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Showering within 2 hours of being in a tick-infested area reduces the risk of some tick borne diseases.

Repellents for use on skin and clothing.

CDC has evaluated published peer-reviewed scientific literature and data available from EPA to identify several types of EPA-registered products that provide repellent activity sufficient to help people reduce the bites of disease-carrying mosquitoes. Products containing the following active ingredients typically provide reasonably long-lasting protection:

- DEET (chemical name: N,N-diethyl-m-tolua-mide or N,N-diethyl-3-methylbenzamide). Products containing DEET include, but are not limited to, Off!, Cutter, Sawyer, and Ultrathon.
- Picaridin (KBR 3023[Bayrepel] and icaridin outside the US; chemical name: 2-(2-hydroxyethyl)-1-piperidinecarboxylic acid 1-methylpropyl ester). Products containing picaridin include, but are not limited to, Cutter Advanced, Skin So Soft Bug Guard Plus, and Autan (Outside US)
- Oil of lemon eucalyptus (OLE) or PMD (chemical name: para-menthane-3,8-diol), the synthesized version of OLE. Products containing OLE and PMD include, but are not limited to, Repel and Off! Botanicals. This recommendation refers to EPA-registered repellent products containing the active ingredient OLE (or PMD). "Pure" oil of lemon eucalyptus (essential oil not formulated as a repellent) is not recommended; it has not undergone similar, validated testing for safety and efficacy, is not registered with the EPA as an insect repellent, and is not covered by this recommendation.
- IR3535 (chemical name: 3-[N-butyl-N-acetyl]-

aminopropionic acid, ethyl ester). Products containing IR3535 include, but are not limited to Skin So Soft Bug Guard Plus Expedition and SkinSmart.



EPA characterized the active ingredients DEET and picaridin as "conventional repellents" and OLE, PMD, and IR3535 as "biopesticide repellents," which are either derived from or are synthetic versions of natural materials.

Repellent Efficacy

Published data indicate that repellent efficacy and duration of protection vary considerably among products and among mosquito and tick species. Product efficacy and dura-

tion of protection are also markedly affected by ambient temperature, level of activity, amount of perspiration, exposure to water, abrasive removal, and other factors. In general, higher concentrations of active ingredient provide longer duration of protection, regardless of the active ingredient. Products with <10% active ingredient may offer only limited protection, often 1-2 hours. Products that offer sustained-release or controlled-release (microencapsulated) formulations, even with lower active ingredient concentrations, may provide longer protection times. Studies suggest that concentrations of DEET above approximately 50% do not offer a marked increase in protection time against mosquitoes; DEET efficacy tends to plateau at a concentration of approximately 50%. CDC recommends using products with $\geq 20\%$ DEET on exposed skin to reduce biting by ticks that may spread disease.

For more information go to the website below: <http://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/yellowbook/2016/the-pre-travel-consultation/protection-against-mosquitoes-ticks-other-arthropods>.

Leaf Vacuum season ending

Leaf vacuums are picking up "on-call" only. The last day for the leaf vacs this season is **Friday, March 4**. To schedule an "on-call" pickup, call 501-371-8340 and leave your name, address and telephone number.

After March 4, leaves will need to be bagged for weekly curbside pickup. You can also mow (mulch) them. Mulched leaves provide a great food source for lawns and make great composting material!



North Little Rock 911 Dispatcher Debra Lusk Retires



Retirement calls veteran dispatcher

NLR 911 operator a calming voice for three decades

By Jake Sandlin, Arkansas Democrat Gazette Reporter

For 26 years, dispatcher Debra Lusk has been a steady, reassuring voice for often frantic callers in the North Little Rock area reporting fire, an overturned vehicle or a burglar in their home.

"North Little Rock 911. Do you have an emergency?" Lusk answers to caller after caller at the North Little Rock 911 Communications Center, during her 2-10 p.m. shift. She proceeds to gather the vital information that first responders will need, and she works to calm an excited, often scared, voice on the other end of the line.

"No. 1 is to find out the location of the person calling and what's going on," said Lusk, who has 31 years of experience as an emergency operator, working her first five years as a Little Rock Police Department dispatcher. "Then everything else falls into place: their name and phone number, who's involved, if there are any weapons or intoxicants involved."

When Lusk's shift ended, she hung up her headset for the last time. Lusk, 58 retired after three decades of answering emergency calls. She plans to return to school and get a degree "while I'm still a little bit young."

Her 31 years as an emergency dispatcher are well beyond the norm for such a stressful job, based on national statistics about emergency dispatchers, said Rick Ezell, North Little Rock's emergency management coordinator and former director at the city's 911 Communications Center for 11 years.

"Out of 100 that go into the job of dispatching, less than five make it to 20-year retirement because it's a very stressful occupation," said Ezell, who will retire March 15 after a 44-year career in public safety. "You catch callers at their worst sometimes. They can be very upset and emotional. There's so much information a dispatcher will have to get and they have to calm [the caller] down."

Not all emergencies are the same, and dispatchers must be able to respond to each situation, such as assisting a calling child or providing CPR instructions. For a burglary in progress, Lusk said, a dispatcher wants to keep a caller on the phone until an officer arrives.

"If there's a burglary in progress, they [the caller] could be in the house with the burglar," she said. "We want to know their location in the house and if they can tell the location of the noises are coming from. They're in danger because

Above: Lusk (center: purple/bluish sweater) is pictured with family members and numerous members of her "city" family.

somebody is in their house. We want to keep constant contact with them to make sure they're safe.

"We try to talk to them and get them calmed down," she added. "And you have to keep your stress level down. You have to stay calm no matter what's happened."

Leeann Sadler, a 911 dispatcher for North Little Rock who has 16 years of experience, said Lusk is "so low key" when doing her job.

"You can never tell if she's got something that's so urgent," Sadler said. "She's always kept her cool."

Being a 911 dispatcher is so demanding that even police officers and others who receive information from dispatchers often can't comprehend the demands of the job, North Little Rock Chief Mike Davis said.

"They're down here and we have no clue what's happening," Davis said of officers interacting with a 911 dispatcher. "We're trying to get information we need and they're down here getting 65 cellphone calls on one accident. You've got to be a very patient person to be able to do this job."

The North Little Rock 911 Communications Center has five openings, said Leonard Montgomery, the city's new emergency management/911 director and a retired North Little Rock Police Captain. Each shift has four to six dispatchers. Being understaffed is a "chronic problem" nationally, he said, because of the demands of the job and difficulty in finding qualified applicants.

With cellphones becoming so common, the pressures on a 911 dispatcher have only increased, Ezell said.

"Years ago when people would see an accident, we might get three, four or five calls," Ezell said. "With cellphones, particularly with an accident on the interstate we might get 100 calls. And every call has to be addressed because it might be another emergency in the middle of that."

Lusk's ability to handle the pressure may stem from her family dynamic. Her husband, Robert, is retired from the Little Rock Police Department. Daughter Courtney Hagar is a paramedic, and son Bo Hagar is with the Little Rock Fire Department. Both of her parents were in law enforcement, and her grandfather was a North Little Rock firefighter. A brother and sister-in-law are both North Little Rock police officers.

Kathryn's Famous French Banana Cream Pie

Found in the Out Here Cookbook—

—Favorite family recipes from Out Here readers across America—Tractor Supply Co (TSC)

Filling:

3/4 cup sugar

1/3 cup flour

3 Tbsp. cornstarch

1/2 tsp. salt

2 egg yolks combined with 3/4 cup cold milk

3 cups warm milk

1 1/3 Tbsp. butter

1 1/2 tsp. vanilla

Mix sugar, flour, cornstarch, and salt.

Add the yolks mixture to the dry ingredients, forming a smooth paste.

Add warm milk slowly; transfer to saucepan and cook until thick and smooth, stirring constantly.

After it thickens, cook 5 minutes longer, then add butter.

After mixture is cooled, add vanilla.

Let filling stand at room temperature; stir occasionally while cooling to prevent crust forming.

Cover and store in refrigerator for 2 hours.



Pie Crust:

1/3 cup lard

1 cup flour

1/2 tsp. salt

2—3 Tbsp. cold water

Preheat oven to 475 degrees.

With a pastry fork: cut lard, flour, and salt together until particles form.

Slowly add water, tossing until all is moistened.

Pastry will come away from the bowl.

Gather into a ball and place on a lightly floured counter.

Use a rolling pin to roll the pastry to be about 2 inches larger than the pie plate.

Roll pastry carefully onto rolling pin and place in pie plate; unroll.

Bake (unfilled) at 475 degrees for 8-10 minutes.

Fold in 3 sliced, ripe bananas into the filling mixture; fill crust.

Top with fresh, sweetened whipped cream and serve. Serves 6-8.

Best Ribs for the Slow Cooker

The Out Here Cookbook

Ribs:

1 Tbsp. plus 1 tsp. paprika

1 tsp. black pepper

1 tsp. garlic powder

1 tsp. thyme

1 tsp. onion powder

1 tsp. ground cinnamon

1/2 tsp. cayenne

**1 rack meaty baby back pork ribs
(cut into 4-rib sections)**

Coat slow cooker with cooking spray.

Combine first seven ingredients and rub into all sides of the rib sections.

Place ribs in slow cooker, positioned vertically with boniest edge down, leaning each section against the next.

Cover and cook 6—8 hours on low or 3-3 1/2 hours on high for ribs that are tender and falling off the bone.

Adjust time down if firmer ribs are desired.

Discard liquid if too much has accumulated.

Sauce:

1/4 cup ketchup

1 Tbsp Worcestershire sauce or A1 Steak Sauce

1 Tbsp. soy sauce

2 Tbsp. brown sugar

1 tsp. sea salt (optional)

After ribs are almost completely cooked, combine all sauce ingredients and mix well.

Coat ribs with sauce and cook on high 30 minutes or until glazed.

Serves 2-3, with extra sauce left over for dipping.





The North Little Rock Pipe and Drum Corps

is hosting a fundraiser and is selling tickets for a Saint Patrick's Day drawing for a Springfield Armory MIA .308 Caliber (valued at \$1,500) — Tickets are \$10

Drawing will be at 7:30 p.m., March 17, 2016 at Cregeen's Irish Pub.

The Pipe and Drum Corps will also be performing.

For more information call 501-944-0698.

The Most Delicious Deviled Eggs

Found in (TSC) The Out Here Cookbook

6 eggs (makes a dozen deviled)

Ground red pepper for sprinkling (if you don't like a little spice, you can use paprika instead)

Heaping 1/8 cup Hellmann's mayo

1/2 Tbsp. classic yellow mustard

1/2 Tbsp. soy sauce

Once your eggs are boiled and peeled (see page 5), and have been cut in half and yolks removed, sprinkle the whites with the ground red pepper.

Using a fork, mix mayo, mustard, and soy sauce with the yolks. Mix well.

Using a spoon, fill each egg half.

Once your eggs are full, serve and enjoy (or chill in fridge until ready to eat).

Makes 12 deviled eggs.



If you want to have a little fun with your eggs, carefully cut them in half, then put the filling in between the top and bottom. Add eyes made out of olives and a little beak made out of a carrot sliver. These little peeps are guaranteed to bring a few smiles to your Easter table!

Picture above found on the Internet.



**Peddlers Permit
City of North Little Rock**

Issued to: **Mel Dun**
Issued: 1/15/16
Expires: **3/15/16**



EXAMPLE

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

City Clerk and Treasurer Diane Whitbey
By: **_SAMPLE ONLY—**
only valid with signature

Deputy City Clerk / Treasurer, Revenue

North Little Rock History Commission



The North Little Rock History Commission is 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.

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.

All North Little Rock Door-to-Door Peddlers permits issued in 2015 expired Dec 31, 2015.

Persons wishing to go door-to-door in 2016 must reapply with the City Clerk/Treasurer.

Permits are valid for 90 days from the date of issue.

The following are currently licensed to go door to door in the city:

Schmitt Tree Service

Misty Schmitt expires 4-5-16

Jacob Schmitt expires 4-5-16

To see the permits issued to the above door to door peddlers, visit the city website at www.nlr.ar.gov, then click on City Clerk/Treasurer, followed by Licensed Peddlers.

Reminder to residents:

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

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

North Little Rock
City Council Schedule

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

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

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

City Offices located at 120 Main

IS/Data Processing, Kathy Stephens	975-8820
Finance, Karen Scott	975-8802
Fit 2 Live, Bernadette Rhodes	975-8777
Information	975-8888
Human Resources, Betty Anderson	975-8855
Planning, Shawn Spencer	975-8835
Purchasing, Mary Beth Bowman	975-8881
Utilities Accounting, David Melton	975-8888

City Council Members

Ward 1	Debi Ross Beth White	753-0733 758-2738
Ward 2	Linda Robinson Maurice Taylor	945-8820 690-6444
Ward 3	Steve Baxter Bruce Foutch	804-0928 658-9714
Ward 4	Murry Witcher Charlie Hight	835-0009 758-8396

**Utility Payment Assistance
and Other Numbers**

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

Other Elected Officials

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


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	
Communications.....	501-975-8833
Nathan Hamilton	
External Relations.....	501-975-8605
Margaret Powell	
Special Projects.....	501-975-3737
Jim Billings	

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

March 7—11

March 21—25



March Anniversaries

Name	Dept	# Yrs	Name	Dept	# Yrs		
ANITA	KABAT	Animal Shelter	3	BRECK	MAXEY	UAD	22
PATTY	JONES	Animal Shelter	21	BETTY	ANDERSON	HR	15
ANTHONY	GARDNER	Animal Shelter	18	CAMILLE	FLEMING	HR	2
TIMOTHY	VANYA	Comm Dev	12	SHAWN	SPENCER	Planning	14
LEEANN	SADLER	OES	7	JOHN	BARBER	Police	13
LINDSEY	HOWARD	OES	7	DENISE	LACY	Police	16
ROY	MCPHAIL	Electric	43	DANIEL	HALEY	Police	13
CHRISTOPHER	RAY	Electric	11	JOSHUA	FORNEY	Police	16
RICHARD	POZZA	Electric	18	MICHAEL	BLEVINS	Police	16
DONALD	FRIDAY JR	Electric	5	DONALD	STEELE	Police	15
JAMES	HOUSTON	Electric	14	MATTHEW	THOMAS	Police	15
LANA	GREGORY	Electric	18	ROBERT	CUPPS	Police	13
CHRISTOPHER	NICHOLAS	Electric	11	MATTHEW	BRUSH	Police	8
ZACHARY	BROWN	Electric	9	BRYAN	KINKAID	Police	12
JACKIE	HALSEY	Electric	18	JOHN	ALSTON	Police	19
JAMES	WILSON	Electric	9	CHRIS	GANN	Police	19
CAREY	WALKER JR	Electric	5	PATRICK	GARRETT	Police	19
AMANDA	BONNER	Finance	16	JEN-CHUAN	KING	Police	19
JOHN	POUNDERS	Fire	31	ROBERT	WARD	Police	19
BENJAMIN	MUNDY	Fire	25	MICHAEL	MERLO	Police	19
GERALD	TUCKER	Fire	26	REBA	CRAIG	Police	14
STEPHEN	EVANS	Fire	26	LINDA	FELTON	Police	18
CHARLES	BLACK	Fire	27	JON	CROWDER	Police	14
STEVEN	GRIMES	Fire	31	WALTER	GUNN III	Public Works	4
RICKY	ALBERS	Fire	26	DAVID	RODGERS	Sanitation	2
CHARLES	PLATT	Fire	26	WAYNE	WRIGHT	Sanitation	12
KEVIN	TACKETT	Fire	25	KRISTOPHER	ROARK	Street	2
MATTHEW	DIXON	Fire	25	EDWARD	JERNIGAN	Street	9
DANTANIEL	DURAN	Fire	5	JASON	STEELE	Street	9
BILLY	JONES	Fire	22	CLIFFORD	LEE	Street	2
RENALDO	BENNETT	Fire	31	DAVID	WILBOURN	Traffic	5
AARON	CHASSELLS	Fire	17	RICKY	PRIDMORE	Vehicle Maint	5
JOHNNY	GOFF	Fire	5	ANTHONY	RIPPEE	Parks Maint	3
AARON	HENDERSON	Fire	5	JAHRAILL	RAYE	Parks Maint	2
TERENCE	METCALF	Fire	25	BRYAN	SPEARS	Parks Maint	11
JACOB	SCHMIDT	Fire	5	TRAVIS	DOUGLAS	Parks Maint	2
CODY	WORTHAM	Fire	5	REGINA	HENSON	Parks Rec	29
JOSEPH	BREEN	1st Court	4	KATRINA	WILBON	Parks Rec	28
RUTH	PRICE	2nd Court	11	RONALD	BARENTINE	Parks Golf	2
KAREN	FLETCHER	UAD	28	BERNADETTE	RHODES	Fit 2 Live	5

*Oops! We didn't wish, **Isaac Henry**, Administration, Happy Anniversary last month!
Happy 1 Year, Isaac!*

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

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

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.



Twenty Sixth Annual Gala Carousel Ball

will be held ***Saturday, April 9, 2016***
at the ***Patrick Henry Hays Senior Citizens Center***
401 Pershing Boulevard, North Little Rock

Dinner • Dancing • Entertainment

Live and Silent Auctions

Dancing to the Exit 123

Black Tie Optional

Master of Ceremonies
North Little Rock Mayor Joe A. Smith

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

RSVP by April 4, 2016
Call Helen Greenfield at 501-835-5019 or
Joan Weese at 501-753-7246

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