

View from the Rock



August 2005

A publication by and for City of Little Rock employees

BOB TURNER RETIRES FROM CITY HALL

Assistant City Manager, Former Public Works Director Concludes over 3 Decades of Service

After serving in three key leadership positions in Little Rock City Government, **Bob Turner** announced his retirement as Assistant City Manager effective at the end of August.



Assistant City Manager
Bob Turner

In 1998, Turner came to the City of Little Rock as Assistant Director of Public Works. He has over thirty years of administrative and engineering experience.

Much of that experience was from various positions in the City of Springfield, MO. From 1993 to 1997, he was listed in *Who's Who in Finance and Industry*.

In March 2000, Turner was named as Director of Public Works. After guiding that department, he was picked by **Bruce Moore** to serve as Interim Assistant City Manager. In January 2003, Turner was promoted to Assistant City Manager.

In announcing Turner's retirement, Moore commented, "Bob's leadership has been instrumental in so many successes. From the resumption of residential solid waste service, to road construction, to the Clinton Library opening, Bob has played a part. He has also has been major factor in the ongoing success of the 2004 Capital Bond Program."

"Bob has a unique combination of skills," continued Moore. "Not only does he have a great mind for problem solving and paying attention to details, he also has a great heart for serving the citizens."



City Director Willie Hinton and Turner



Turner shares a laugh with citizens at the dedication of the traffic signal at Kanis and Aldersgate.

For more information, call 501 371-4510 or 501 371-4743 (TDD) or visit
www.littlerock.org

FINANCE DEPARTMENT RECEIVES RECOGNITION

The Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) recently announced that the City of Little Rock has received the GFOA's Distinguished Budget Presentation Award for its budget.

The award represents a significant achievement by the City. It reflects the commitment of the governing body and staff to meeting the highest principles of governmental budgeting. In order to receive the budget award, the entity had to satisfy nationally recognized guidelines for effective budget presentation.

These guidelines are designed to assess how well an entity's budget serves as: 1) A policy document, 2) A financial plan, 3) An operations guide, and 4) A communications device.

Budget documents must be rated "proficient" in all four categories to receive the award. City Manager **Bruce Moore** stated, "We are pleased with the hard work done by the Finance Department. Finance Director **Bob Biles**, Budget Officer **LaVerne Duvall**, and the Finance staff do an outstanding job. It is nice to see them get recognized for their efforts."

When a Distinguished Budget Presentation Award is granted to an entity, a Certificate of Recognition for Budget Presentation is also presented to the individual or department as being primarily responsible for its having achieved the award. This has been presented to **Silas Roaf**, the Budget Management Analyst for the Finance Department. Last year, Duvall received the recognition.

Since the inception of the GFOA's Distinguished Budget Presentation Awards Program in 1984, approximately 900 entities have received the Award. Award recipients have pioneered efforts to improve the quality of budgeting and provide an excellent example of other governments throughout North America.

The Government Finance Officers Association is a nonprofit professional association serving 14,000 government finance professionals throughout North America. The GFOA's Distinguished Budget Presentation Awards Program is the only national award program in governmental budgeting.

Public Works Reminds Residents That Landscaping and Trees Are Not to Obscure STOP Signs

Landscaping and trees near street intersections frequently obscure traffic control signs. This can be dangerous to motorists and pedestrians. A driver who cannot see a "Stop" sign might proceed through an intersection into the path of oncoming traffic.

The City's Code (*Section 32-8 – Obstructions to visibility at intersections*) requires that owners of real property located at intersections maintain their property, including landscaping and trees, in a manner that does not obscure the visibility of traffic control signs. This is particularly critical for "Stop" and "Yield" signs.

According to **Nat Banihatti**, Traffic Engineer, "When Traffic Engineering is notified of such a situation, it is taken care of as soon as practical. However, assistance of property owners and residents is still needed with trimming of vegetation near such signs on a regular basis to preclude these problems."

City crews from Public Works Operations and Urban Forestry in Parks and Recreation will trim bushes and trees when they see an obscured sign. Problems with visibility of signs can be reported to Public Works at 918-3600.

Little Rock Animal Services
<http://www.littlerock.org/adoptapet>

NEW LEADER NAMED FOR LR PUBLIC WORKS

City's Civil Engineer Manager to be Next Department Director

After conducting a nationwide search, Little Rock City Manager **Bruce Moore** has announced the appointment of **Steve Haralson** to be the next Director of the City's Public Works Department. Haralson took over leadership of the department on August 1.

In making the announcement Moore said, "As Manager of our Public Works Civil Engineering Division since 2000, Steve has been an outstanding leader. In searching for the next Public Works Director, I was seeking someone with not only professional expertise but also a commitment to the concerns of citizens. Steve excels in both of these areas."

"This is an important time for the Public Works Department," stated Moore. "In addition to our ongoing operations, the staff is working on over \$30 million in projects from the 2004 Bond program. Steve will be an excellent leader as we fulfill our commitments to Little Rock's citizens."

Mayor Jim Dailey expressed his support for Haralson. "The City Manager has made an outstanding selection. Steve is uniquely qualified to lead the Department. Because of his experience with the City, he understands the needs of Little Rock citizens. But he also brings a new outlook gained through his work in the private sector."

"The City Board interacts with the Public Works Director on a weekly basis," Dailey continued. "It will be a pleasure to work with Steve as we serve the needs of Little Rock's citizens."

"I am excited by this opportunity and honored to have been selected," said Haralson. "The men and women of the Public Works Department are committed to providing Little Rock with an efficient and first-rate infrastructure. This is their focus each and every day."



*Steve Haralson,
Public Works Director*

"I look forward to working with the employees, the City Manager, and the Mayor & City Board as we meet the infrastructure needs of Little Rock," said Haralson.

Haralson joined Little Rock City government in March 2000 as Civil Engineer Manager. He has previous engineering experience in public sector and private sector employment. In addition, Haralson is a licensed attorney and has practiced law.

Haralson succeeds Guy Lowes who retired as Public Works Director in March of this year. Since Lowes' retirement, Assistant City Manager Bob Turner has served as Interim Public Works Director.



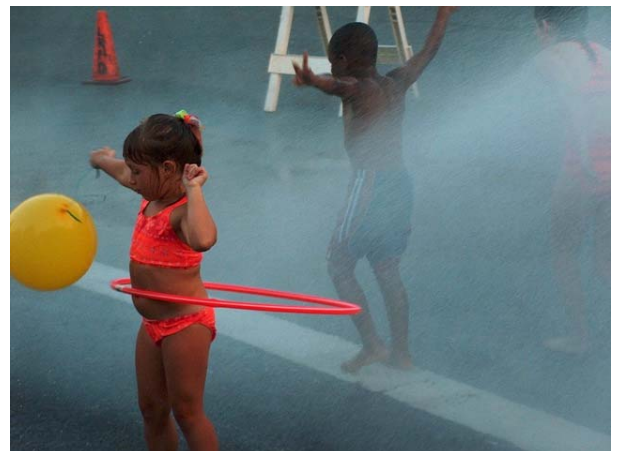
Farmers' Market In-Season List August 2005

Crowder Peas	Tomatoes
Lady Peas	Squash
Purple Hull Peas	Apples
Okra	Fresh Cut Herbs
Butter Beans	Potatoes
Grapes	Cantaloupes
Watermelons	Oriental Vegetables
Hot Peppers	Cucumbers
Bell Peppers	Fresh Cut Flowers
Eggplant	Fresh Bread

SCENES FROM NATIONAL NIGHT OUT 2005



SCENES FROM NATIONAL NIGHT OUT 2005



NEW I.T. DIRECTOR ANNOUNCED

Little Rock City Manager **Bruce Moore** announced the appointment of **Traci L. Morgan** as the next Director of Information Technology for the City of Little Rock. Morgan joined the City on August 8. Prior to that, she served as Senior Project Manager at Arkansas Childrens Hospital.



*Traci L. Morgan,
Information Technology
Director*

In making the announcement Moore said, "In searching for the Director of Information Technology, I was looking for someone with expertise in cutting-edge technology as well as a commitment to customer service."

"Few citizens may come into contact with

our IT Department," stated Moore. "But IT helps all other areas of City Hall function in a professional, smooth manner. I was impressed with Traci's experience in the public and private sectors and with her understanding of the important role that IT plays as City Hall serves the citizens."

Prior to her current position, Morgan served as Chief Information Officer for Arkansas Rehabilitation Services from 1999-2003. In that capacity, she was appointed by Governor Huckabee to serve on the Executive CIO Council.

Morgan has additional Information Technology experience with ALLTEL Information Systems and the Department of Human Services. Morgan has a Master of Business Administration degree from UALR and a Bachelor of Science degree from UAPB.

POLICE ANNOUCE AWARDS

The Little Rock Police Department recently held an awards ceremony to recognize outstanding employees.

Those recognized at the ceremony:

Life Saving Award

Officer **Joe Hill**

Officer **Don Williams**

Medal of Merit

Officer **James Tankersley & K-9 Xantho**

Officers of the Month

January: Officer **Bobby Martin**

February: Officers **Linda Allen, Austin Lynch,**

Charles Starratt, Steven Dodge, Matthew Smith, Stephen Gorbet and Phillip Staggs

March: Officers **Aaron Simon & Rusty Rothwell**

April: Officer **Kelley LePore**

May: Officers **Carl West & Reginald Ridgell**

June: Officer **Van Watson**

Civilian Employee of the Month-May

Dispatcher **Nina Robinson**

In other Police Department news, Recruit Class #62 graduated on July 22, 2005. The recruits started training back in March. Congratulations to the following graduates:

Ricky Beckwith

David Caplinger

Troy Charleville

Richert Crace

Hasain El-Amin

Chadwick Gibson

Marquise Goodlow

Matthew Hoyle

Christopher Johnson

James Julian

Barry Kingston

Raymond Koonce

Tabitha McCrillis

Steven Montgomery

Jordan Neuffer

Scott Parker

David Prince

Gregory Quiller

Mark Rainey

Kevin Sexson

James Stanchak

Seth Thomas

Van Thomas

John Trent

Ethan Williams

David Wilson

RCDC, ALLSTATE ANNOUNCE WorldFest 2005 PARTNERSHIP

On September 16, 2005, the various cultures and ethnicities of Little Rock will come together for WorldFest 2005. This is a unique opportunity for the people of Little Rock to see the world – in their own backyard.

The festival, sponsored by the Racial and Cultural Diversity Commission (RCDC) will be held in MacArthur Park, and this year, Allstate Insurance Company proudly announces its participation as the title sponsor for WorldFest 2005.

“This event brings members of the Little Rock community together in a celebration of diversity and inclusion,” commented Ron Corbin, field vice president for the Southern Region, Allstate Insurance Co. “Allstate strives to understand and respect the differences in all people. WorldFest is definitely an event with which Allstate can partner.”

"Little Rock and its citizens are in good hands when corporations like Allstate support events that promote racial and cultural diversity," said **Mayor Jim Dailey**. "I appreciate their support as WorldFest continues its ninth year of highlighting our rich diversity."

WorldFest 2005 will be held on September 16 from 9 a.m. - 9 p.m. According to RCDC Executive Director **Carlette Henderson**, "The festival was created to educate and to visibly portray the City's different cultures and ethnicities."

This year's international extravaganza, "International Fair with Flair" will feature food, vendors, fun and cultural dance, and entertainment. It is estimated that over 10,000 festivalgoers will attend this year's event.

LRFD GRADUATES 23

Eighteen weeks of training came to an end for twenty-three Little Rock Fire Department recruits as they become certified as fire fighters. Their preparation included instruction in the areas of fire fighting (suppression tools, tasks and procedures) and EMT-ambulance.

The graduates started their assignments on August 1. According to Assistant Chief **J. T. Cantrell**, "This reduces LRFD overtime expenses in addition to increasing staffing. All of this ensures that the we continue to serve LR citizens in the safest and most efficient manner possible."

The graduates are:

Eddie Anderson	Antonio Mosby
Justin Clift	Patrick Pitts
Jason Fuller	Richard Rappold
Matt Greer	Brad Sanders
Ryan Henley	Pat Shea
Shane Herald	Brian Staggs
Tye Herring	Dwight Stegall
Korey Isbell	Randy Thomas
Jeremy Jackson	Dustin Werner
Joshua Karriem	Brian Whitley
Lance Logan	Joshua Womack
Jason Mize	

LR FIREFIGHTERS SPONSOR ANNUAL SCHOOL SUPPLY EVENT

An organization of Little Rock firefighters hosted their annual Back-to-School event to provide school supplies to underprivileged children. HOTTAR, Little Rock's Chapter of the International Association of Black Professional Firefighters, held "Project Fresh Start" on Saturday, August 13, 2005.

According to LRFD Battalion Chief **Greg Summers**, "Each year we give away in excess of \$5000 in school supplies to underprivileged children." The event took place at the City's Dunbar Community Center starting at 9:00 am.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
AUGUST 2005						
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
		Farmers Market City Board Meeting – 6pm		Planning Comm. - 4pm Farmers Market at Night	Art at the Market	Farmers Market
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
		Farmers Market City Board Work Session – 4pm		Farmers Market at Night	Art at the Market	Farmers Market
28	29	30	31			
		Farmers Market City Board Agenda Meeting – 4pm				
SEPTEMBER 2005						
				1	2	3
				Planning Comm. - 4pm	Art at the Market	Farmers Market
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
LABOR DAY City Hall closed	Farmers Market City Board Meeting – 6pm		Central High 50th Anniversary Commission – 3:30pm		Art at the Market	Farmers Market
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
	Farmers Market City Board Agenda Meeting – 4pm				Art at the Market WorldFest	Farmers Market

City of Little Rock Board of Directors

Mayor Jim Dailey
 Vice Mayor Barbara Graves, Position 9
 Johnnie Pugh, Ward 1
 Willie Hinton, Ward 2
 Stacy Hurst, Ward 3
 Brad Cazort, Ward 4
 Michael Keck, Ward 5
 Genevieve Stewart, Ward 6
 B. J. Wyrick, Ward 7
 Dr. Dean Kumpuris, Position 8
 Joan Adcock, Position 10

City Manager and Department Heads

Bruce T. Moore, City Manager
 Bryan Day, Interim Assistant City Manager
 Tom Carpenter, City Attorney
 Dorothy Nayles, Community Programs
 Bob Biles, Finance
 Chief Rhoda Mae Kerr, Fire
 Wendell Jones, Fleet
 Andre Bernard, Housing & Neighborhood Programs
 Don Flegal, Human Resources
 Traci Morgan, Information Technology
 Mark Webre, Parks and Recreation (interim)
 Tony Bozynski, Planning & Development
 Chief Stuart Thomas, Police
 Steve Haralson, Public Works
 Mike Blakely, Zoo

Public Relations Committee

Scott Carter, Chair, City Manager's Office
 Paula Patterson, City Manager's Office
 Shayla Beebe, Mayor's Office
 Susan Altrui, Zoo
 Officer Cassandra Davis, Police
 Marq Golden, Community Programs
 Lottie Keaton, Finance
 Asst. Chief Don Kinney, Fire
 Shannon Light, Parks and Recreation
 Melinda Liles, Information Technology
 Christy Marvel, Planning & Development
 Doris Williams Turner, Housing & Neighborhood Programs
 Teresa Wallace, Fleet
 Suzette Ward, Public Works
 Stacey Witherell, Human Resources