

A Message from the Director

The 2018 National Night Out (NNO) events and activities held across the city again proved to be highly successful. On October 2, 2018, over 3,600 people attended NNO locations sponsored by the City of Little Rock, which also included participation from Little Rock Central Tigers and Little Rock Parkview Patriots Marching Bands.

National Night Out is designed to strengthen neighborhoods and police relationships, to empower citizens' involvement in anti-crime drug prevention programs, and most importantly bring neighborhoods together in a positive way. The City's aim is to inform and educate the community on a variety of programs and services.

It goes without saying that the presence of personnel from Housing & Neighborhood Programs, Little Rock Police Department, and the Little Rock Fire Department was instrumental in making the entire evening one of the most successful in recent memory.

A special thank you goes out to all the businesses, nonprofit organizations, and neighborhood groups that worked hard to bring their neighbors together in an effort to strengthen their respective communities. Please make it our business to follow the advice quoted below from Mother Teresa:

"I want you to be concerned about your next door neighbor. Do you know your next door neighbor?"

Victor



West Central Resource Center

NEIGHBORHOOD



**CLEANLINESS
PROJECT**



Second Baptist Church Partners with West Central

Second Baptist Church, located at 1709 John Barrow Road, along with Pastor Kevin Kelly, and Minister Lambert have partnered with the West Central Community to combat cleanliness and anti-littering. West Central Neighborhood Resource Center's staff in conjunction with the Church plans to implement a comprehensive program focused on cleanup, prevention, and education to provide practical and convenient alternatives to reduce trash in the neighborhood.



Neighborhood Resource Specialist Highlight

Arnuard Crump has served as a Resource Specialist in the HNP department for 24 years. As a Resource Specialist there are always opportunities to work with residents in building stronger communities. Arnuard Crump navigates his way through a variety of issues and challenges while helping community residents empower themselves. Whether working on a project to help the homeless, a neighborhood association, or working with other City departments, he exemplifies what it is to be a great ambassador. Mr. Crump oftentimes helps to resolve previously identified problems such as

needed sidewalks and other concerns to assure the community has a positive outcome. Mr. Crump also works with community service workers through the Department of Correction to insure resource centers are cleaned throughout the city. Mr. Crump has proven over the years that he is dependable, resourceful and a positive force in the department.



The Department of Housing & Neighborhood Programs Partners with La Zeta (KOLL 106.3 FM), the only Spanish FM Radio Station in the Central Arkansas area

Every Thursday morning from 8-8:30 a.m. HNP staff along with special guests share important information with the Spanish speaking community regarding special events. Guests on the show have included the following:

- **Housing & Neighborhood Programs**, Victor Turner, Director
- **Housing & Neighborhood Programs**, Code Enforcement Officer, Oscar Cervantes
- **Housing & Neighborhood Programs**, Mobile Home Team, Code Enforcement Officers, Eli Perez and Waldo Perez
- **Environmental Court**: Deputy City Attorney Caleb Garcia
- **Little Rock Police**: Sargent Jacob Tobler
- **Little Rock School District**: Superintendent Michael Poore
- **Planning & Development**: Chief Building Inspector: Church Givens
- **Traffic Court**: Deputy City Attorney Caleb Garcia
- **Little Rock Fire Department**: Chief Delphone D. Hubbard

SPECIAL EVENTS:

- City of Little Rock Identification Program
- El Salvador's first Little Rock visit.
- Little Rock's Back to School backpack events
- Little Rock Citizen's Police Academy (in Spanish)
- Pulaski County Commodities Distribution
- City of Little Rock Community Cleanups

Promoting Safe Schools in our Communities



EAST LITTLE ROCK RESOURCE CENTER

Members of the Pettaway Neighborhood Association gathered at Rockefeller Elementary school for a first day of school rally. The rally was held to give students momentum for learning and provide a positive first-day-of-school experience. The association is planning for more events during the school year.

WELCOME TO THE WRIGHT AVENUE COMMUNITY

The Historic Mitchell building opened on August 13, 2018, as ScholarMade Achievement Place. The public charter school currently has grades K-5 with future plans to add a grade yearly until it reaches 9th grade. The mission is to prepare children through effective instruction and innovative leadership and to be self-confident, intellectually inquisitive, emotionally intelligent and academically competent beings. The children will be taught to be innovative leaders and problem solvers with the goal of improving conditions for our local, state and global communities.



Back to School Bash

Mother Annie Abrams invited children of all backgrounds to attend the first Back to School Bash. The event is a partnership between the Martin Luther King Jr. Commission and Mother Abrams Museum and Library located at 1920 Wolfe Street.

Valley Drive Neighborhood Making a Difference

After receiving numerous complaints regarding the front yard of a residence, Housing staff took it upon themselves to clean the front yard. An elderly homeowner who once lived in house had to move out of the home due to damage to the home. Code Officers and Resource Specialists decided to go to the home and pick-up items that had been scattered over the yard, due to contractors removing items that were left in the home and placed in the front yard. This was a team effort to make a difference in the neighborhood by taking on the project to clean up the yard. The neighbors were very appreciative of the team work, which exhibited another side to the work of Code Enforcement staff.



Pop Up Event - Capitol View-Stifft Station

A Pop Up event was held in the Merchant District of Capitol View-Stifft Station (CVSS). The goal of the event was to create a road diet where West Markham was turned into a two-lane street with a turn lane in the middle for a 10-block area west of Pine and Cedar Streets. The purpose was to slow down traffic and make it safer for pedestrians. Hillcrest Merchants along Kavanaugh Boulevard joined forces with the CVSS neighborhood in order to bring the event together with the main sponsor being Studio Main. The other goal was to create businesses that the neighborhood would like to see in vacant stores along the area and to help residents see the potential for things to come.

Some of the volunteer pop up stores inside the business district included Arkansas Yoga Collective, Stone's Throw Brewery, Electric Ghost & Stifft Spine Book Store, Crying Weasel, Vintage Clothing Boutique, Teaberry Kombucha, Corner Bar & Grill, and Buice Gallery featuring local artists. Also included in the event were current area merchants: The Local, Forever Yours Tattoo, Oyster Bar, Pizza D' Action, Meteor Café, and Vase and Vine.

The Pop Up was a huge success. The City is planning to do a traffic survey of the area to determine if the road diet can be made permanent.



Code Enforcement

City of Little Rock Code Enforcement Officer Mr. Waldemar Perez-Rosario (Waldo) was chosen as the first Puerto Rican winner of the 2018 NPC Arkansas State Championships. Waldo was named Overall Classic Men's Physique Champion of the competition. Preparation for such competitions involves drastic reductions in body fat and maintaining muscle mass. Judges rank competitors based on symmetry, muscularity, and conditioning. Waldo went through vigorous strength training, specialized nutrition with extra protein and adequate rest to obtain his current physical status.

Please don't let his looks intimidate you. Waldemar is a ridiculously ripped tower of muscle with a heart of gold. He is also a hardworking and dedicated Code Enforcement Officer that takes pride in his work. Waldo is a part of the Mobile Home Team that ensures compliance and helps improve the quality of life and livability in the mobile home community. He proactively works throughout the community and addresses issues that may become a nuisance or complaint. As a Code Enforcement officer he regularly interacts with citizens to help ensure healthy living conditions. Building relationships and knowledge of the community is an integral part of a proactive and professional code enforcement officer. Although it is an intricate, challenging, and demanding role, Waldo is an officer who provides the community with intrinsic and tangible benefits that impact and enhance the quality of life, health and safety of the residents.

