



# Housing & Neighborhood Programs

## Keeping Our City Beautiful Neighborhood by Neighborhood

A Newsletter of the Department of Housing and Neighborhood Programs March 2021

### A Message from the Director

On behalf of the Department of Housing & Neighborhood Programs (HNP), Happy New Year as we put out our first newsletter of the year for the first quarter! Our goals and expectations for 2021 is to enhance the quality of life for the citizens of Little Rock by encouraging quality, affordable development and redevelopment while working closely with neighborhood organizations to identify resources needed to strengthen and make improvements in their areas; and to protect the health and safety of the citizenry through the efficient implementation and enforcement of environmental and animal services. This year the Mayor is focusing on 3 C's of Customer Service, Communication, and Cementing Change. The Housing and Neighborhood Department will mirror the Mayor's focus by continuing to improve the quality of life for the citizens of Little Rock.

As we honored Black History Month in February, I wanted to leave a couple of quotes as we honor those before us that sculpture History.

"Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere."  
*Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.*

"Success is to be measured not so by the position one has reached in life but by the obstacles he has overcome while trying to succeed." *Booker T. Washington*

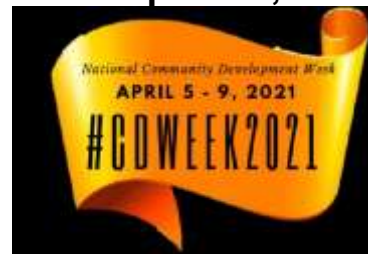
*Kevin D. Howard*

### UPCOMING EVENTS

**State of City Address: March 25, 2021  
@6pm**



**National Community Development  
Week April 5-9, 2021**



### Community Development Public Meetings

Public Input Meeting, Wednesday, March 17, 2pm CST

Public Input Meeting, Thursday, March 18, 12pm CST

Public Input Meeting, Thursday, March 18, 7pm CST

Public Input Meeting, Monday, March 22, 6pm CST



### Great American City Wide Clean-up

Keep Little Rock Beautiful would like to invite your neighborhood or organization to join us **on March 13, 2021** for the 12<sup>th</sup> Annual City Wide Cleanup.

We would like to also encourage you to get involved in the Adopt-A-Street Program, a partnership between KLRB and LR Public Works.

Learn more about the AAS Program on our website <http://www.keeplittlerockbeautiful.com/get-involved/litter-prevention/adopt-a-street/>

## *Little Rock Animal Village*



### **(Covid-19 and Animal Sheltering)**

Caring of the animals in the custody of Animal Services is an everyday duty. Every day of a year, some of our staff has to come to the Animal Village to make sure all the animals are fed, cleaned, given medicines and some with special needs will need extra attention.

This year has been complicated because of the extra need to insure staff stays safe and healthy. Like other city offices, we closed to the public but we have not slowed down.

We took a team approach at first and helped us through the early months of the pandemic. Our staff broke up into two separate teams that would come in on different days to care for the animals. This worked for a while but because of the increase in animals we had to come back together as one team.

We have practiced distancing, wearing our mask and making sure we washed hands continuously to insure we kept each other as safe as we could. Areas of assignment also helped by keeping staff apart most of the time while on duty.

Our greatest concern would be if several of the staff was to contract the virus who would care for the animals? Our staff has been able to stay healthy and we have been able to continue our wonderful animal care.

Through all of 2020 we continued to work hard to care for and find homes for the animals we have impounded. We have adopted, returned to owners or sent to rescue almost 2,200 animals last year. Without a staff who works hard every day we could not have done this with so many obstacles in our way.

## Community Development Division

### City of Little Rock Down Payment Assistance Program

Community Development Division

Telephone: 501-371-6825

[www.littlerock.gov](http://www.littlerock.gov)



Notice to First-time home buyers:

Please have your lender call to find out how you can get to up to \$5,000 in DPA!

\* Due to the ongoing COVID-19 outbreak, we will only be accepting DPA applications where the home is either vacant or a new construction\*

### IN NEED OF EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE?



Community Development Division is providing emergency assistance for roof, electrical, plumbing, and heating and air issues.

Qualifications include: Homeowners who are sixty-two (62) years of age or older, or disabled and whose income does not exceed program guidelines, may be considered for the Emergency Assistance Grant Program. The homeowner must have occupied and must be the primary residence of the applicant within the past 12 months prior to receiving assistance.

Apply Here: <https://www.littlerock.gov/city-administration/city-departments/housing-and-neighborhood/home-repair-assistance-questionnaire/>

\*An emergency is a situation or condition that occurred recently (generally within two weeks) without warning, that is detrimental to or a threat to life, health or safety, and requires immediate action

# HAPPY RETIREMENT!!!

Community Development Division had two hard working and dedicated employees to retire in 2020. Mrs. Doris Turner, Interim Community Development Manager, retired on September 11, after 30 years with the City. Mrs. Doris was instrumental in the City applying for and receiving four new HUD Awards (CDBG-CV, HOPWA-CV, ESG, and ESG-CV) as well as the Special Needs Assistance Program (SNAP) funds awarded by the Federal Home Loan Bank of Dallas. She managed the SNAP program, led staff in implementing the Small Business Emergency Assistance Program, applying for the ESG funding while still managing public service subrecipients, COC planning grant, and other special projects for the Division. Ms. Brenda Johnson, Housing Technician retired on October 2, after 41 years with the City. Ms. Brenda worked with Housing Rehabilitation Program. She assisted homeowners in receiving housing rehabilitation. She worked the SNAP program and assisted with the Small Business Emergency Assistance Program. "We sincerely appreciate Mrs. Doris and Ms. Brenda hard work and efforts year after year."

## *Housing Staff*



Mrs. Doris Turner



Ms. Brenda Johnson



# Code Enforcement

## *Congratulations*



### **Cedric Brooks**

Cedric was promoted within the City of Little Rock to a Senior Code Officer for District 3 in November 2020.

Cedric is a native of Pine Bluff, Arkansas. He relocated to Little Rock in 1995. He is a proud father of three children and four granddaughters, soon to be five.

Cedric found a passion for working directly with the public during his tenure in the sales industry for over 18 years. He began his career with the City of Little Rock as a Code Enforcement Officer on May 31, 2016. He has a great knowledge for the local codes, ordinance laws and other applicable regulations. With his strong philosophy on, "We can all work together in making our city a better place" exemplifies great value in him as a leader.



### **Oscar Cervantes**

Oscar was promoted to a Senior Code Enforcement Officer for District 2 in November 2020.

Oscar joined the City of Little Rock on February 20, 2018 as a code enforcement officer within District 5. Mr. Cervantes quickly established himself as an outstanding performer. Oscar spent a significant amount of time with his Senior Officer learning and understanding the many challenges officers face daily while doing their jobs.

Mr. Cervantes is a graduate of Hall High School and previously worked for the Consulate of Mexico-Little Rock. He is married and has 2 kids.



### **Katherine (Katie) Stehle**

Katie joined the City of Little Rock on January 4, 2021 as an Administrative Technician.

Katie grew up in Little Rock. She graduated from Arkansas Tech University, Russellville in 2017 with a Bachelor of Science in Hospitality Administration, with an emphasis in Lodging and Club Management. After graduating, Katie returned to her home in Little Rock. She has a background in hotels, sales, activity coordination, and local government, as she worked for La Quinta, The City of Little Rock Parks and Recreation, the Arkansas State Hospital as well as Arkansas Tourism.



On September 9, 2020 several staff members attended the Interdepartmental Coordination Meeting with the Little Rock Police Department. They discussed various options for working closely together in improving the quality of life for the citizens here in the City of Little Rock. The long-term partnership is one code enforcement values greatly and will continue to foster.



During the week of January 11-15, 2021, the Code Enforcement Division conducted an abbreviated version of their Code Enforcement Academy. Based on Covid-19, the following employees attended at Willie Hinton Neighborhood Resource Center.



Mario Grymes, Code Officer  
for District 1



Angelica Green, Code Officer  
for District 2



Jamal Young, Code Officer  
for District 2



DeOnna Perkins, Code  
Officer for District 3



Mattie Jones, Code Officer  
for District 4



Pamela Black, Code Officer  
for District 4



Jairo Romero, Code Officer  
for Mobile Home Team



Bernard Bracely, Code  
Officer for Court Team



George Kinkade, Guest from  
Eudora, AR.

It is with great pleasure on behalf of the Code Enforcement Division that I say **CONGRATS** to you all, and never stop climbing.

Edward Garland  
Code Enforcement Division  
Manager

## Neighborhood Resource Centers

### Drive thru Census Assistance

LOCATIONS: Mosaic Church 6221 Colonel Glenn  
Southwest Community Center, 6401 Baseline Road



**First Annual Drive Thru Maze of Horror  
Event held at West Central Community  
Center October 31, 2020**





## Land Bank Division

# Ground broken on Little Rock housing effort

August 31, 2020

A grassy lot on a leafy stretch of South Cedar Street will soon become one of the new housing options on deck for people with all levels of mobility in Little Rock.

A two-bedroom duplex will be the first units of 64 that Bo and Robert Springer, spouses and business partners, plan to build on property acquired from the city's land bank that have "universal accessibility" for people who use wheelchairs, as well as the deaf and blind.



### 2020 Landbank Properties Transferred

- 1701 S. Cedar Street
- 1709 S. Cedar Street
- 1719 S. Cedar Street
- 8312 Colonel Glenn Road
- 3316 Maryland Avenue
- 3423 W. 10<sup>th</sup> Street
- 3401 W. 10<sup>th</sup> Street
- 2301 S. Martin Street
- 3515 W. 11<sup>th</sup> Street
- 3519 W. 11<sup>th</sup> Street
- 3911 W. 11<sup>th</sup> Street
- 1605 S. Jones Street
- 2522 W. 17<sup>th</sup> Street
- 2423 W. 17<sup>th</sup> Street

## Reasons to Call 3-1-1 - City Services

To request information or report a non-emergency item, for example:

- General City Service Information of Phone Numbers
- City Event Information
- Locations and Hours of Operation of City Properties
- Potholes that Need Repaired
- Street Sweeping Requests
- Sidewalk Repairs
- Missed Garbage Pick-ups
- Missed Recycling Pick-ups
- Garbage and Recycle Bin Issues
- Dumpster Requests
- Report High Grass and Weeds
- Request Bulky Item Pick-up
- Tree Trimming on Public Property
- Taxi/Limo Complaints
- Report Graffiti
- Parking Enforcement Issues
- Traffic Light Outage
- Street Light Outage
- Stray Animals
- Aggressive Animals and Trap Requests
- Golf Course Maintenance
- Trail Maintenance
- Trash in the Park
- Operating a Business Without a Permit
- Working Without A Permit
- Violations on a Commercial Property
- How to Dispose of Hazardous Materials and Medications

# Little Rock Police Department

## CRIME PREVENTION TIPS

### Safety at your home:

- Have lights at all entrances.
- Lock doors at all times (home, garage and storage, etc.).
- Replace standard screws in your door lock w/ 3 inch screws.
- Check who is at your door before you open it. Do not open the door to a stranger.
- Always make your home look as if you are home (using light timers, leaving TV or radio on).
- Do not use your name on your mailbox.
- Do not leave your schedule on your voicemail or social media.
- Always lock your gates into your back yard.
- Post "Beware of Dog" signs on fence/gates/or in windows.
- Use "dummy cameras" if possible (great for carport areas).
- Post an "alarm sign" in your yard (you can purchase them on GOOGLE).
- Keep all valuables out of view of any windows.
- Never give personal information over the phone.
- Shred all confidential mail.
- Do inventory of your home and list all of your belongings "serial numbers" and "model numbers" (reportit.leadsonline.com).
- Place your house numbers so they can be easily visible from the street.
- Keep attic door locked (carport areas).
- Keep shrubs trimmed lower than you windows (plant "holly shrubs" if possible).
- Always lock your car doors.
- Always empty your cars of anything valuable.
- Get to know your neighbors and network anytime you see something suspicious and call 911.

### DRUG DROP BOX (all prescription drugs)

700 W. Markham Street  
Little Rock, AR 72201

### HELPFUL PHONE NUMBERS

LRPD Non Emergency  
501-371-4829  
(Vacation home report)

Downtown Patrol  
501-918-5130

Northwest Patrol  
501-918-3500

Southwest Patrol  
501-918-3900

Crime Prevention  
Officer Michelle Hill  
mhill@littlerock.org  
501-918-5369

Narcotics Tip Line  
501-376-6683

Crime Stoppers Tip Line  
501-371-INFO



Little Rock Police Department  
700 W. Markham Street  
Little Rock, AR 72201

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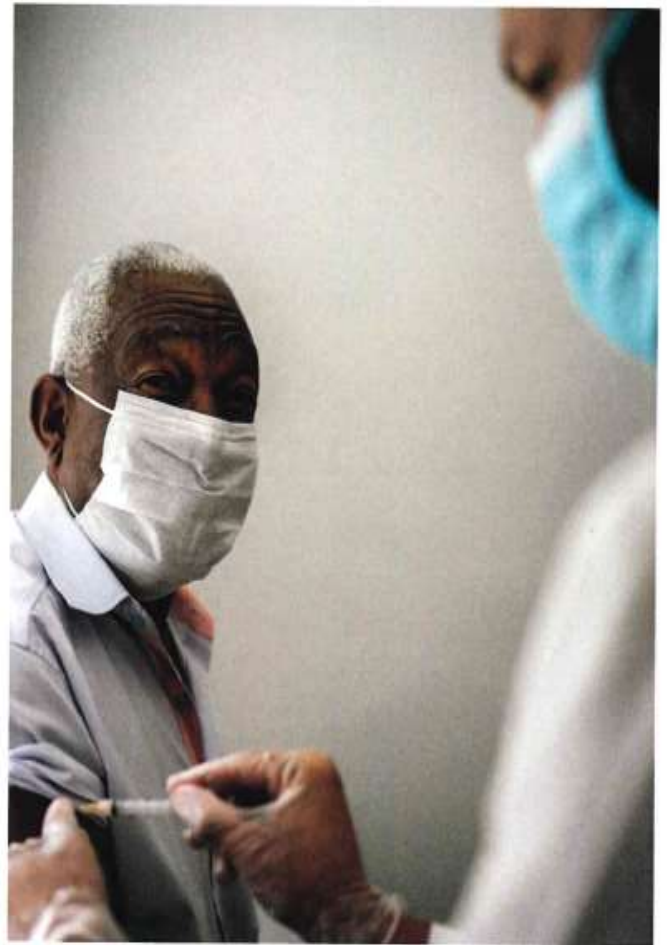
# Walk-In Community COVID-19 Vaccination Clinic

Saturday, March 13  
9am – Noon

**CHI St. Vincent Community Care - East Clinic**  
2500 East 6th Street, Little Rock, AR 72202

*(Please enter through the gym at the East Little Rock  
Community Center)*

If you meet current eligibility guidelines, you  
now qualify to receive the COVID-19 vaccine. No  
appointments necessary. Walk-ins accepted.





HBCU AWARENESS FOUNDATION PRESENTS

SPRING 2021

# Virtual COLLEGE FAIR

*HBCU College Fair With A Different Approach*

POWERED BY:



## MARCH 8-13, 2021

6 Days, 1 Open Public Fair, Over 80 High School, from TN, AR, MS, LA, TX

### In-School Virtual College Fair

March 8-10th • Tennessee High Schools

March 11th • Mississippi and Louisiana High Schools

March 12th • Arkansas and Texas High Schools

March 13th • Open Public

Virtual College Fair will be using the Hopin platform.  
The student will be able to go in the recruiters virtual room,  
chat and watch live video of the recruiter.

For more information [info@hbcuawarenessfoundation.org](mailto:info@hbcuawarenessfoundation.org)



**WWW.HBCUAWARENESSFOUNDATION.ORG**