



The Bath Tub

Hot Springs National Park Newsletter














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Week of March 10, 2025

Upcoming Programs:

March 12, 2025	Karen Kight-Powell Executive Director Abilities Unlimited
March 19, 2025	Chris Goodman General Manager Wiseguys Arena Football
March 26, 2025	Liz Robbins Executive Director Garland County Historical Society

Club Leaders

-  [Sara Brown](#)
President
-  [Tim Metcalf](#)
President-Elect
-  [Justin Nicklas](#)
Vice President
-  [Gary McQuin](#)
Secretary
-  [Courtney W. Moore](#)
Treasurer
-  [Renee Bartholomae](#)
Club Director
-  [Nicole Herndon](#)
Club Director
-  [David Trice](#)
Club Director
-  [Mary E Zunick](#)
Club Director
-  [Arthur D. Floyd](#)
Sergeant-at-Arms
-  [Chris Franklin](#)
iPast President

City Manager Recaps State of the City Address



The State of the City Address Recap by City Manager Bill Burrough - Reflecting on the remarkable journey of 2024 where crime is down, and revenues are up. Winston Churchill proclaimed, "We shape our cities, and then our cities shape us." A little reminder that we must work together to build a city to be proud of. Last year, we established seven major goals, and I am proud to report on the progress and achievements of each.

Downtown Parking Solutions

Recognizing the need for an improved parking system, we initiated a comprehensive Parking Management Plan, leading to the adoption of an Integrated Smart Parking System.

Affordable Housing Strategy

As part of the Board's goal to address affordable housing, the 10-Year Affordable Housing Strategy has guided key implementation actions.

Employee Compensation & Assessment

Investing in our employees is investing in our future. In January 2024, we adjusted our employee's compensation.

Community Resource Center

The Community Resource Center at 109 Hobson is progressing as the place to find assistance for more than a cool or warm place to shelter. We have hired a manager for the center who will start March 4, 2025. We are extremely proud to have the opportunity to collaborate with local nonprofits and social service organizations, ensuring that residents in need have access to housing assistance, job placement programs, and emergency relief efforts.

Code Updates, and Comprehensive Plan Alignment

In 2024, the City of Hot Springs made significant progress on CODE FORWARD, the city's new zoning and development code, adopted on November 19. The new code modernizes zoning, streamlines business approvals, and supports sustainable development.

ASMSA Building Transition

Birthdays

- Billy J Burrough Jr.
March 11th
- John S Stobaugh

In 2024, progress continued toward the demolition of the former St. Joseph's Hospital, currently occupied by ASMSA.

Gulpha Basin Wastewater Project

Environmental sustainability remains a priority. The Gulpha Basin pump Station is now over 35% complete, with final work expected by September 2025. This initiative significantly reduces overflows and enhances environmental compliance, safeguarding our city's natural resources for future generations.

Bill also touched on the progress that has been made related to Revenue, and Public Safety (Police, Fire, Animal Services). Hot Springs remains a city of progress and opportunity, driven by infrastructure investments, economic development, and a commitment to public safety and sustainability. As we look ahead to 2025, we will continue to focus on enhancing the quality of life, supporting business growth, and fostering a thriving, connected community. For more details and more information, visit [City Manager | Hot Springs, AR - Official Website](#).

March 16th
Justin Nicklas
March 21st
E. Brad Hudgens
March 25th
Saddiq Mir
March 28th
Jordan Stepka
March 29th
S. Robert Zunick
March 30th
Mary Metcalf
April 2nd
Jane Phillips-Jolly
April 5th

4 Way Test



Roger Giddings – Invocation



David Trice – Pledge



Jeremy Brown – 4 Way Test

The Rotary Scholarship Trust Drawing



Today, **John Hoefl** and **Gene Shelby** had the lucky numbers for a chance to win \$332, but were not lucky enough to pick the Ace of Diamonds! Maybe next week it will be you?

There are now 32 cards left and the total of the pot is up to \$665. See you next Wednesday...bring your cash and help build our scholarship fund!

*Email me if you can help man the table for one week selling chances. Thanks for your consideration of this request.

Guests

Rotarian Forrest Spicher introduced our special guest, Kim Richard, the mother of Peyton Richard, our student guest speaker. He also



introduced the Rotarian who brought guests today.

Gary Troutman introduced his guest and co-worker, Vickie Gilliam, Chamber Vice President. Gary also introduced guest Gary Collier.

It is always great to have guests at our meetings. If you know someone you would like to invite and potentially become a member of our club, give them a call, and invite them to join you next week.

Student Guests



Jared was not able to be at the meeting, so **Assistant District Governor Michelle Ratcliff** welcomed Andrew Dettmer, a senior at Cutter Morning Star High School, for his second visit. We look forward to hearing from Andrew at next week's meeting.

Thank you, Michelle, for filling in.



Dianne LaFollette welcomed Brianna Graves, a senior at Fountain Lake High School, for her first visit to Rotary. We look forward to having Brianna back again over the next 2 weeks. Please introduce yourself to her and help make her feel welcome at our meetings.

Student Guest Speaker

Scott Dews introduced today's student guest speaker, Peyton Richard, a senior at Ft. Lake High School. Peyton is the valedictorian of her class with a 4.2 GPA. She is a member of the National Honor Society as well as the National Beta Club. She participated in Leadership Hot Springs, and is a member of the varsity volleyball team and varsity track team. She is involved with FCA, a member of Walnut Valley Baptist Church and works at the new 7 Brew. After graduation, Peyton plans to attend the University of Central Arkansas and major in Exercise Science with a minor in Kinesiology. She plans to become a pediatric physical therapist. After graduating with her Bachelor's degree, she plans to obtain her doctorate and pediatric residency at UCA. Her career goal is to be a pediatric physical



therapist in the NICU at Arkansas Children's Hospital. Her desire to have a career in physical therapy comes from her personal benefit from physical therapy treatments and seeing how it has helped family members and friends. Peyton no doubt has a very bright future ahead, and it was an honor to have her visit our club and be our student guest speaker today. We were also pleased to have her mom, Kim Richard, as our guest today.

Announcements

PETS International Project

President-Elect Tim Metcalf and Vice President Justin Nicklas are headed to President-Elect Training March 21-25, 2025 and need to bring at least 20 pairs of new shoes! We hope every member will donate at least one pair of new shoes. The greatest need is for boys ages 14-18. Deadline is March 19th!

Shoes for Orphan Souls

Shoes are so much more than a **fashion statement!**

- promote health by preventing disease
- gives access to education when shoes are required to attend school
- increases self confidence

Shoes for youth ages 0-18

- Must be new
- Must be closed toe
- Greatest need - boy shoes ages 14- 18

Good shoes take you to good places

Contact your local Rotary Club to donate shoes or funds so we can purchase shoes.

Rotary 

Steamatic Collecting Duffle Bags & Suitcases

Join Steamatic as they collect new or gently used duffle bags and suitcases to benefit local kids in foster care. Donations will be shared with The Call, Compact, The Answer, and Ouachita Children Youth & Family Services. Drop off at 112 Jefferson Street between now and March 31, 2025. Many of these kids show up with their items in a trash bag. Join in the effort to give them the dignity of having a proper bag or suitcase for their belongings.

Street Clean Up

The Community Enhancement and Environment Committees have scheduled a street clean-up for

Fountain Street on March 13, from 8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m. If you are interested in joining them, meet on the steps of the Arlington Hotel.

Board Meeting

The next board meeting is Tuesday, April 1 at noon at the Hot Springs Country Club. For those working on your red to blue badge, this is your opportunity to check that off your list.

New Member Reception

There will be a new member reception for all new members, their sponsors, and the Board on April 24 at the Waters Hotel at the Rooftop Bar. Please mark your calendar for this upcoming event. The reception will begin at 5:30 p.m. until 7:00 p.m.

RYLA Raffle Drawing



Congratulations to **Matt Barrett** with Riser Ford, the winner of the RYLA Raffle and recipient of the advertising package worth \$2,000! With the help of **Brian Canales** and the members of the Education Committee, we are able to send an additional 4 students to Camp RYLA along with the 2 students we are budgeted to send. Thanks to all who purchased a ticket, sold tickets, and supported this worthy cause! The winning ticket was sold by Alan Floyd.

Special thanks to the Greater Hot Springs Chamber of Commerce and Tim & Mary Metcalf for the contributions to the advertising package!

Economic Minute



Chamber President Gary Troutman gave us a quick monthly update on all the recent happenings in Hot Springs, including but not limited to the following :

- *Site visit and tour of Veranda Luxury Pontoons in Jones Mill. You need to see a photo of the 450HP motor!
- *Thanks to Paul Riser and his team for bringing a Lincoln dealership to Hot Springs.
- *Two exciting Majestic Committee presentations. One of those from the Garland County Library.
- *AEDCE Zoom call with one local industry expanding and another with an out-of-state company looking to come to Hot Springs.
- *Gary and Gary taught local job and career opportunities to Lake Hamilton 12th Graders and Hot Springs 12th Graders.
- *Meet and greet with incoming Lake Hamilton Superintendent Dr. Tony Thurman from Cabot, who officially starts on 7/1/25.
- *Congrats to Oaklawn and David Bazzel for The Broyles Award. It was a sell-out with

800 in attendance and what an accomplishment in getting the event moved to Hot Springs from Little Rock.

*Continued meetings and work with our friends in Malvern on getting the Jones Mill Industrial Park ready for new industry.

*S-R headlines: VHS CEO Arrison to retire after 27 years; Crime continues downward trend in city,

Postponed by a day due to ice and cold temps, Rebel Stakes Day drew 36,000 on a Sunday to Oaklawn.

*Four names have been submitted for consideration for *Arkansas Business*' "40 Under 40."

*Preparation meetings continue for Draft Day 2025 Hot Springs at Lake Hamilton Arena on April 9-10. If you need employees, you need to be there!

*Cole and Gary J. attended the introduction of the energy/infrastructure bill at the State Capitol.

*Site visit to local aerospace manufacturer Radius Aerospace.

*Jay Leno was at Oaklawn on Saturday night. They have hosted several big-name acts lately (thank you, Oaklawn!)— it feels like old times growing up in Hot Springs with all the famous acts at the Vapors and Derby Dinner Theater!

Board Notes

Notes from the last board meeting held March 4, 2025:

With regret, the board voted to accept the resignations of the following members:

- Rafeal Martinez
- Dr. Gwendolyn Carter, Satellite Club

The next Board meeting will be held at the Hot Springs Country Club on **Tuesday, April 1, 2025, at noon**. As always, all members are invited to join us, especially new members who are working to earn their Blue Badge. If you'd like to have lunch with us, please come 15 minutes early, so you can order off the menu prior to the start of the meeting. There is a charge of \$18 that will be added to your next statement. The meetings are held in the Executive Meeting Room.

Thought for the Week

On Ash Wednesday, our friends across the world use this season as a time for reflection, renewal, and growth. Just as we seek to better ourselves, we also strive to make a greater impact on the world around us. Let this day be a reminder to embrace humility, strengthen our commitment to service, and continuously grow as leaders in our communities. When we uplift others, we embody the spirit of 'Service Above Self.'



President Sara Brown~
