THE CITY OF BENTONVILLE

FOCUS

OCTOBER 2019

A CLOSER LOOK AT OUR COMMUNITY

Letter from Mayor Orman,

#BentonvilleGov

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

Our ultimate goal as a City is to maintain and enhance the quality of life for all that choose to live, play, and work in Bentonville. I am happy to report that Bentonville continues to thrive and offer an excellent quality of life and an enthusiastic, friendly environment. This atmosphere doesn't just materialize and I want to start out this letter by saying "Thank You!" Our community is flourishing because of the efforts of so many, including board and commission members, community partners, city employees, volunteers, residents, and area businesses.

With the many good things happening in the City, the quiet work of improving how we serve our residents day in, and day out continues to be a top priority. Here at the City, we have been busy working to implement many cutting edge communication and technology strategies to always strive to operate in a more efficient and effective manner for our residents. I wanted to take just a moment of your time to update you on a few of the new programs.

The City of Bentonville recently launched Iteris VantageLive, a new software program that captures traffic, pedestrian, and bicycle counts throughout our city. Utilizing this new software takes a three to four week process down to a matter of minutes for data collection. Prior to the software, a traffic count company had to manually install traffic counters, collect the data for a two week time period, analyze the data, and then key and export the data to a report. This software allows for immediate capture of the traffic counts and flow at identified intersections and in less than a minute compiles the data in a report status. Real time data is used to adjust signal timing through our Traffic Monitoring Control Center. I appreciate our forward thinking City Engineers who sought to implement this system. It will save thousands of tax payer dollars and provide the City with updated information to make informed decisions in a timely manner.



In August, Mayor Orman helped Bentonville Public Library recognize and appreciate its Teen Volunteers. This summer, 140 teenagers volunteered 2,029 hours at BPL!

The safety and security of our community is always our #1 priority. The City will be hosting the Grand Opening of our new state-of-the art Police Dispatch Center in late October. The new facility will include a digital forensic lab for cellular phones, computers, and digital device investigations and digital display monitoring walls with the latest technology to track weather and satellite broadcast. This facility is FEMA hardened with ballistic windows to withstand emergency conditions and offers a city wide solution for emergency response in the event of a disaster. The building doubles our current facility and prepares us to handle dispatch communication needs for the next 20 years. Our Criminal Investigations Division will also be housed at the facility with office space available for our work with federal agencies.

The new Bentonville 311 system also moves our digitial communication initiative forward. The system

Continued on Page 8

Outstanding Citizen Award

The City of Bentonville is currently accepting nominations for the Outstanding Citizen Award to recognize the exceptional volunteer contributions of Bentonville residents. Details and the nomination form are on the city's website at www.bentonvillear.com.

Ward 4 Meeting Nov. 7

Mayor Orman will hold the last ward meeting this year for Ward 4 on November 7 at 6 pm at the Bentonville Public Library.

These meetings introduce citizens to various city departments, including police, fire, electric, transportation, library, parks and code enforcement. City staff share new initiatives, future plans, and are available to answer questions.



Ward meeting at Community Center.

Legacy National Bank Wins "Grow with Trees" Award



Grow with Trees awarded to Legacy Bank.

The "Grow with Trees Award" recognizes those that have made a direct impact on increasing and/or preserving Bentonville's tree canopy.

Legacy National Bank, located at 2904 S. Walton Blvd., is the first commercial development recipient of this award. The award was presented to Legacy National Bank because during construction, steps were taken to properly preserve, rather than remove, three old growth oak trees. Two on S. Walton Blvd. and one on Airport Rd.

Placzek's Winner of Landscaping Award

The Placzek residence, located at 501 NW A Street, is the winner of the Residential Yard of the Month Award for August. Greg and Andrea's landscaping is tasteful and creative, consistently maintained, and displays seasonal color due to the wide variety of plants and trees. As a result, the landscaping has a beautiful overall appearance. Andrea learned how to garden from her mother-in-law, who grew up in the Ozarks. Andrea and Steve design and plant together, choose natives when possible, and focus on perennials. Their current project is a full sun garden.

MORE INFO

dsemsrott@bentonvillear.com

www.bentonvillear.com/466/Tree-Landscape-Committee



501 NW A Street recognized for excellence in landscaping.

GET CONNECTED

We've gone social!

As part of the City of Bentonville's digital strategy, we are now active on social media. Followers can find us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram. Follow and Like our pages at @BentonvilleGov or #BentonvilleGov to be part of the latest city news and information and join the conversation.

Sign up for notifications & alerts

The city publishes a considerable amount of information on its website. But searching for specific items on a regular basis can be cumbersome.

The website allows you to receive an email notification for the items that interest you most You can subscribe to any of the following items:

- Agendas
- Building Reports
- City Jobs
- City Newsletter
- Field Status
- Power Outages
- Road Construction
- Street Closures
- Trash Service

Subscribing is easy...

1. Go to www.bentonvillear.com/list.aspx.
2. Type in your email address.
3. Select the items you want to receive.

...and you're done!

Bentonville Public Library

Be in the Know

Sign up for our monthly eNewsletter and stay up-to-date on all things BPL! Sign-up at www.bentonvillelibrary.org or by calling us at 479-271-3192.

Follow us on social media!

- Facebook: bplfriendsfoundation
- Instagram: bplfriendsfoundation
- Twitter: BPL_FOL_BLF

A Letter from the Director

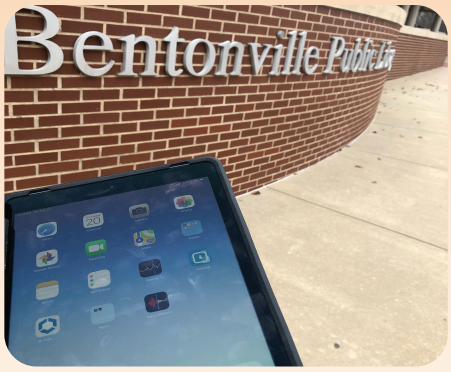
Hadi Dudley, Library Director

The library was happy to receive feedback from the patron survey this spring. You spoke, we listened! The overall consensus is that you want more! And that's exactly what we've done.

- Increased library shelving by 10% for more materials.
- Added thousands of new items including books, DVDs, and special collections such as games, technology, and book club kits.
- Offering more digital resources like NewsBank and increased our selection of eBooks and downloadable audiobooks.
- Added to the number of library programs for all ages.
- Providing more technology with circulating iPads and new telescopes. Coming soon - iPad stations for teens & tweens.
- And, last - but certainly not least – the library's café space is filled with the aroma of Guatemalan coffee!

We are looking to the future and have more plans. With everything we do, we keep you, our patrons, at the center of our thoughts. We believe that libraries are the heart of a community, and our patrons are the heart of this library.

If you haven't visited in a while, come see what we're doing! We'd love to have you here!



We Have an App for That

BPL offers many digital resources with apps, so lifelong learning opportunities are right at your fingertips! Download the apps in your phone or tablet's app store and access using your library card.

- Bentonville Library Mobile: Access your library account and our catalog.
- Flipster: Download digital popular magazine titles.
- Freegal: Download music for free!
- Libby by Overdrive: Thousands of eBooks and audiobooks ready to download!
- Tutor.com: Free online tutoring and more. Drop off math questions or your resume. Get help from real, live tutors and career coaches.
- Rosetta Stone: The most recognizable name in language acquisition. Choose from 30 different languages.
- LinkedIn Learning: Gives you access to thousands of courses to improve your skills and advance your career. Formerly Lynda.com.

Upcoming Events @ BPL

Small Business Series
Nov. 6, 13 & 20 at 6 pm

Box City
Nov. 9 from 1 to 3 pm

Chainmaille Jewelry Workshop
Nov. 14 & Dec. 5 at 6 pm

Zen Doodling
Nov. 6 at 6 pm

Dia De Los Muertos Art Reception
Nov. 1 at 6 pm

ACT Prep Workshop
Nov. 5 & 7 from 4:15 to 6:15 pm

'Lil Miss Coder for Tweens & Teens
Nov. 16 & Dec. 7 at 1 pm

Special Broadway Book Club
Dec. 2 at 6 pm

Photographer & Author Tim Ernst
Dec. 7 at 1 pm

Painting with Heather
Dec. 12 at 6 pm

Homemade Holiday
Dec. 14 from 1 to 3 pm

word on the STREETS

Recently Completed

NW 3rd, Phase III. Replaced the bridge and widened NW 3rd St. from Saddlebrook St. to Coler Creek.

SE 8th / SE J Pedestrian Tunnel. Constructed bicycle and pedestrian tunnel under the intersection.

SE 8th / I-49 Interchange. ArDOT completed the 8th St. / I-49 interchange and widened SE 8th St. from I-49 to Moberly Ln.

Under Construction

SW/SE 8th Utility Relocation, SW I to Moberly. The city has acquired the right-of-way and utilities are relocating their infrastructure.

SW I / SW 14th Intersection. Construction of an additional southbound lane on SW I St. from Melissa Dr. to SW 14th St. (Hwy 102).

I-49 / Exit 85 Improvements. ARDOT is constructing a Single Point Urban Interchange (SPUI) at Exit 85 on I-49.

Walton Resurfacing. ARDOT will resurface the road with a mill and asphalt in-lay from Rainbow Curve (Hwy 12) north to the roundabout.

In the Works

N Walton / Tiger Intersection. Construct left turn lanes at NW 12th St. and Tiger Blvd. and replace signal.

SE/SW 8th Widening. Widen 8th St. from SW I St. to Moberly Ln.

NW 3rd / Walton Signal. Install a traffic signal that includes protected left turn movements for NW 3rd St.

Town Vu Bridge Replacement. Replace the current one-lane bridge on Town Vu Rd. with a box culvert.

Water Tower Rd / 8th. Extend SE 8th St. east to Water Tower Rd. and widen Water Tower Rd. south to SE 14th St.

Keep Grass Clippings Off Streets



Sweeping or blowing grass clippings onto sidewalks and streets is against city code and can cause several hazards. First, grass clippings, if wet from dew, can be slippery. This condition can be especially dangerous for pedestrians and cyclists. Second, they can block the drainage system. Think of what happens to gutters when full of leaves. The flow of water is blocked and the gutters won't work properly. The same thing happens with grass clippings in street gutters. The clippings build up over time and block ditches, inlets, and pipes, decreasing the ability of the stormwater system to properly drain.

To help keep grass clippings out of the streets and drainage system:

- Turn mower so that is sends clippings back into the yard.
- Use a blower to blow the clippings back into the yard
- Sweep up the clippings.



Fall Leaf Curbside Collection Returns

The City of Bentonville will start its annual residential fall leaf curbside pickup on Monday, Dec. 2, 2019.

City crews will begin a sweep through the city on Dec. 2 and collection will run through Dec. 13. City crews will travel all streets one time and will not repeat routes. Please be patient and understand that bags may sit a few days before being removed.

- Pickup is for leaves only - no limbs or other waste.
- Securely closed bags must be placed at the curb.
- City forces will not enter private property to collect bags.
- Bags placed after Dec. 2 are not guaranteed to be picked up.
- Property owner must dispose of any bags after Dec. 13.

MORE INFO
479-271-5945

Yard Waste Disposal at Compost Facilty

Citizens may dispose of leaves themselves at the Compost Facility.

2000 NW A Street
Mon.- Sat., 8 am to 4 pm
Closed Nov. 28 & 29

Bentonville residents with a copy of a utility bill and photo ID.

grass • leaves • limbs • brush

PARKS & Recreation



The Rink Opens Nov. 23

The 2019-2020 ice skating season starts Nov. 23 and ends Jan. 20. The cost is $3 per ice skating session and $2 for ice skate rental. A family season pass is just $50! New session hours this season - see table to the right.

The Rink is the perfect place for your next party! Rink rental is $150 for 1.5 hours. Reservations available for Saturdays 10:00 am to 11:30 am or Sunday 12:00 pm to 1:30 pm.

The Rink New Session Hours

	M-Th	Fri	Sat	Sun
12 pm			❄	
1 pm			❄	
2 pm			❄	❄
3 pm			❄	❄
4 pm			❄	❄
5 pm	❄	❄	❄	
6 pm	❄	❄	❄	
7pm	❄	❄	❄	
8 pm		❄	❄	
9 pm		❄	❄	

Half Marathon Celebrates 10 Yrs

Registration for the 10th Annual Run Bentonville Half Marathon, Relay, and 5k is now open! On April 4, 2020, Bentonville Parks & Recreation will celebrate ten years of the best half marathon in NW Arkansas and beyond. Register or volunteer now for this special event!

MORE INFO
www.runbentonville.com

New Inclusive Playground at Citizens Park

This month, Bentonville Parks & Recreation is celebrating the grand opening of Citizens Park Playground, located on the grounds of Citizens Park at 1101 SW Citizens Circle. This playground is the first of its kind in Bentonville as it was designed as an inclusive playground.

An inclusive playground is designed for children who may have special needs. However, the playground has the same play value of any other playground. This means that children with special needs and able-bodied children are equally able to use and enjoy. Some of the features of this 100% ADA accessible playground includes: no steps or barriers that would prevent a child from using any of the features including slides, zip lines, swings, and more.





PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

Simplifying the Way You Do Business with Bentonville

The City of Bentonville has launched eTrakit, an internet-based software package that allows online access to planning projects, building permit and code compliance information 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

eTrakit can be used by a *public user* or a *registered user*. The public user can view information received in the Planning and Building Services Departments by using the web-enabled screens and functions to access permit, project, code, land and inspection information. To sign up as a public user, go to www.BentonvillePermits.com and click on Set up an Account.

The registered user can submit building plans, track reviews, monitor permits and inspections. They can upload plans, apply for permits and projects, examine inspection history and notes made by inspectors, view parcel details on an integrated GIS map and much more. Registered users can also view all applications they have started but haven't finished, as well as any active permits or projects they have applied for. If you are an established contractor with the city you are able to start submitting building permit applications Oct. 1, 2019. To get started, go to www.BentonvillePermits.com. Links are available to walk you through the process.

MORE INFO
479-271-3125

eTRAKiT
Online Permitting System

United States® Census 2020
2020Census.gov

In April 2020, all households will receive an invitation to participate in the 2020 Census. The City of Bentonville encourages everyone to respond and be counted. The results impact funding for our schools and roads and inform planning efforts for community resources.

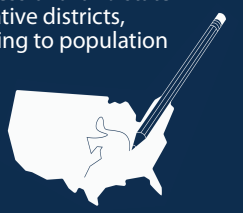
Your data is confidential.

Federal law protects your census responses. Your answers can only be used to produce statistics. By law, the Census Bureau cannot share your information with immigration enforcement or law enforcement agencies.



It's about redistricting.

State officials use census results to redraw the boundaries of their congressional and state legislative districts, adapting to population shifts.



It's about fair representation.

Every ten years, the results of the census are used to reapportion the House of Representatives, determining how many seats each state gets.



BENTONVILLE Great NEIGHBORHOODS
Friendly • Safe • Attractive • Engaged

Mayor Orman's new initiative, Bentonville Great Neighborhoods Partnership, is off to a great start. Informational materials and program details are now available on the program website.

NOW AVAILABLE:

- Neighborhood Organizing Guide
- Online registration.
- Neighborhood clean-up supplies.
- Event flyer printing.

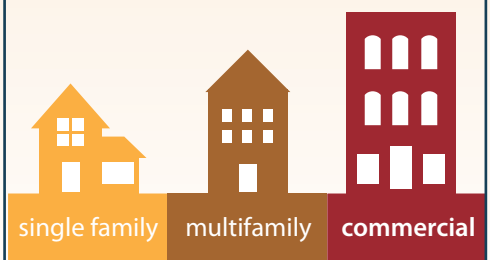
COMING SOON:

- Neighborhood Tree Planting
- Block Party Trailer with supplies to help you have a great event and get to know your neighbors.

5 Registered Neighborhoods

MORE INFO
479-271-3122
neighborhoods@bentonvillear.com
www.BentonvilleGreatNeighborhoods.com

By the Numbers:
Permits: First Half 2019



single family	multifamily	commercial
267 units permitted	392 units permitted	22 units permitted
13% increase from last year	63% decrease from last year	16% decrease from last year

PUBLIC SAFETY



New 911 Communications Center.

Bentonville's new 911 Emergency Communications Center now open!


911 Telecommunicators in new facility..

The City of Bentonville's new Emergency Communications and Operations Center was completed in September and is now receiving all 911 and non-emergency calls for service.

This new facility was built to keep pace with the city growth and has space for additional 911 Telecommunicators for each shift. The building is approximately 26,000 sq. feet, includes an internal Emergency Operations Center, and is equipped to withstand natural and man-made disasters. The Police Department's Criminal Investigation Division transitioned into the new facility in September. The previous building has been successfully repurposed for the Patrol and Operations Division.

Holiday Safety Tips

It's almost time to get out the holiday decorations, lights and candles.
Follow these safety tips to avoid preventable fires and have a safe and healthy holiday season!

1. **Inspect electrical decorations for damage before use.**

   Cracked or damaged sockets, loose or bare wires, and loose connections may cause a serious shock or start a fire.

2. **Water live trees daily.**

   Dry trees are a serious fire hazard.

3. **Do not overload electrical outlets.**

   Avoid overloading outlets and plug only one high-wattage appliance into an outlet at a time.



4. **Never connect more than three strings of incandescent lights.**

   Not only can connecting more than three strands blow a fuse, it can cause a fire.

5. **Stay in the kitchen when something is cooking.**

   Unattended cooking equipment is the leading cause of home cooking fires.

6. **Keep combustibles at least three feet from heat sources.**

   A heat source that was too close to the decoration was a factor in half of the home fires that began with decorations.

7. **Protect cords from damage.**

   Cords should never be pinched by furniture, forced into small spaces such as doors or windows, placed under rugs, located near heat sources or attached by nails or staples.

8. **Use battery-operated candles.**

   Candles start almost half of home decoration fires.

9. **Check decorations for certification label.**

   Decorations not bearing a label from an independent testing laboratory such as Underwritten Laboratories (UL), Canadian Standards Association (CSA) or Intertek (ETL) have not been safety tested and could be hazardous.

10. **Turn off, unplug, and extinquish all decorations when going to sleep or leaving the house.**

    Half of home fire deaths occur between the hours of 11:00 pm and 7:00 am.

MORE INFO
Fire Marshal
479-271-3108

Letter from Mayor Orman *(Continued from Page 1)*

nication as something separate from the services their city delivers. Rather, they find ways to integrate the two. With the implementation of Bentonville 311 when a citizen reports a problem, they will be notified their concern has been reviewed and follow up must take place for an item to be taken out of the system. The new Bentonville 311 site is in the final stages of being released for public use. We are currently in the testing phase of this launch and look forward to being able to provide better customer service, productivity, and accountability through this new software.

Finally, the City recently launched Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram social media for better city communication in our digital world. We are looking forward to using these outlets to better inform the public, but please note we still believe true solutions come from direct conversation and action.

The mission of Bentonville City Government is to preserve, promote, and sustain an excellent quality of life within our city. In partnership with the community, we pledge to deliver municipal services in a professional, personal, and responsive manner.

We are proud that Bentonville is a community of neighbors, and as the City continues to grow, we want the hometown friendliness, charm and spirit to resonate from the customer service you experience with each of our City departments. We are honored to call Bentonville our home and we hope you are too!

Sincerely,
Mayor Orman

Utility Billing Notes

Paperless Bills

The City of Bentonville does offer a paperless option for utility customers. All customers can access their bills online at www.invoicecloud.com/bentonvillear. Send an email to egovutility@bentonvillear.com with the subject Paperless and include your account number in the message to sign up today.

Billing Cycle Boundary Change

Utility Billing will be updating the Cycle Boundaries this fall to better balance our four billing cycles. Find more information at http://bit.ly/bntcyclemap.

Pay by Phone

To pay utility bills by phone anytime, call (479)271-3100 and press 1. Be prepared to provide your utility account number and your credit/debit card information.

MORE INFO
(479)271-3100
egovutility@bentonvillear.com

