



FOCUS

Newsletter of the City of Bentonville, AR

JUNE 2022

Letter from Mayor Orman

I would like to take this newsletter opportunity to say thank you to the Bentonville community! I am amazed at the things you do to make our City the very best place to live, work, and play. In a time where technology can both connect us and separate us, a sense of community is key to a successful city. A strong sense of community offers a place of opportunity and in Bentonville we want opportunity

to be abundant for all. Whether you are looking for your first job, that career promotion, or starting your own business, Bentonville strives to support you and wants to see you succeed. Whether you are single, ready to start a family, or on the road to retirement, Bentonville desires to provide great amenities and high quality of life for everyone, regardless of your stage in life.

So, what does drive the sense of a strong community in Bentonville? I believe it's the people, the family feel, the climate and changing seasons, the entertainment, the outdoors, the beauty, the trails, the safety, the quality utilities, the education system, the health system, the healthy business environment and the open space and parks, it all reflects the secret sauce that mixed together provides a strong foundation for a community to have healthy and sustainable growth.

However, as we grow, fostering a feeling of genuine connection and intentional placemaking must continue to be a top priority at the City. As part of this priority, we greatly appreciate the community input we have received as we work to create not just space, but places that make people's lives better.

Placemaking is an unending accomplishment, where the work continues long after the project is initially constructed. The magic happens when stories develop and a love of a place grows as the project is utilized.

I have often heard the bucket analysis used when talking about placemaking and it is one of my favorite analogies. Buckets serve as a way to collect items from the environment and eventually those items combine to produce soil that facilitates healthy growth. As humans we need to be participating in the local soil, understanding it, and contributing to what we want to see grow here. I am on a mission to grow the love for Bentonville and I hope you will join me in that mission.

As we complete this mission together, I hope to hear from you. Take a walk around your area of Bentonville and let me know what you see. In that walk, ask yourself what can you do to add to your love of this place. Then, send me your notes on what we can do to move the City forward together. I look forward to hearing from you and intentionally contributing to the Bentonville soil that we all know, love, and want to see continued growth and prosperity within!



Mayor Orman with Lillyanna Kham who designed the Multi-cultural Festival t-shirts.



Community dance at the Multicultural Festival on April 23.

#BeTheBentonvilleDifference

Spirit of Bentonville Awards



Dec. 2021 – Helping Hands. Sheree Miller nominated Helping Hands, writing: "The staff and volunteers at Helping Hands are weathering the storm of COVID-19. They have unselfishly continued to give services to our neighbors in Benton County by assisting with food, clothing, and resources." The thrift store is the source of their revenue and donations from the public. The food

pantry still continues to help the community even though the donations declined. The staff has been able to serve even though COVID-19 has challenged their families and friends.



Jan. 2022 – John and Amber Tuller. John and Amber Tuller were nominated by Kristen Caldwell. Amber read a post on social media of a mom who had been at an urgent care in Bentonville with her young child, left her wallet on top of her car and drove home to Fayetteville. Without her wallet she was unable to purchase gas to drive back to Bentonville. John went and found the wallet. He drove to Fayetteville to return it and

provided the mom with a full tank of gas and money to assist with Christmas. Kristen wrote, "I am so thankful for the Tullers who contribute every day to making Bentonville a wonderful place."

Feb. 2022 – Brenda Anderson. Brenda Anderson's desire to collaborate and move Bentonville forward is why so many people nominated her. One nomination stated, "Brenda has helped grow the positive spirit of the Bentonville area more than anyone I have met. Her influence and professional attitude motivates everyone around her to do the right thing, even in difficult circumstances."

Feb. 2022 – Melanie Hoskins

Melanie has been an inspiration with her leadership in Bentonville Together and the Multicultural Festival. She had a strong desire to bring the community together through this new celebration and took action to make it come to fruition. She has worked tirelessly, outside of a full time



job, making sure all feel welcomed in Bentonville and part of this event. Her always cheerful attitude will make you smile and come together!



March 2022 – Central Park Elementary

Amanda Williams from Central Park Elementary contacted Ali Worley, Animal Services Manager, explaining that their February word of the month was "compassion" and that the students collected food, beds and cleaning supplies for our new animal shelter. On Friday, March 4, 2022, staff went to pick up the supplies. The donations filled 3 ½ pallets! Members of their Student Council loaded the supplies into both trucks. These students and the whole school did an amazing job at helping out our local animal shelter!

Nominate Someone Today

The Spirit of Bentonville Award is presented to Bentonville residents for outstanding contributions to the community. Learn more and nominate online at www.bentonvillear.com/599/The-Spirit-of-Bentonville-Award.



#BentonvilleGov



Bentonville Public Library

479.271.3192 • <http://bentonvillelibrary.org/>

BPL Librarian Goes ALL-in



Anna Sharon, Teen Librarian at Bentonville Public Library (BPL), was chosen to be part of this year's Arkansas Library Leadership Institute (All-In). Also chosen from Bentonville was Carol Halbmaier, Osage Creek Elementary, and Jessica Humphrey, Grimsley Junior High. Sharon, Halbmaier and Humphrey attended the first session of ALL-In from April 6–8 in Bismarck, Ark.

The first session of ALL-In was centered on creating a personal leadership development plan. Sharon said, "I look forward to continuing to build this plan during future ALL-In sessions...and finding ways to implement new leadership skills into my work at BPL."

NY Times Best-Selling Author Visits the Library



On April 30, Keith O'Brien, author of *Paradise Falls: The True Story of an Environmental Catastrophe*, paid a visit to the Library for A Morning with Keith O'Brien featuring two events. First, A Special Book Club Meet & Greet facilitated a long Q&A. Then, A Community Event with Sale and Signing showcased O'Brien's book talk and a book giveaway sponsored by a private donor. Two Friends Books co-hosted the event. *Paradise Falls* and

O'Brien's best-selling novel *Fly Girls* are both available for checkout at BPL, individually or as a Book Club Kit.

Model Volunteer Takes on a New Meaning



Teen Volunteer Eekshita was given the privilege of creating our newest American Girl® Doll from scratch named Sarayu. Eekshita is a member of the Teen Advisory Board at the Library. In addition, the Tween Advisory Board took part in collectively designing

another new doll, David. David is our first doll with a disability, featuring a hearing aid. The

Children's department debuted five (5) new dolls for checkout this season: David, Courtney, Corinne, Gabriela and Sarayu.



Summer Reading Club provides an Ocean of Possibilities



The Library's Summer Reading Club started on May 27, but it's not too late to sign up! Download the READsquared app to log reading minutes. Minutes can be logged until July 30 so there is plenty of time to get some prizes. Prizes such as books, gift cards and a Kindle. Prizes will be given away to each age group. Log minutes to be eligible for prizes.

This summer, the Library will also feature some amazing programming. The Children's department will host a theatre performance, a magic show and more. The teens can enjoy clubs for D&D and coding. For more information, visit the Summer Reading Club page of our website.

A Library for the 21st Century

Pickup Lockers were introduced in April and provide access to reserved materials at the Community Center or 24/7 pickup of holds on the Library's veranda.

But wait, there's more ... patrons can now pay late fees with a credit card. Visit bentonvillelibrary.org for more info on these new services, and others!



Transportation & Streets

479-271-3131 • www.bentonvillear.com/315/Transportation



Aerial view of the extension of SE 8th St. over to Water Tower Rd.



Trail underpass at Water Tower Rd.

Road Projects Under Construction

I-49 / S Walton (Exit 85): ARDOT is constructing a Single Point Urban Interchange (SPUI).

S Main, SE 2nd to SE 8th: Project includes a road diet to narrow lanes and construct wider sidewalks.

Water Tower / SE 8th, Ph I: Extending SE 8th St. from I-49 east to Water Tower Rd.

SW Bright: This section of street, constructed in conjunction with Parks and Recreation's Creekside Park, will extend Bright Rd. north beyond SW Airport Rd. to SW 28th St.

N Walton / NW 12 / Tiger Intersection: Constructing left turn lanes at NW 12th St. and Tiger Blvd. and replacing signals.

NE Cub Sidewalk: This project consists of the installation of approximately 550 linear feet of concrete sidewalk along Cub Cir. from Tiger Blvd. to NE A St. to make a connection to the Razorback Greenway.

www.bentonvillebond.com

When Do I Need a Right-of-Way Permit?



ROW permits are required at all times during any work upon, in, under, above or about any street, alley, curb, gutter, sidewalk, driveway, or any public right-of-way. For details, scan QR Code or visit <https://www.bentonvillear.com/762/Right-of-Way-Permit>.

Right-of-Way Elements:



Vehicle travel lanes, turn lanes, medians, traffic signals and signs, roundabouts, and on-street parking areas.



Public transportation stops and shelters.



Right-of-way is public space utilized for transportation purposes.

Bicycle and pedestrian multiuse trails, sidewalks, bike lanes, street landscaping, seating, lighting, and other streetscape elements.



ARTERIAL STREETS: Utilized for travel through the city and provide connections to other cities and highways; linking major commercial, residential, and industrial uses.

COLLECTOR STREETS: Intended to collect traffic from Local Streets and connect them to Arterial Streets; usually those travelling to or from a nearby location.

LOCAL or RESIDENTIAL STREETS: Primarily accessed only by people who live in the area. These streets are low-capacity and have a low speed limit.
Example: Fir St.

DOWNTOWN STREETS: Found in the downtown core of the city; designed to allow users increased walkability and to access businesses in the core area.
Example: NW 2nd St.





Parks & Recreation

479-464-PARK (7275) • playbentonville.com

Swim lessons
offered.



Melvin Ford Aquatic Center Opened May 28

Between summer swim lessons, swim and dive teams, pool parties, camps, triathlons, and competitive meets, there is nonstop activity in the water at Melvin Ford Aquatic Center. Centered in the heart of Memorial Park, the swimming pool is open for the season between May 28 and September 5. Invest in a Bentonville Community Center membership (family, youth, individual, or senior) for access to both aquatic facilities (Melvin Ford and the Community Center) as well as program discounts. For hours of operation, including lap swim and open swim, visit playbentonville.com.

Melvin Ford Aquatic Center DAILY-ADMISSION

Under 18	\$2.00
Adult	\$3.00



Join us for an Evening at
Orchards Park on July 4.



An Evening at Orchards Park July 4

In partnership with the Bentonville Fire Department, Bentonville Parks and Recreation will once again host *An Evening at Orchards Park*. The Independence Day festivities start at 7:00 pm with food trucks and live music, followed by an incredible fireworks display at 9:30 pm. Join us on Monday, July 4 for this unforgettable community-wide celebration. The event is free to the public.

Fall Youth Sports Registration Open Until July 20

Registration for the fall season of youth sports is May 1 – July 20. (Late registration continues July 21 – July 27 for an additional \$10 fee.) Bentonville Parks and Recreation offers soccer, baseball, softball, and tennis programs in designated parks throughout the community. During the 2022 spring season, there were a total of 4,200 league participants. Program dates and details vary by sport. To register and learn more, visit playbentonville.com.

Fireworks begin at
9:30 pm on July 4.



Register now for youth sports.



Bentonville Parks
and Recreation
offers soccer,
baseball, softball,
and tennis programs
each fall.



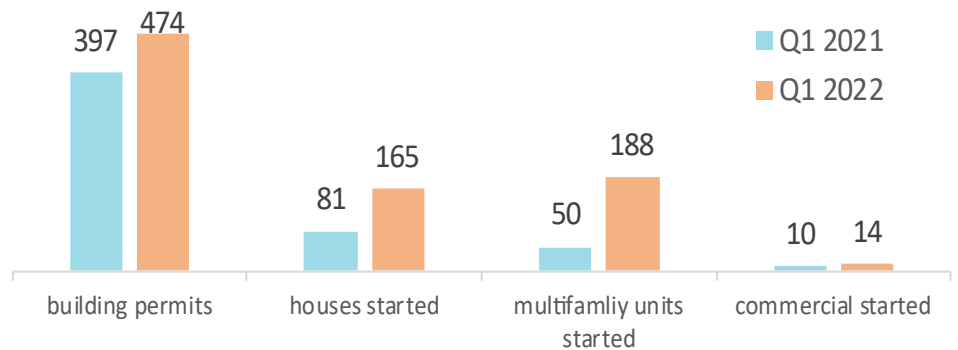
Community Development

479.271.3122 • bentonvillear.com/186/Development-Services



Development by the Numbers

2022 first quarter permit data suggests higher growth than in 2021. The total number of building permits issued in the first quarter of 2022 is nearly 20% higher than the first quarter of 2021. The number of houses started is double that of 2021 and the number of multifamily units started is three-times that of 2021.



Arts in the Parks

The Bentonville Public Art Advisory Committee (PAAC) has been busy the last few months to expand the offering of artwork in Bentonville's public spaces.

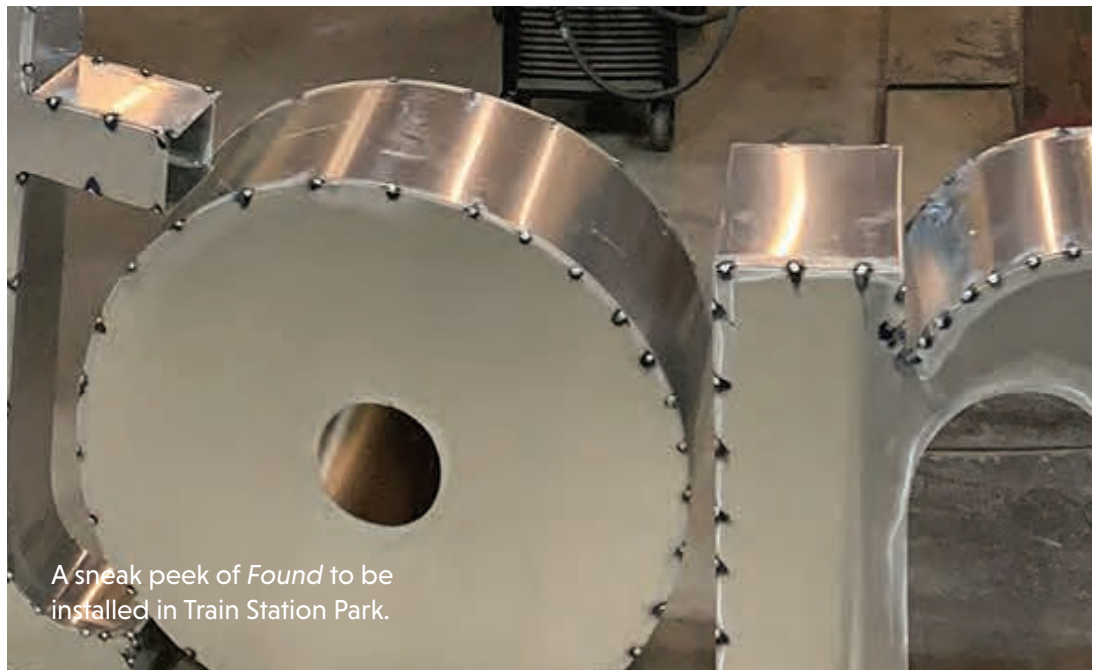
A new piece titled *"Found"* by artist Timothy Jorgensen will be installed in Train Station Park this summer. Come see yourself in this artwork, take a selfie and post with #bentonvillepublicart. The PAAC selected this proposal from 23 submittals.

The committee also approved artwork proposed by OzArt for installation at Lake Bentonville. This piece, called *"Canoe Canoe,"* will provide unique seating near Thaden Field.

Bentonville's Great Neighborhoods Partnership was formed to bring your neighbors together, learn more about how to get involved with the City of Bentonville, and to get to know those around you.

Don't be fooled by the title of this group. If you live in an area of Bentonville without an active POA, we have room for you too! Contact neighborhoods@bentonvillear.com to learn more about how your group can benefit from our resources.

Once approved, your group will have access to our cleanup kits, a radar speed trailer, tree plantings, yearly contests, and our block party trailer that comes filled with supplies to make your next gathering even better!



A sneak peek of *Found* to be installed in Train Station Park.



Public Safety



479-271-3170 • www.bentonvillear.com/342/Police-Department

479-271-3151 • www.bentonvillear.com/214/Fire-Department

Join Bentonville Police Department for National Night Out on Aug. 2



National Night Out is Aug. 2

National Night Out is an annual community-building campaign that promotes police-community partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie to make our neighborhoods safer, more caring places to live. National Night Out enhances the relationship between citizens and law enforcement while bringing back a true sense of community.

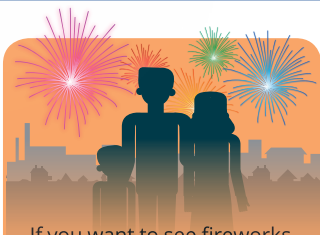
This year, the Bentonville Police Department will be hosting their National Night Out Event on August 2nd at Memorial Park from 5 pm until 8 pm. There will be food and activities for all ages. Most importantly, officers will be present to build community with those they serve.

SUMMER Safety Tips

Keep these tips in mind as you and your family enjoy summer camping, vacations, family reunions, picnics and the Fourth of July.



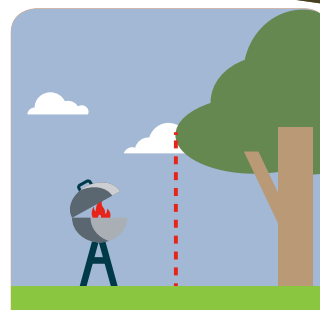
Build campfires at least 25 feet away from tents, shrubs and anything that can burn.



If you want to see fireworks, go to a public show put on by experts. Sparklers can reach 1,200* F and cause third-degree burns.



Always use U.S. Coast Guard-approved life safety jackets.



Use propane, charcoal and wood pellet barbecue grills outdoors only. Indoor use can cause a fire or carbon monoxide poisoning.

Place your grill well away from siding and deck railings and out from under eaves and overhanging branches. Do not store or use a grill on a porch or balcony.



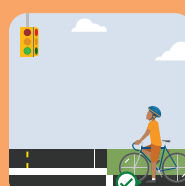
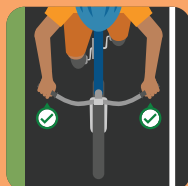
Always wear a bike helmet and bright clothes when cycling so people can see you. Put reflectors on your bike.



Use chimineas, outdoor fireplaces, and fire pits outdoors only and at least 10 feet away from your home or anything that can burn.

10 feet

Ride with both hands on the handlebars. Ride in single file with traffic. Stop at all stop signs and obey traffic lights.



Never swim near a boat, marina or boat launching ramp.

Tree giveaway
planned for
October 22.



FEMA Risk Rating 2.0: Equity in Action

FEMA Risk Rating 2.0 is the new National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) system that makes the most significant change in flood insurance risk rating in 40 years. All properties with flood insurance in Bentonville will see a change.

The flood insurance rate will no longer be based solely on Flood Insurance Rate Maps. It incorporates many federal sources of data, insurance data, and new technologies to create individual flood risk ratings that are more accurate and equitable. Every structure is rated on an individual cost to rebuild. The uninsured can consider asking an insurance company for a new NFIP flood insurance quote today.

If you want to know if your home is in a regulated flood zone or is in an area subject to drainage issues, enter concerns into the city's 311 system or call 479-271-3168 for the Floodplain Program.

To report a service
concern online visit:

BENTONVILLE311.COM



Coming this Fall: Cleanup Event & Tree Giveaway

Fall may be a full season away, but stay tuned on our website and on social media for fall events.

Clean the Streets Day

September 10

Info: <https://bit.ly/3NhuwkQ>

Fall Tree Giveaway

October 22

Be notified: <https://bit.ly/3m2kg1Z>

Nominate a Landscape

If you have a neighbor who takes extra care of their yard, nominate them for a Landscaping of the Month Award! Winners are honored at a City Council meeting, presented with a decorative yard sign, and have a photo of the winning landscape published in this newsletter. Nominate online at <https://bit.ly/3sI878q>.

In the Curbside Recycling Bins:

Recycle this....

Only recycle clean paper, cardboard, metal cans and #1 & #2 plastic bottles and jugs.



Not this....

Never place soiled paper and cardboard, food waste, plastic bags and items that can be reused, such as clothing, in your recycle cart.



SUMMER EVENTS



Farmer's Market

Saturdays, April through October
7:30 am to 1:00 pm
Bentonville Square

First Fridays

07/01, 08/05, 09/02, 10/07, 11/04
11:00 am to 9:00 pm
Bentonville Square

An Evening at Orchards Park

07/04/2022
7:00 pm, Fireworks at 9:30 pm
Orchards Park