



# Bentonville FOCUS

JUNE 2024

A CLOSER LOOK AT OUR COMMUNITY

479-271-5966 • [www.bentonvillear.com](http://www.bentonvillear.com)

## Letter from Mayor Orman

Ribbon cuttings, festivals, outdoor adventures, incredible arts programs, economic growth and community spirit...this is the summertime experience Bentonville offers for all. We are excited here at the City of Bentonville for a prosperous and exhilarating summer celebrating our success as a Community! We love that Bentonville continues to be recognized as a City to look to for innovation, collaboration and amazing community spirit!

I wanted to take a moment to express my heartfelt dedication and love for the growth and prosperity of Bentonville. Our city has witnessed remarkable progress over the last few years. I am immensely proud of the accomplishments we have achieved together, from our improved infrastructure, to enhanced public services and recreational facilities. We have strived to create an environment that fosters growth and supports the well-being of all.

Amidst the city's unprecedented growth there are many success stories, and with that growth, there is also the reality of some concerns. These concerns remind me of a saying I often use, "If it

were easy, it would have already been done." My promise to you is this, the City of Bentonville is dedicated to addressing concerns directly and fostering solutions through collaboration and transparency. Recognizing that positive change arises from mutual trust and engagement with the community, we are committed to working together for a brighter future for all. Together we are stronger and we are eager to build upon the City's resilient foundation to continue to see Bentonville thrive and be the most livable city in America.

I am excited that ongoing community conversations around Plan Bentonville, the update of the Bentonville Community Plan, are starting to shed light on a shared vision for fostering neighborhood nodes that thrive together and support one another. These discussions highlight the collective aspiration to cultivate interconnected hubs that contribute to a vibrant and

inclusive city fabric. Community engagement and collaboration lie at the heart of Plan Bentonville. I encourage every one of you to actively participate in local initiatives, community events, and civic activities. Your ideas, perspectives, and contributions are invaluable as we shape our future. Learn more at [www.planbentonville.com](http://www.planbentonville.com).

The largest initiative we have going on right now in the City is Plan Bentonville. As we move through this update, I want to assure you that City Hall is always open to your suggestions, concerns, and aspirations. Together, we can navigate the challenges, seize the opportunities, and continue to see Bentonville rise as the best city to live, work and play!

Thank you for your continued support and engagement to make Bentonville the best it can be! Enjoy your Summer!

All My Best- Stephanie Orman  
Mayor of Bentonville



Apple Glen Elementary's Student Council visited with Mayor Orman to learn about city government.

# #BeTheBentonvilleDifference

## Spirit of Bentonville Awards

The Spirit of Bentonville Award is presented to those nominated by Bentonville residents for outstanding contributions to the community. Learn more and nominate online at: [www.bentonvillear.com/599/The-Spirit-of-Bentonville-Award](http://www.bentonvillear.com/599/The-Spirit-of-Bentonville-Award).

### Eric Hersha, Bentonville Cemetery

Tracy McCoy nominated Eric Hersha and two other Bentonville cemetery workers for their dignity, grace and respect during the burial of her niece. She stated "Eric, in particular, had stayed with the family, let them lean on him physically and prayed with them." She concluded her nomination by saying "The City of Bentonville should be proud to have such men of integrity working for them."

### Andres Hernandez and Bentonville Water Utilities

Rebecca Camarigg nominated Andres Hernandez and the Bentonville Water Utilities Department for their response to a water main break by working overnight to ensure water service was minimally interrupted and that the break was fixed quickly.



Eric Hersha received the Spirit of Bentonville Award.

Camarigg stated "A former student of mine, Andres Hernandez, is a member of the water department. Even though he was working extra hours those few weeks trying to repair our water system, he still found time to man a water station during the Bentonville Half Marathon. I am so proud of this young man and other members of the water department."



Andres Hernandez and Bentonville Water Utilities received the Spirit of Bentonville Award.

*Pictured left to right: Beau Thompson, Mike Bender, Donnie Schmidt, Andres Hernandez, Mayor Orman*

## May Landscape Award Winners:



311 Huffman St.  
May Residential Landscape Award



Best Friends Animal Society  
May Commercial Landscape Award

## Correction - Feb 2024 Issue:

The photos of the Nov. 2023 and the Dec. 2023 Spirit of Bentonville Award recipients were shown next to the incorrect description. Photos below have the correct identification.



Dec. 2023 Recipient:  
First Bentonville Baptist Church



Nov. 2023 Recipient: Church of  
Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints





# Bentonville Public Library

479.271.3192 • bentonvillelibrary.org

## Free Lunch Program

Bentonville Public Library (BPL) is proud to be included as a location for Aramark and Bentonville Schools' Free Meals for Kids. Free meals will be served to kids 18 and younger in our parking lot Monday through Friday from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., starting June 3 through July 26 (there will be no free lunch served July 4).



## Expanding Our Collection While We Expand Our Spaces

You may have noticed we're getting some much needed new space, but we're growing our collection as well. And that includes the digital resources that are now available to our patrons. Here are some of our newest digital resources you should try out!

- **Libby Magazines** - You may have used Libby for eBooks and audiobooks, but you can now read some of your favorite eMagazines on Libby desktop and mobile app.
- **Fiero Code** - Whether you've always wanted to learn how to create websites, design apps, or even program robots, Fiero Code has something for everyone. Sign in to get started learning code today!
- **Scholastic Teachables** - Teachables has a vast library of printable worksheets, lesson plans, learning games, and more! Visit their website to get started!
- **PebbleGo Next** - Patrons now have access to PebbleGo for 3rd-5th graders. You can scope out all our PebbleGo resources on their website.

To use BPL digital resources, use your BPL Account Number and password (last four digits of your phone number). Check out our Student Portal and our Downloadables pages to see everything that's available.



## Sign Up for BPL Newsletters

We love being part of Bentonville's Focus newsletter, but there's so much more going on at BPL! Go to our home page and scroll to the bottom to sign up for our newsletter so you can keep up-to-date on all the changes.

## ADVENTURE — BEGINS AT — YOUR LIBRARY™

### Summer Reading Book Club

Remember the joy of turning in your reading log and getting a personal-sized pizza all to yourself? Well, we've got some good news for you!

Our Summer Reading Program has prizes for readers of all ages. And this year we've got some great changes that make the reading club so much easier.

Now you can register on the Beanstack website or app. You must register through Beanstack to be eligible for prizes. Each department (Kids, Teens, Adults) has different challenges and prizes, so make sure you visit our Summer Reading Club page on our website for the details.

At the end of the summer, each department will have a drawing for a grand prize. We're talking way more than a personal pan pizza.

Register now and get reading!

*The BPL Summer Reading Club is made possible by Friends of the Bentonville Library, Collaborative Summer Library Program (CSLP), other generous donations, and the Arkansas State Library with support from the Institute of Museum and Library Services.*

# Transportation & Streets

479-271-3131 • [www.bentonvillear.com/315/Transportation](http://www.bentonvillear.com/315/Transportation)



## New FREE Bus Route Connects Bentonville & Rogers

Ozark Regional Transit (ORT) is dedicated to providing safe, reliable and affordable public transportation to both the rural and urban residents for the four-county area.

To help fulfill this mission, ORT has a new free fixed bus route! This new route, Route BRX, links Bentonville and Rogers with 84 total stops between the Bentonville Community Center and Railyard Park in downtown Rogers. The route operates from 6:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.



For route map, scan code or visit [ozark.org](http://ozark.org).

On-Demand Transit Services (ODT) are also available. ODT allows a rider to schedule trips using the ORT On-demand app. Fee is \$1.25 per on-demand ride.

On-demand Schedule:

Mon - Thurs: 7:00 a.m. - 6:30 p.m.

Fri: 7:00 a.m. - 12:00 a.m.

Sat: 12:00 p.m. - 12:00 a.m.

Please visit ODT website for more information: <https://www.ozark.org/on-demand-service>.

For live updates on bus locations, delays, seat availability and messages from ORT, scan code,



visit [ozark.org](http://ozark.org) or get the app: "Passio GO!": [ozark.passiogo.com/](http://ozark.passiogo.com/)



## Under Construction

### 8th St. (SW I to SE J):

Reconstruction and widening of 8th St. to include storm drainage, traffic signals, additional driving lanes, sidewalks and protected two-way bicycle path.

### Water Tower Rd., Ph. 2 (SE 8th to SE 14th):

Improvements include removal of the rail road crossing, a new shared use path, additional lanes, and a new signal.

**28th St.:** Widening and constructing a new roadway from Featherston Rd. to SW I St. with pedestrian and bicycle facilities.

**Little Osage Trib 2:** Channelization and bridge improvements along upper portions of tributary.

**NW 9th & D Laterals:** Extend drainage collection system to NW 9th St. and add curb and gutter.

### SW Gator Blvd. (Morningstar to Gator Blvd.) Connection:

Construction of approximately 0.57 miles from S Morningstar Rd. and the existing end of SW Gator Blvd. into a three-lane roadway with pedestrian and bicycle facilities.

## Coming Up

### Walton Blvd. & Walmart Entrance:

Adding dual left-turn lanes on the eastbound and westbound approaches for vehicles turning onto Walton.



## For More Info

Scan QR code or visit [www.bentonvillebond.com](http://www.bentonvillebond.com)





# Parks & Recreation

479-464-PARK (7275) • [playbentonville.com](http://playbentonville.com)

## Camp Bentonville

With 26 camp opportunities and 120 sessions (June 3 - August 8), Camp Bentonville is the place to be this summer! From Camp Basketball to Camp Magic to Camp Skateboard and everything in between, there are camps for all interests and abilities (ages 4-16). Register at [playbentonville.com](http://playbentonville.com).

## Bentonville Outdoors

Bentonville Outdoors, in partnership with 37 North Expeditions, has a busy summer of adventures planned throughout the parks and trails system. Enjoy activities like family fishing, kayaking, nature hikes, yoga, meditation, and more. For dates and details, visit [playbentonville.com](http://playbentonville.com).

## An Evening at Orchards Park

Thursday, July 4 | 7:00 p.m. | Food Trucks | Live Music | Fireworks

Melvin Ford Aquatic Center:  
Open May 25 - Sept. 2

Swim lessons | Swim parties  
Open swim | Lap swim



**2024**

**Camp Bentonville**

Offering a fun and safe environment to learn, explore, create, and play, Bentonville Parks and Recreation has an exciting line-up of 2024 camps planned during school breaks in the spring, summer, fall, and holiday season.

From Camp Soccer to Camp Amazem to Camp Adventure to Camp Triathlon, there is an educational and rewarding activity and opportunity for every camper ages 4-16. For specific program dates, times, costs, and registration details, scan the QR code below or visit [playbentonville.com](http://playbentonville.com).

**Learn EXPLORE  
create play**

Scan me to learn more

**Bentonville Outdoors**

**Who We Are**

Bentonville Outdoors offers adventure activities and outdoor learning opportunities within the Bentonville Parks and Recreation park system that bring the community together through outdoor recreation. Participation in outdoor activities with Bentonville Outdoors fosters confidence, cultivates appreciation, and deepens the understanding and love for the great outdoors!

**Learn more**

**Learn Outdoor Skills and Activities**

**Provide Mental and Physical Health Benefits Via the Outdoors**

**Showcase Outdoor Spaces in Bentonville**

**Contact Info**

[www.playbentonville.com](http://www.playbentonville.com) (479) 464-7275

**WORST RACE EVER**

**EXPECT LESS. ACHIEVE LESS.**

**2024**

**Saturday, Sept. 7**  
**7:00 a.m.**  
[runbentonville.com](http://runbentonville.com)



# Planning & Development

479.271.3122 • [bentonville.com/186/Development-Services](http://bentonville.com/186/Development-Services)



Community members participate in Plan Bentonville Design Week.

## Design Week Transforms Community Priorities into Future Growth Plans

Plan Bentonville's Design Week, six days of community input held in February, with an on-site design team making real-time revisions — was an illuminating exercise in what is possible when the community takes an active role in determining its future.

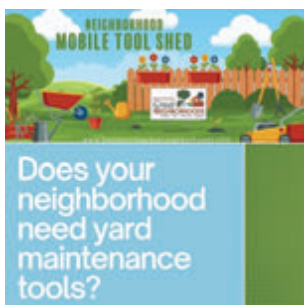
Guiding the project team's work as the week began were roughly 2,000 survey responses and 18 hours of 1-on-1 interviews completed in advance, reflecting a wide diversity of Bentonville residents sharing all manner of viewpoints. By week's end, that input had been augmented by a thousand personal interactions taking place in 10 pop-up input sessions set up in well-trafficked spots around the city and two large open house events where work-in-progress was shared in extensive detail.

This feedback was infused into the current draft of the Future Land Use Map. During the month of June, the map is available for public review and comment. The map will be on the project website, on display in public facilities, and at community meetings. The map, land use descriptions and June meetings are on the project website: [www.planbentonville.com](http://www.planbentonville.com).



Scan for *Plan Bentonville* details.

## Tool Trailer Available for Neighborhood Projects



Days are longer, temps are warmer, and the grass is taller. Members of our Great Neighborhoods Partnership program have free access to our mobile tool shed. You and your neighbors can reserve the mobile shed that comes complete with a lawn mower, edger, hedge trimmer, drill, and more!

To reserve, visit: <https://bit.ly/3pgTjyL>

## Enjoy the Benefits of the Great Neighborhoods Partnership

Bentonville's Great Neighborhoods Partnership (GNP) 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.

This program is open to areas of Bentonville with or without an active POA. As an official Great Neighborhoods Partner your group will have access to:

- cleanup kits
- radar speed trailer
- tree plantings
- annual contests
- tool trailer
- our popular Block Party Trailer that comes filled with supplies to make your next gathering even better.

Learn all about the program online at <https://bit.ly/3Wklsnj> or contact [neighborhoods@bentonville.com](mailto:neighborhoods@bentonville.com).



Register your neighborhood with the GNP to use the city's Block Party Trailer.





# Public Safety



479-271-3170 • [www.bentonvillear.com/342/Police-Department](http://www.bentonvillear.com/342/Police-Department) 479-271-3151 • [www.bentonvillear.com/214/Fire-Department](http://www.bentonvillear.com/214/Fire-Department)

## Is Your Address Visible in Case of an Emergency?



Locating a house number in the middle of the night on an emergency call, or even during the day with more homes built closer together, is a big concern for police, fire and EMS.

With today's technology it is easier to get to a location, but finding the exact building can sometimes be difficult if the numbers are not properly located or maintained. Which is why it

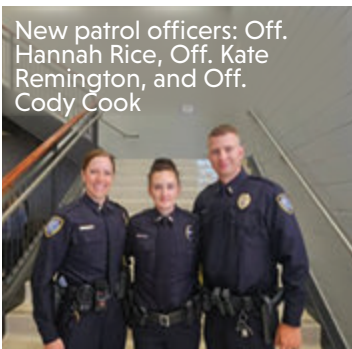
is so important that building numbers are placed and maintained in compliance with the fire code and city ordinance (see below). It is the property owner's responsibility to ensure that the address numbers are clearly visible from the roadway and consistent with the regulations. If you have any questions, contact the Fire Marshal's office at (479)271-3108.

**505.1 Address identification.** *New and existing buildings shall be provided with approved address identification. The address identification shall be legible and placed in a position that is visible from the street or road fronting the property. Address identification characters shall contrast with their background. Address numbers shall be Arabic numbers or alphabetical letters. Numbers shall not be spelled out. In commercial and multifamily buildings, each character shall be not less than 6 inches high with a minimum stroke width of 1 inch when the building is located within 100 feet of the street. 2 inches of number height will be added for every additional 100 feet from the street up to a maximum required size of 12 inches in height. Where required by the fire code official, address identification shall be provided in additional approved locations to facilitate emergency response. Where access is by means of a private road and the building cannot be viewed from the public way, a monument, pole or other sign or means shall be used to identify the structure. Address identification shall be maintained.*

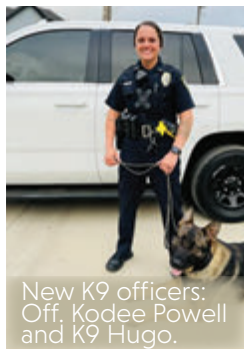
## Welcoming Our Newest Patrol & K9 Officers

Bentonville Police Department (BPD) welcomes the addition of Officer Hannah Rice, Officer Kate Remington, and Officer Cody Cook to the patrol division and Officer Kodee Powell and K9 Hugo to the K9 Unit. These officers have undergone rigorous training and possess the skills, dedication,

and commitment to serve and protect our community. Please welcome our new officers. Your support and cooperation are invaluable as we build a safer and stronger community together.



New patrol officers: Off. Hannah Rice, Off. Kate Remington, and Off. Cody Cook



New K9 officers: Off. Kodee Powell and K9 Hugo.



## Third Annual National Night Out: Aug. 6

Bentonville Police Department is thrilled to announce that our third annual *National Night Out* will be taking place on Tuesday, August 6, 2024, 5 - 8 pm at Memorial Skate Park (401 NE Martin Luther King Blvd.) National Night Out is an annual nationwide event promoting police-community partnerships, neighborhood camaraderie, and crime prevention awareness. It's an opportunity for residents to gather, connect and strengthen the bonds that make Bentonville special.

If you or your organization would like to contribute to our National Night Out celebration by sponsoring an activity, providing resources, or volunteering, please contact:

[melissa.fox@bentonville.ar.gov](mailto:melissa.fox@bentonville.ar.gov).

Spread the word and share event details on social media, in your neighborhood groups and with anyone who might be interested. Your support is appreciated!

We look forward to celebrating National Night Out with you and strengthening the bonds that make our community a safe and vibrant place to live.

# City Events & Activities



## Engage in #CityHallSelfie Day on August 15

Get ready to strike a pose because August is the time to shine with #CityHallSelfie Day! It's like a giant party celebrating all things local government. Since 2016, folks from government workers to media mavens to your friendly neighborhood squad have jumped in on the fun to show off their pride in their hometown institutions. To participate, email Baylea Birchfield, Planner, at [bbirchfield@bentonville.com](mailto:bbirchfield@bentonville.com).

## Visit Three New Temporary Art Pieces

In partnership with the Public Art Advisory Committee, Visit Bentonville, Bentonville Parks and Recreation, and OzArt, three new temporary art pieces were installed this Spring.

Two pieces are on display through the fall. *Humongous Fungus* by Gina Gallina is a crocheted 11-foot-tall mushroom surrounded by colorful flowers in full bloom at the Bentonville Community Center. *Caminos: Celebrando la Vida y el Legado (Pathways: Celebrating Life and Legacy)* is a large mural by Briseida "Brioch" Ochoa in Orchards Park.

*Hawksbill Crag* and *Roark Bluff* by Arkansas photographer Tim Ernst are on display at City Hall, on-loan from Oz Art for one year.



### Melvin Ford Aquatic Center Open

May 25 - Sept. 2

### Plan Bentonville Workshops & PopUp Events

Month of June

[www.planbentonville.com](http://www.planbentonville.com)

### Evening at Orchards Park

July 4 | 7 p.m.

Orchards Park

[playbentonville.com](http://playbentonville.com)

### National Night Out

Aug. 6 | 5-8 p.m.

Memorial Park

### #CityHallSelfie Day

Aug. 15

[bbirchfield@bentonville.com](mailto:bbirchfield@bentonville.com)

### Worst Race Ever

Sept. 7 | 7 a.m.

Old Tiger Track (517 Tiger Blvd)

[runbentonville.com](http://runbentonville.com)

### Fall Clean the Streets Day

Sept. 14

<https://bit.ly/44p1b1H>

### Fall Tree Giveaway

Oct. 26 | 8-10 a.m.

Compost Facility

### City Offices Closed and Delayed Trash Service

July 4- Independence Day

Sep. 2 - Labor Day Holiday

To report a service concern online visit:

BENTONVILLE311.COM



connecting citizens to services