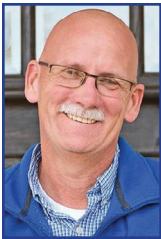




# Love Your City!

FROM THE CITY OF BRYANT ARKANSAS

210 SW 3RD STREET | BRYANT, AR 72022 | PHONE: 501-943-0999 | CITYOFBRYANT.COM



## Mayor's Corner OCTOBER 2020

First, I wanted to wish everyone a Happy Halloween. There have been no particular guidelines or mandates relating to trick or treating as I write this. I do want everyone to be careful and follow the procedures that are in place already.

Be sure to wear an appropriate mask and maintain social

distancing when you are around non-family members. And as always, practice the other regular safety recommendations associated with Halloween.

Immediately following Halloween is the election. I want to encourage you to exercise your right to vote by voting during this campaign.

You can't turn on the TV or scroll through Facebook without being reminded of the various candidates that are vying for your votes. What you may not be aware of are the three issues on the ballot affecting policy and funding that you should know about before you go vote.

To view them in their entirety, you can go to <https://www.uaex.edu/business-communities/voter-education/state-ballot-issues.aspx> for unbiased information on all of the issues.

For this conversation, I would like to bring to your attention the one referred to as "Issue 1." This item has the potential to have a significant impact on Bryant, and surrounding communities.

Issue 1 - the "0.5% State Sales Tax for State, County and City Roads, Bridges and Other Surface Transportation." (or the Transportation Sales Tax Continuation Amendment)

- This is NOT a "new tax". This issue is a continuation of an existing tax that is already in place but is set to expire in June 2023.
- Combined, Saline County and all of its municipalities will lose a total of approximately 2.5 million dollars if this funding does not remain in effect.
- **This amendment asks voters to:**
- Approve the continuation of the 0.5% state sales tax, making it permanent.

- Allow the state to continue using revenue from this tax to maintain, repair, and improve highways, roads, and streets across the state.
- Divide the revenue under an existing formula of 70% going to the Arkansas Department of Transportation, 15% to county governments, and 15% to city governments for roads, bridges, and "other surface transportation."

Without continuing this current tax, Bryant will lose about \$389,000.00 each year in state funds. The loss of these funds could dramatically slow street repairs in Bryant and street improvement projects such as the proposed improvements to the Springhill and Hilltop Road intersection. It will also impact state projects located within the city such as the widening of Highway 5 and intersection safety improvements needed along that area.

I would like to urge all of our residents to thoroughly research any impact that losing this funding would have on our city, as well as many municipalities throughout Arkansas before Voting in November. If you have any questions or would like additional information regarding "Issue 1" please feel free to contact me. Oh, and remember, "every election is determined by those who show up" so I hope you will make it a priority this November 3rd to get out and vote!

Thank you,

*Mayor Allen E. Scott*



Join us via Youtube the first Saturday of each month at 9:00 am for Virtual Coffee with Mayor Allen Scott. <http://www.youtube.com/c/BryantArkansas>

## CHIEF'S CORNER



National Drug Take Back On October 24th at Bryant Wal Mart from 10 am-2 pm.

If you can't make it, the Bryant Police Department has a drop box in the front lobby

**Carl Minden**

Bryant Police Chief

312 Roy Lane | Bryant, AR 72022 | Phone: 501-943-0487





**TUESDAY OCTOBER 20TH**  
**NATIONAL NIGHT OUT**  
HOME EDITION

THIS YEAR WE ARE ASKING YOU TO CELEBRATE NATIONAL NIGHT OUT A LITTLE DIFFERENTLY.

ON TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20TH MOVE THE GRILL TO THE FRONT YARD AND FIRE IT UP FOR A FRONT YARD COOKOUT.

CONNECT WITH NEIGHBORS AND MAKE IT AN EVENING OF COMMUNITY CONVERSATION WHILE STILL OBSERVING SAFE SOCIAL DISTANCING.

WE HOPE TO RETURN TO OUR REGULAR NATIONAL NIGHT OUT FESTIVITIES IN 2021.

# FALL FESTIVAL



The 33rd Annual Fall Fest will be **October 24, 2020 at Mills Park from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm**. This year's event will be a special Halloween Edition. The Greater Bryant Chamber of Commerce is encouraging the booth vendors to provide candy for children to be able to trick or treat and feel free to decorate your booth space as scary and spooky as you want. Please keep all decorations family friendly. For more booth or food truck

information please email [anna@bryantchamber.com](mailto:anna@bryantchamber.com) The days activities will include food trucks, booth vendors, a social distant Kidsland area, and car show. This year Kidsland will look slightly different with activities that will allow cleaning. The community is encouraged to please maintain a six foot distance from guest outside of your family group and mask are required. We ask that you do not enter if you or someone in your household has a fever, cough and/or sore throat, shortness of breath, loss of taste or smell, known exposure to someone with Covid-19 in the past 14 days. Please stay turned for further details.

Thank you to our sponsors: Arkansas Heart Hospital, Everett Buick GMC, City of Bryant, Bryant Family Pharmacy, Centennial Bank, Baxley Penfield Moudy Realtors, and Wright Dental

*Anna Brimhall*

Event Coordinator, Greater Bryant Chamber of Commerce



# WATERSHED IDEAS

Keeping watershed areas clean helps keep waterways and the environment clean. Rainwater that falls in watersheds pick up pollutants as it flows to lakes and streams. Here are things you can do to improve runoff quality:

- **Keep your vehicles in good repair and leak free**
- **Store chemicals & petroleum products in covered areas**
- **Keep grass clippings, leaves, trash & debris out of ditches, drains, & gutters**
- **Pickup after your pets and dispose of waste properly**
- **Wash vehicles at commercial wash bays or on the lawn to allow infiltration.**

# FROM THE SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT

By October 19, our first nine weeks of school during the global pandemic will be completed. It's so good to have our students back in classrooms. For a district of approximately 9,510 students (PreK-12) and 1,100 staff, our number of active cases has been very low. Before school started, many of our administrators (including me) believed we would have been forced to move to all virtual learning because of high cases. We owe our ability to still be onsite to the diligence of our staff members and students in following safety protocols.

About 25% of our students are learning virtually. Our virtual model utilizes our own teachers for instruction. Students are expected to log on to Zoom and Google Classroom, following the same bell schedule as onsite students. We are extremely proud of the teachers who have taken on the challenge to educate students online.

For the parents who have made the commitment, we appreciate your dedication to your student's education. Online learning does have its challenges. It's new for all of us. Basic technical issues are front and center, as well as the lack of internet access for some of our families. Some students miss their friends and the opportunity to interact with others in a typical classroom setting. Principals and teachers are working hard to foster relationships with other online students.

We are doing our best to meet the needs of all students—both onsite and online—by providing academic support while keeping them safe. Let's all keep wearing our masks, practicing social distancing, and remaining vigilant about our handwashing, so we can stay in school and continue learning.

*Dr. Karen Walters,*  
Superintendent of Bryant Public School

# ANIMAL CONTROL



October is Adopt a Dog Month! Visit the Bryant Animal Shelter's Facebook page to learn more about what dogs are available, how to foster a dog or make an appointment to meet an animal for adoption.

October 10th 9am - 12pm: Spooktacular Sale at the Bryant Animal Shelter. Pet Supplies, Costumes and other Miscellaneous items for sale. Lots of Goodies at

great prices!

SNIP Vouchers: Spay/Neuter vouchers are still available. Contact the shelter to receive a voucher good toward helping with the cost of having your dog or cat spay or neutered. October 30th is the last day that we can issue vouchers for the year, so contact us today!

*Tricia Power*

Director, Bryant Animal Control & Adoption Center

September is Rabies Awareness Month!

Let's all work together to stop the spread of the rabies virus!