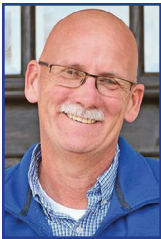




Love Your City!

FROM THE CITY OF BRYANT ARKANSAS

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



Mayor's Corner AUGUST 2020

I can not believe it is already September. School has started again, although it is a different start than we have ever seen before. As I write this, the first week is wrapping up, and it seemed to go pretty smoothly. I appreciate the hard work and planning that the School District put forth to start the year.

At the August Council meeting, we recognized the first group of residents who participated in Bryant 101. I believe it was a big success, and now there are an additional 16 residents who better understand just how the city functions. They learned about human resources, city finances, planning, engineering, code enforcement, animal control, parks department, stormwater, streets, water, wastewater. They also learned about the police, fire, the roles of the Mayor and other elected officials, and the various committees and commissions that help Bryant function. As you are reading this newsletter, we have started the second class in Bryant 101. I am sure this session will be as great as the first one. If you are interested in attending future sessions, we will be having another one in 2021.

Bryant 101 is an excellent way to learn more about the city and how it functions and how you can contribute and help make Bryant even better than it is.

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>

BRYANT 101



Congratulations to these Bryant 101 graduates. We enjoyed seeing your enthusiasm for your community. Thank you for choosing to spend your time with us!

L-R Back Row: Jacob Brady, Chris Wallace, Greg Whitehead, Daniel Daley, Ernie Hinojos, Mayor Allen Scott, Amy Edwards, Jason Whittington

L-R Front Row: Angie Freel, Alindria Jordan, Denecia Ramsey, Jessica Hinojos, Dana Poindexter, Doris Jones, Jan Livingston, Marquita Gilmore

CHIEF'S CORNER



Every second counts during a fire. In fact, house fires can double in size every minute that goes by. About half of home fire deaths happen between 11 p.m. and 7 a.m. when most people are sleeping.

But, there is something simple you can do before you go to bed to help keep you safe! It's not flossing I promise...It's easier!

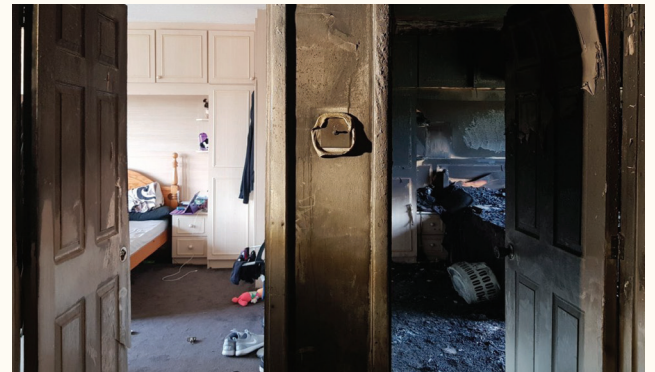
Closing your bedroom door helps prevent a fire from spreading, lessens smoke damage and could even save lives. A room with closed door can be up to 10 times cooler in the event of a house fire.

"Close Before You Doze."

J.P. Jordan

Bryant Fire Chief

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



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City News and Events

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THE DIRECTOR'S CHAIR

It's not very often that residents of Bryant get to hear from or about the City's Human Resources Department. I wanted to take this opportunity to share a little bit about us.

The Human Resources Department consists of three employees total. I am the Director, Alisha Runnells is our Human Resources Manager and Osha Martin is our Human Resources Assistant. Alisha has been with the city for thirteen years and specializes in payroll, employee benefits and on boarding. Osha joined our team just over a year ago and specializes in recruitment and workers compensation. Together we cover all aspects of Human Resources for the city.

Recently, we have focused a great deal of our time on tracking and responding to COVID-19 concerns among our employees. While our doors have been closed to the public, we have remained very busy implementing procedures in order to stay in compliance with new laws and ensure the health and safety of our 250 employees to the best of our ability. We have worked closely with departments to accommodate a variety of new scheduling needs, implementing successful work from home strategies,

and creating workspaces that allow social distancing whenever possible.

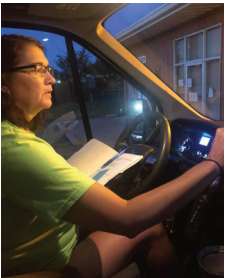
We have closely monitored those employees who have been placed on quarantine and have been extremely fortunate that none of our employees' health have been significantly impacted by this virus so far. We have updated our payroll system and processes to track COVID related time in compliance with the new laws and regulations. We have transitioned many of our in-person processes to electronic which has allowed us to continue to hire new employees and support all of the departments as we normally would throughout the city.

This year has been challenging in many ways. As we move towards our 2021 budget planning sessions and our 2020 closeout processes, we remain optimistic and we look forward to continuing to adapt in order to provide the best support we can for our employees, their families and the residents of Bryant.

Charlotte Rue

Bryant Human Resources Director

ANIMAL CONTROL



In the (very) early morning hours of July 27th, weeks of work and collaboration between the Cherokee Village Animal Shelter, the Humane Society of Saline County and Bryant Animal Control & Adoption Center resulted in the successful transport of several dogs to a partner shelter located in Wisconsin. Tricia Power, Bryant Director and Carolyn Parks, Director for the Cherokee Village Shelter made the long drive in a

borrowed van to carry the group of dogs from the three shelters up north. These dogs, left in Arkansas, may have been either euthanized or left to sit in these shelters for months (or even years) awaiting adoption. Since this transport, the majority of the dogs have already been placed into new homes.

This effort, paid for with donated funds, is an important part of becoming a 100% no-kill community in each of these areas. By working together, these communities can do more to help the animals. If you would like to contribute to this effort, the shelters are accepting gift cards for gas and monetary donations. Please send your donation to **Bryant Animal Shelter, 25700 Interstate 30 N, Bryant, AR 72022**. Please write "Transport" in the memo line and the money will be designated to support these life-saving and life-changing transports.

Tricia Power

Director, Bryant Animal Control & Adoption Center

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Sept. 5 - International Day of Charity
(Please give to your favorite cause)

Sept. 10 - Hug Your Hound Day

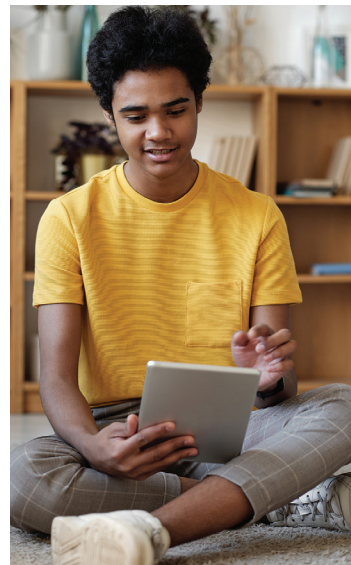
Sept. 11 - National Day of Service

(Watch the shelter's Facebook page on how you can help the shelter that day!)

Sept. 19 - Puppy Mill Awareness Day



FROM THE SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT



Schools are an important part of our community. Local school districts provide safe, supportive learning environments for students, employ teachers and other staff, and enable parents, guardians, and caregivers to work. Schools also provide services that help meet the needs of our children and families through social and emotional learning, creating a safe environment for learning, identifying and addressing neglect and abuse, providing food, and encouraging physical activity.

It's critical that we take all measures necessary to safeguard the health of our Bryant students so we can remain open. Our district will

reinforce mask wearing for all students and staff; encourage frequent hand washing; practice social distancing when possible; and regularly disinfect buses, classrooms, and buildings.

At this time, 27% of our students will be virtual learners. The vast majority (73%) plan to attend classes on site. Both students and teachers will stay prepared to move to online learning in case of class, school, or district closing.

Please know no matter what we face during our return to school, we are committed to serving families in our district and helping build a strong community.

Dr. Karen Walters,

Superintendent of Bryant Public School