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## Mayor's Corner JUNE 2021

Happy June everyone. I hope all the children are enjoying their summer break. It is essential to take a break and recharge your batteries every once in a while. July is almost

upon us, and the town will be popping, especially on the 4th of July weekend. The Greater Bryant Chamber is planning on having Pops in the Park once again. So come on out and enjoy the fireworks. It is happening on the evening of July 4th. I am sure the fireworks will be out of this world, and there will be food trucks and other fun as well.

We are continuing to proceed with various projects across the city, including Stormwater, Water/Wastewater, Streets, and Parks. One major project is upgrading our water meter reading network. These upgrades have been needed for some time now and unfortunately have impacted the consistency and accuracy of our billing system that we strive to provide to our community. In April and May we had over 4000 meters each month that required manual readings. Because of this large number of meter readings, many residents' bills had to be estimated for at least one billing cycle causing a fluctuation in expected amounts due for these months. These upgrades will take care of these issues, and we anticipate this project behind schedule and we realize the impact that had on both our staff and citizens. We appreciate your understanding as we work quickly to put these issues behind us.

The city staff in all departments is working hard to support our growing and active city. We want YOU to be involved, educated and engaged in these processes and projects as much as possible. We also realize it is difficult for our residents to attend all meetings where many of these decisions and actions are being created. Please make sure you are signed up for Notify Me on our website and receive all meeting notifications. You can then watch all meetings live online, or review them later when your schedule allows. On July 3rd, I will be hosting Coffee with the Mayor at the Farmer's Market in Midtown, and since it will be a little warmer then, I bet there will be some iced tea and perhaps some other cool treats as well. I hope you will drop by and let's talk. Mayor,

Allen E. Scott



### Drinking Water Quality Report Consumer Confidence Report 2020

Each year, the Arkansas Department of Health prepares Annual Drinking Water Reports for the public water providers. Bryant's 2020 Annual Drinking Water Report is now available online. Your Annual Drinking Water Report is available at : www.healthy.arkansas.gov/eng/ccr/486.pdf Copies are available upon request from our office.





### Proud Provider of Red Cross Training

June 17th is the Worlds Largest Swim Lesson day so we wanted to remind you that the Bryant Parks Department offers Red Cross Certified swim lessons from babies to adults. New classes are starting soon, so go online and register today! *https://www.cityofbryant.com/1475/Swim-Lessons*.



# Director's Chair

Hello from Human Resources! So far, 2021 is proving to be another interesting year. We have continued to navigate through the pandemic while keeping the health and safety of our employees and their families a top priority. In January we were pleased to offer COVID vaccination clinics to all of our first responders. By March, we were able to schedule vaccination clinics for all of our employees. We have seen a significant downtick in our cases and exposures throughout our employees and we have happily welcomed back all of our employees who were working from home. We are thrilled to see our doors reopening and our business slowly returning to normal.

In other news, the HR department has been busy providing services to our employees. We have been pleased to welcome several new employees to the City as well as promote some internal employees to new roles. We continue to recruit for vacant positions across multiple departments. We always encourage people to check the city website for our job vacancies as well as sign up for Notify Me so job notifications can be received in a timely fashion.

In June, at the Mayor's Employee Appreciation Luncheon, we will get to continue our longevity reward program by recognizing those employees who hit milestone anniversaries in 2020. Also in June, we will begin our annual salary study which helps us ensure that we are staying competitive in the market. This study is a pivotal step towards our 2022 budget planning process. We are looking forward to kicking off our budgeting process so we can continue planning for the bright future of our City and all of our employees.

# **Free Children's Meals**

#### Free Meals This Summer for Children Up to 18 Years of Age

Children need good nutrition all year long. When school is out during the summer months, many children no longer have access to even one nutritious meal each day. Summer Meal Programs help to fill the gap. Once again Bryant Schools will be providing free breakfast and lunch to any child 18 years and younger at different locations in the community. Children do not have to attend Bryant Schools to participate. No application or registration is needed. Just come hungry!

Meals will be provided during the following dates at these locations: June 7-June 24 (Monday-Thursday)

All Bryant Elementary Schools and Bethel Middle School June 7-August 5 (Monday-Friday)\* Alexander Outreach Center Boys and Girls Club of Bryant (Bishop Park)

Bryant Junior High Breakfast begins at 7:30am and ends at 8:30am. (Bethel Middle: 7:30-8am)

Lunch is served beginning at 11am to 12:30pm (Bethel Middle: 11:30-12pm)

\*Meals will not be served the week of July 5-9.

For more information, contact the Bryant School District Food Services office at 847-5632.

Meals will be without charge and are the same for all children regardless of race, color, national origin, sex, age or disability and there will be no discrimination in the course of the meal service.



Charlotte Rue

Human Resources Director



Pre-K Program for ages 2-5. -English & Spanish. -One on one teaching for parents to teach their children at home. -August 2021 to May 2022