

North Little Rock Neighborhood News



2016

Volume 21 / Number 4 July/August

Office of Neighborhood Services / P.O. Box 5757 / No. Little Rock, AR 72119

Office: (501) 791-8500 / Email: NLRNeighborhoodServ@nlr.ar.gov



Social Media Responsibility

In 2009, neighborhood blogs were the social media of the time. Now blogs have been largely replaced by Facebook, Twitter, etc. Some social media users seem to have forgotten that with social media comes responsibility. If you utilize social media in any form, remember you have responsibility for what you post.

While providing information about neighborhood issues is a valuable service to residents, there are certain responsibilities associated with publishing on social media. This article will look at some of those responsibilities.

Paid Post Disclosures: If you are being paid to promote or review a product you have a responsibility to disclose that on your postings according to a recommendation from the Federal Trade Commission.

Libel: If you publish a false statement of fact that is harmful to someone's reputation you are at risk for a defamation of character lawsuit. Public figures have a higher threshold and must prove actual malice on your part, but the general public has only to show that you acted negligently, or that a reasonable person would not have published the statement. Opinions are not defamatory, but if your "opinion" contains what a reasonable person would understand as a statement of fact, you are at risk. While truth is a defense it can also be expensive to prove in court.

Copyright infringement: Your writings are your intellectual property. The same rule applies to others' writings and images as well. Make sure you credit those whose work you refer to and any links on your pages should clearly lead to a different site instead of looking like it is just another page of your work. If you decide to use someone's work it is best to get permission to do so. Copyright law also applies to images and video clips. Use them with caution.

Privacy Issues: Don't sell or give out sensitive private information about your general followers to third parties. While there is no clear-cut law dealing with privacy, especially for internet users, the safest way to handle such information is not to share it with others.

Comments: Comments left on your site by readers are the intellectual property of the writers, but as the publisher you can delete comments at your discretion. Best practice is to have a written policy on your blog site informing those making comments that undesirable comments can and will be deleted. In cases where the comments are criminal in nature or contain stolen content you can potentially be found liable if your site is the home of those actions. Deleting such comments and turning over information to requesting authorities can help limit your liability. Including those options in your written policy lets your readers and those contributing to your site know in advance what is expected of them and of you.

Blogher is a network of blogs written by women. This group has adopted a code of conduct for the blogs that are a part of that network. While they embrace the spirit of civil disagreement, they stress the "civil" part. As a group they have agreed to decline to publish or link to what they consider to be unacceptable content including content that is abusive, harassing, stalking, or threatening to a person, libelous, defamatory, knowingly false, misrepresentative of a person, a violation of confidentiality or privacy, or containing editorial content paid for by a third party or SPAM. While you may not be legally responsible if the comments on your blog are abusive, harassing, or threatening, if you do nothing about them and if those comments spill over into action, you will be held responsible by your readers.

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A Word of Advice on Neighborhood Groups Campaigning for Candidates: ‘Don’t’

You, as an individual, have the right to endorse and support any candidate you wish. You may also work towards the passage or defeat of any legislation that you wish. A non-profit organization, however, is held to a different standard.

Nonprofit Organizations and Campaigning

According to the IRS Publication FS-2006-17, February 2006, “Under the Internal Revenue Code, all section 501(c)(3) organizations are absolutely prohibited from directly or indirectly participating in, or intervening in, any political campaign on behalf of (or in opposition to) any candidate for elective office... Political campaign intervention includes any and all activities that favor one or more candidates for public office. The prohibition extends beyond candidate endorsements. Contributions to political campaign funds or public statements of position (verbal or written) made by or on behalf of an organization in favor of or in opposition to any candidate for public office clearly violate the prohibition on political campaign intervention. Distributing statements prepared by others that favor or oppose any candidate for public office will also violate the prohibition.”

The publication goes on to state, “...for their organizations to remain tax exempt under section 501(c)(3), leaders cannot make partisan comments in official organization publications or at official functions of the organization.”

Speaker Forums

“When a candidate is invited to speak at an organization event as a political candidate, the organization must take steps to ensure that: It provides an equal opportunity to political candidates seeking the same office: It does not indicate any support for or opposition to the candidate...; and no political fundraising occurs.” (IRS FS2006-17)

Issue Advocacy

Many times issues come up before the City Council that your neighborhood group wants to take an official stand

on. Rezoning, special use permits, annexations, and other issues that affect neighborhoods often generate considerable interest among neighborhood organizations. Issue advocacy is allowed under IRS regulations for nonprofit organizations.

According to the IRS publication, “Under federal tax law, section 501(c)(3) organizations may take positions on public policy issues... organizations must avoid any issue advocacy that functions as political campaign intervention.”

Web Sites

(Including Social Media Such as Facebook, MySpace, etc.)

The IRS recognizes that the Internet is a widely used communications tool useful for sharing information. It holds nonprofit groups to the same standards on the Internet as it does in meetings or publications. According to the FS-2006-17 publication, “If an organization posts something on its web site that favors or opposes a candidate for public office, the organization will be treated the same as if it distributed printed material, oral statements or broadcasts that favored or opposed a candidate... When an organization establishes a link to another website, the organization is responsible for the consequences of establishing and maintaining that link.”

Neighborhood Services and Politics

Since our beginning in 1994 Neighborhood Services has been nonpolitical. This office is a city department and as such it would be inappropriate for us to campaign for candidates. We therefore do not offer support to organizations that do campaign for candidates.

If we believe your neighborhood organization is campaigning for a candidate or a slate of candidates we can no longer offer support to your organization. We will inform the City Council members who represent your neighborhood, the Mayor, and the City Attorney of our inability to

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March/April 2017	Feb. 1
May/June 2017	April 1
July/August 2017	June 1

Comments? We would like to hear from you. If you have neighborhood meetings or activities to be placed in the newsletter, please mail, fax, email or call the information to us. Are you reading someone else's copy? If you would like to be placed on our mailing list, contact our office.

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support your group. We will also consult with your neighborhood association leadership and/or the group itself.

Finally, remember that every campaign has a winner and losers. If your candidate loses, you still want your neighborhood association to have a working relationship with the new office holder.

Recycling

Waste Management of Arkansas has a contract with the City to pick up recycling. Recycling is picked up every other week on the same day as garbage pickup by the city.



The green bins should be moved to the curb no earlier than 6 pm the night before pickup and should be removed from the curb no later than 8 am the day following pickup.

Instructions on the lid of the bin tell what can be recycled. Non-recyclable material should not be put in the bin.

When the bin is rolled to the curb, the side with the metal bar should be facing the street.

Putting non-recyclable stuff in the bin can result in the bin being removed by either Waste Management or the City.

2016 Recycling Weeks

July 10 & 24

August 7 & 21

September 4 & 18

October 2, 16 & 30

November 13 & 27

December 11 & 25

Put your bins to the curb by 7:00 a.m. the day of your regular household garbage pick up. Put them away by 8:00 a.m. the next day.



**To Report Electrical Outages
In North Little Rock**

Call 1-888-728-4004.

This is a toll free number.



Questions? Contact the Following

All meetings are evening meetings unless otherwise noted.

Amboy Crime Watch

Every 1st Thursday, 6:00
Amboy Methodist Church
311 Military/Mary Ann Conley 758-1208

Amboy Neighborhood Assn.

Every 3rd Monday, 6:30
Burns Park Hospitality House
corner of Military Drive & Joe Poch Rd.
Jonathan Chamblee, (502) 321-9617
jnc@atw-photo.com

Argenta Community Development Corporation Board

Every 4th Thursday, 5:30
500 West 13th Street, 374-0622.

Argenta Neighborhood Boosters

Every 1st Thursday, 6:00
NLR Heritage Center, 506 Main Street
Terri Imus, 920-7371

Baring Cross Neighborhood Assn.

Every 3rd Monday, 6:00
ACTS Church, 13th & Franklin Sts.
Harlan Hunter, 541-1591

Dark Hollow Community Development Corporation

Every 3rd Tuesday, 6:30
1400 Pine Street
Belinda Burney, 376-8144

Dixie Addition Community Development Corporation

Every 3rd Monday, 7:15
914 "H" Street
Lee A. (Buck) Jeffrey, 240-5376
buckj@att.net

Glenview Neighborhood Association

Every 1st Tuesday, 7:00
Glenview Rec. Ctr, 4800 E 19th St.
Ronald Hollis, Jr., 993-7170

Hillview Village Apartments Neighborhood Watch

Every 2nd Tuesday, 5:30
Hillview Village Apt. Clubhouse
Lynn Goodson, 758-0011

HOLT Neighborhood Association

Every 3rd Monday, 6:30
Gardner Memorial United Methodist
Kim Burgess, 812-9807

Indian Hills Neighborhood Association/Crime Watch

Every 2nd Tuesday, 6:30
North View MBC, 6801 JFK Blvd.
Stephen Whiting, 425-1942

Keep North Little Rock Beautiful

Every 2nd Tuesday, 5:30
NLR Visitors Bureau, Burns Park
Randy Naylor, 350-8775 or
Lisa Smith, 791-2568; KNLRB@aol.com
or www.Facebook.com/KNLRB

Lakewood Community Watch

Tap Pace, 416-0747

Meadow Park Neighborhood Assn.

Every 2nd Tuesday, 7:00
Bethany Baptist Church
308 Eureka Gardens Road
Evelyn Creal, 945-2870

Melrose Outreach

Every 3rd Wednesday, 7:00
Melrose Grocery, 807 Willow St.
Margo Tenner, 372-3810 or 374-7842

Military Heights

Every 2nd Thursday, 6:30
North Little Rock Community Center

NAACP

Every 1st Tuesday, 6:00
Bethel AME Church, 600 Cedar Street
Deborah Rhodes, Ph: 351-9558

Neighbors United for Levy

Every 1st Monday, 6:30
North Heights Recreation Ctr, 4801 Allen
Jennifer Johansen, 771-0520

North Little Rock CPA Alumni

3rd Tuesday in February, May, August
& November, 6:30
Downtown Police St., 8th & Main Streets
Curtis Gatewood, Jr., 258-1821

North Little Rock Friends of Animals

Every 2nd Tuesday, 6:30
North Little Rock Community Center
Joy Stevens, 758-5482

North Little Rock Landlords Assn.

Every 3rd Monday, 7:00
NLR Community Ctr, 2700 Willow St.
Gail Blucker, 835-6679

Park Hill Neighborhood

1st Tuesday, 6:00
Location: Idlewild Park Historic Building
Intersection of D, North Cedar & Plainview
John Gregan, 758-7159
johnngregan@att.net
<http://www.historicparkhill.com>
<http://groups.google.com/group/parkhill>

Ridge Road Village Neighborhood Watch

Every 4th Thursday, 5:00
4748 Ridge Road
Michelle Johnson, 771-7500

Rose City Neighborhood Association

Every 3rd Monday, 7:00
Rose City Police Substation
Dennis Fisk, 519-2789

Scenic Hill Neighborhood Association

2nd Thursday, 7:00
January, March, June & September
Alice Kunce, (573) 353-2270 or
Carol Crow, 753-9044

Sertoma Club of North Little Rock

Every Wednesday, 12:00 noon
Newk's on Warden Road

Sherman Park Neighborhood

Every 3rd Monday, 6:00
8th St. Baptist Church
Corner of Hickory & SA Jones Sts.

Stone Links Neighborhood Association

Every 3rd Tuesday, 7:00
Stone Links Golf Course Clubhouse
Shannon Armand, 218-3277

Willow Beach Neighborhood Association

2nd Tuesday in March & October, 6:30
Church at Willow Beach
John Santoro, 607-1755



Elected Officials

Mayor Joe Smith 975-8601
 City Clerk, Diane Whitbey 975-8617
 City Attorney, Jason Carter ... 975-3755

Aldermen

Ward 1

Debi Ross 753-0733
 Beth White 758-2738

Ward 2

Linda Robinson 945-8820
 Maurice Taylor 690-6444

Ward 3

Steve Baxter 804-0928
 Bruce Foutch 658-9714

Ward 4

Murry Witcher 835-0009
 Charlie Hight 758-8396

NLR Neighborhood News

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Neighborhood Services
 P.O. Box 5757 / Zip: 72119-5757
 3427 North Magnolia
 North Little Rock, AR 72116

Shirley M. Abel, Editor
email:

NLRNeighborhoodServ@nlr.ar.gov

Office: (501) 791-8500
 Fax: (501) 791-8516

Office Hours-

Monday-Friday
 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

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Responsibility - Continued from page 1.

Arkansas' journalist shield law protects "any editor, reporter, or other writer for any newspaper, periodical, or radio station, or publisher of any newspaper or periodical, or manager or owner of any radio station" from having to disclose the source used as the basis of any article unless it can be shown that "the article was written, published, or broadcast in bad faith, with malice, and not in the interest of the public welfare." While this protection apparently only applies to traditional media instead of social media, it has been extended to television reporters. In theory it could also be applied to social media users. That possibility would seem to disappear if the poster had not followed the steps journalists undertake: fact checking, doing research, making sure sources are credible, in short, taking regular steps to ensure the facts you are presenting are accurate and are separate from opinion.

Follow North Little Rock Neighborhoods on Facebook.

The following neighborhoods currently have pages:

Amboy
 Argenta
 Dark Hollow
 Dixie Addition
 Glenview
 Holt
 Indian Hills



Lakewood
 Levy
 Meadow Park
 Park Hill
 Rose City
 Scenic Hill
 Stone Links

North Little Rock City Meetings

City Council Meetings

2nd & 4th Monday, 6:00 p.m.
 NLR City Hall, 300 Main Street

Planning Commission Sign Board

2nd Tuesday, 9:30 a.m.
 120 Main Street, 2nd floor, west end

Planning Commission

2nd Tuesday, 4:45 pm/300 Main St.

History Commission

2nd Tuesday, 6:00 pm/506 Main St.

Historic District Commission

2nd Thursday, 6:00 pm/506 Main St.

Parks & Recreation Commission

3rd Monday, 5:00 pm/2700 Willow St.

City Beautiful Commission

3rd Monday, 6:00 p.m.
 4601 Fairway Avenue

Senior Citizen Commission

Every 4th Monday, 3:00 p.m.
 401 West Pershing

Planning Commission Board of Adjustment & Appeal

Last Thursday of each month, 1:30 p.m.
 120 Main Street, 2nd floor, west end

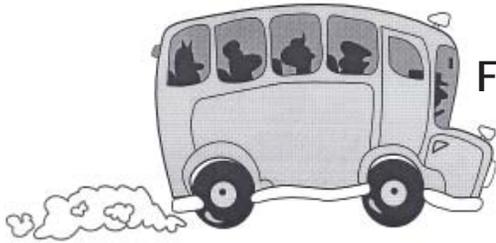


To report potholes or street damage in your neighborhood.

Call NLR Street Department at 340-5356, or use the new North Little Rock Report & Repair App!

- FIREWORKS REMINDER -

It is illegal to use or possess fireworks within the city limits of North Little Rock. Report violations to the NLR Police Department non-emergency number, 758-1234.



Monday, August 15th

First day of school for North Little Rock students.

Slow down and watch for school zones!

Remember all school zones are cell phone free zones.

Did You Know ?

North Little Rock Ordinance requires grass or weeds be cut if exceeding **eight (8) inches in height** in all residential zone districts or eight (8) inches in height in all commercial or industrial zone districts on which a structure is located; or exceeds **twenty-four (24) inches in height** on lots in commercial and industrial zone districts on which a structure is not located. If you have questions contact North Little Rock Code Enforcement at 791-8581.



**Please notify Neighborhood Services of any address change.
Bulk rate mail will not be forwarded.**



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**POSTMASTER:
IMPORTANT DATED MATERIAL**