

Rotary
Little Rock



Rotary Club 99: Tuesday, July 30, 2024
Great Hall, Clinton Center
11:30 AM buffet opens | 12:00 NOON program begins

State of the City: Little Rock Mayor Frank Scott, Jr.

There is an enormous amount of progress and momentum in Little Rock right now, from the emerging downtown development plan to recent economic development wins and an important tax initiative on the November ballot. Club 99er Mayor Frank Scott will give us a "state of the city" update and discuss issues and opportunities facing our fair city.





Frank Scott, Jr. began his second four-year term as Mayor of Little Rock on Jan. 1, 2023. Mayor Scott is the City's 73rd Mayor and is Little Rock's first ever popularly elected African American mayor.

During his time in office, Mayor Scott has worked toward uniting Little Rock's diverse neighborhoods through expanding our economy, creating new opportunities for educational growth for Little Rock's students, enhancing public safety and improving the quality of life and place in Arkansas's capital city.

Mayor Scott has pledged to be Little Rock's Chief Growth Officer and has overseen the creation of more than 11,000 new jobs to date. Little Rock's population has grown to more than 203,000 residents as the Mayor pushes jobs growth and economic development, making Little Rock a catalyst for the new South. New developments, such as Trex, Amazon, Trader Joe's, Fiocchi, Topgolf, Elopak and more highlight the momentum of this growing and thriving city.

Under the Mayor's leadership, the City established the position of Chief Education Officer and helped implement a Community Schools model in six Little Rock School District schools. These schools integrate individualized student support services, expand and enrich learning opportunities, and operate as a neighborhood hub to provide other needed training and services for students' families.

Mayor Scott worked with the Little Rock Board of Directors to make the Little Rock Police Department the highest-paid municipal force in the State, and to provide LRPD with the equipment and tools it needs to protect Little Rock neighborhoods, including the implementation of full-time social workers within the LRPD.

Mayor Scott has also worked to expand community programs to reduce violence as part of his holistic and comprehensive crime reduction strategy.

With quality of life and place as a priority, Mayor Scott has established a task force to address downtown development and density. Another task force is tasked with the goal of eliminating food deserts and ensuring all Little Rock residents have access to nutritious food. His renewed emphasis on parks and recreation has led to improvements at city parks and at the Little Rock Zoo, even as he works to identify and implement long-range strategies for War Memorial and Hindman parks.

Mayor Scott began his public-service career in the office of Arkansas Gov. Mike Beebe, where he served as Deputy Policy Director and later as Director of Intergovernmental Affairs. While on Beebe's staff, Scott continued his education, earning a master's degree in business administration from the University of Arkansas at Little Rock.

That degree, with a concentration in finance, complemented Scott's undergraduate degree in Business Administration from the Fogelman College of Business at the University of Memphis.

Determined to put his finance training to work, Scott accepted a position as a Community Banker with First Security Bank, giving him insight into the issues facing small businesses across the City. At the same time, he continued to devote a significant amount of time to serving both his City and State as a member of the Port of Little Rock Board of Directors and as a member of the Arkansas Highway Commission's experiences which gave Scott an understanding of the critical infrastructure that forms the backbone of any city.

He is a member of the FEMA National Advisory Council, where he is responsible for making recommendations and advising FEMA administration on all aspects of federal disaster response and recovery. He is the immediate past president of the African-American Mayors Association, a national organization representing African-American mayors from across the country.

As an associate pastor, youth mentor, and professional, Mayor Scott lives out the values he learned growing up in Southwest Little Rock, the same area where he lives today. He gives back to the city that invested in him and reminds young people regularly that values are the foundation of a purpose-filled life.

Zoom Login for July 30, 2024

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82207024015?pwd=fDJB4Licw6sxUVUNX84EYT13t3UCfB.1>

Meeting ID: 822 0702 4015

Passcode: 491817

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One tap mobile

+19294362866,,82207024015#,,,,*491817# US (New York)

+13017158592,,82207024015#,,,,*491817# US (Washington DC)

Special Events and Meetings

SOCIAL OPPORTUNITIES

Ottenheimer International Scholars Program: 2024 Madagascar, Welcome Reception

Mikaela Rahajarijaona and Salohinilisy (Salohy) Vololomboathangy

Date: Monday August 5, 2024

Time: 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM

Location: Historic, Award-Winning Powell House, 2623 W. Markham

Hosts: Bev Foster and T. Martin Davis

SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

Dunbar Back to School Cookout Bash

Date: Thursday, August 8, 2024

Time: 4:30 PM - 6:00 PM

Location: Dunbar Magnet Middle School, 1100 Wright Ave.

Volunteer Opportunity Details Coming Soon

AFFINITY GROUPS

Book Club

Date: Wednesday, August 14

Time: 12:00 noon - 1:00 PM, lunch provided

Host: Steve Straessle

Book: Stolen Focus by Johann Hari

Location: CHS Library

Parking: Park in the front lot (second entrance off University Avenue) and check in at the front office.

COMMITTEE SIGN UP FAIR

Date: Tuesday, August 27

Time: 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM (at Rotary)

Location: Great Hall, Clinton Center

Watch your email for committee descriptions and information

Upcoming Programs

July 2024

30 State of the City: Little Rock, Mayor Frank Scott, Jr.

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August 2024

6 French Colonial Influence in Arkansas, Judge Morris Arnold

Did you know that Arkansas Post, established by the French in 1686, predates both New Orleans and St. Louis as the first French (and first European) establishment in the Mississippi River Valley? Ever thought about how Arkansas culture was influenced by being a former French colony? Did you know there was a Revolutionary War battle in Arkansas? Join us as retired federal judge and historian Morris "Buzz" Arnold shares his insights on the French colonial influence in Arkansas.

13 "Bend Don't Break", Author Frank O'Mara

In recognition of the close of the 2024 Summer Olympic Games in Paris, we have one of Arkansas' most successful former Olympians, Frank O'Mara (three-time Olympian and two-time World Champion in the 3000 meters, and former Alltel executive) discussing his new book, *Bend Don't Break*, with fellow Little Rock runner and business person, Gary Taylor. The book chronicles Frank's running and business accomplishments and setbacks and how they prepared him for his new fight against early-onset Parkinson's disease. Copies of the book will be available for purchase, with a portion of the proceeds going to Parkinson's research.

20 Providence Park, Errin Stanger, CEO

Chronic homelessness is a problem that plagues most cities today, and unfortunately, Little Rock is no exception. Providence Park is a 50-acre master-planned community providing affordable, permanent housing and a supportive community for individuals coming out of chronic homelessness. Join us as Errin Sanger, Founder and CEO of Providence Park, discusses her vision for the project. Attendees will also participate in an in-meeting service project to fill care packages for homeless people, in collaboration with the Central Arkansas Library System (which shelters many homeless people during hot summer and cold winter days).

27 Ottenheimer 2024 Presentation: Madagascar

Come hear our visiting Ottenheimer scholars from Madagascar share with us their expectations and experiences of Arkansas as they wrap up their month-long visit. These two impressive young women have traveled half-way around the globe to experience American capitalism and democracy "on the ground" in our fair state. The Ottenheimer scholars' reflections are as much a learning experience for Club 99ers as they are for the scholars themselves, and can teach us much about how the world perceives our great American experiment.

Club Leaders



[Jason Chacko](#)
President



[Mitch Bettis](#)
President-Elect



[Molly McNulty](#)
President-Nominee



[Natalie Ghidoti](#)
iPast President



[Drew Harper Jr.](#)
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[Greg McCarroll](#)
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