Little Rock Stewpot
June 2026 Newsletter

Summer is Almost Here!

Little Rock Stewpot's Mailing Address

Please send all Little Rock Stewpot correspondence and donation checks to P.O. Box 2278, Little Rock, AR 72203.

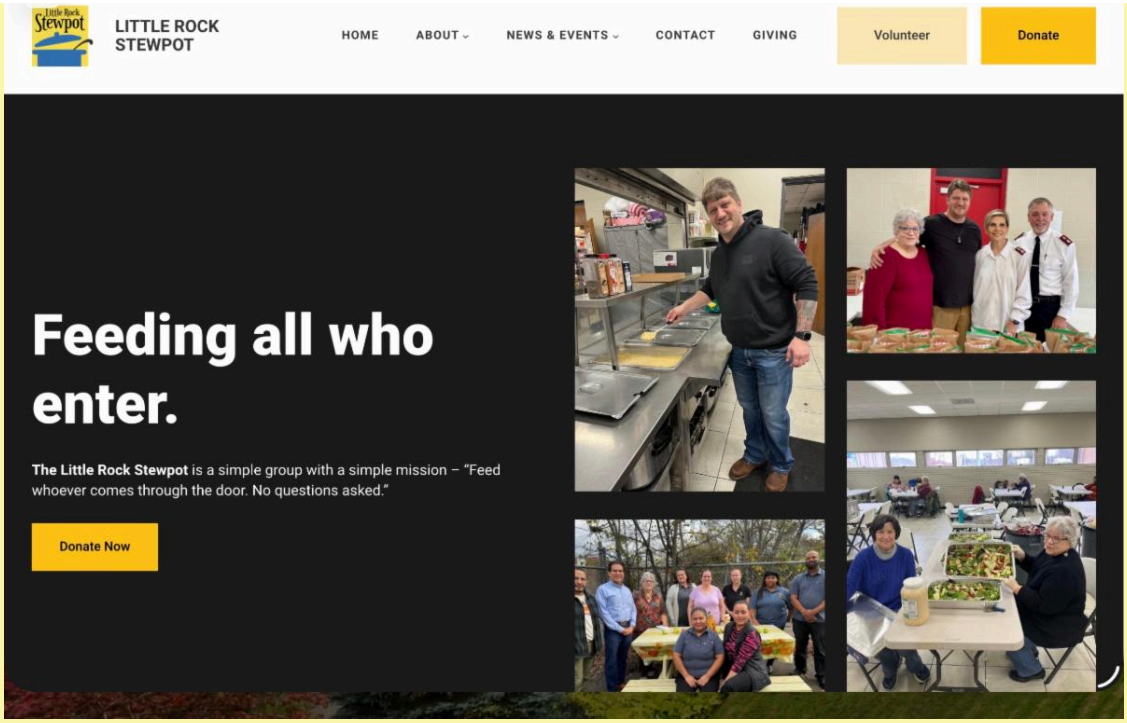
Little Rock Stewpot Celebrates 50 Years of Service in 2026

In 2026, Little Rock Stewpot will celebrate a monumental milestone: 50 years of "serving all who enter." For five decades, this ministry has stood as a cornerstone of downtown Little Rock—a rare example of a faith-based, volunteer-led mission that has never wavered. As we honor this half-century legacy, our Board is hard at work planning a year of reflection and growth. We aren't just looking back at where we've been; we are seeking new ways to expand our reach for the next 50 years. Stay tuned as we unveil our anniversary plans!

Little Rock Stewpot Has New Website

Kimberly Graves, Communication Director, Ferncliff Camp and Conference Center, developed a new website for Little Rock Stewpot. The website address is still the same. Check it out:

https://www.stewpot-littlerock.org/



The Little Rock Stewpot Serves Easter Lunch

Jason cooked four Butterball turkeys to serve for the Little Rock Stewpot Easter Lunch on Friday, April 2. In addition to the roast turkey breast, accessory items included Dempsey Bakery stuffing with dark meat, green beans and bacon, mashed potatoes, gravy, and bread.

Sliced Turkey Breast

Turkey Dressing

Green Beans and Bacon

Food Preparation

Food Preparation

The Little Rock Stewpot Offers Dog Food to Diners' Pets

With support from a grant provided by the Arkansas Foodbank, the Little Rock Stewpot was able to purchase bulk 50-pound bags of dogfood to better serve our diners experiencing homelessness. These large bags were repackaged into smaller, manageable portions by volunteers, making it easier for individuals to care for their pets while navigating difficult circumstances. For many of our diners, their animals are a vital source of companionship, comfort, and protection, and we are grateful to help ensure those bonds remain strong through practical, compassionate support.


PETSMART
Charities
FOR PETS. FOR PEOPLE. FOR GOOD.
ALL LIFE STAGES DOG FOOD
CHICKEN & RICE FORMULA
MADE IN USA
WITH DOMESTIC AND
IMPORTED INGREDIENTS
T 34 LB (15.4 KG)
DOG FOOD
DONATED PRODUCT
NOT FOR RESALE

Bombas Socks Update: A New Chapter in Local Giving

For years, the **Little Rock Stewpot** has been a proud partner of **Bombas**, an organization committed to a "one purchased, one donated" mission. This partnership has brought thousands of pairs of essential socks and underwear to those in our community.

Historically, **Charlie Frith** coordinated these efforts, with the Little Rock Stewpot acting as the primary distribution hub for other local nonprofits. However, following our move to the **Salvation Army** facility, limited storage space made it difficult to continue receiving these large shipments.

Transition to Ferncliff
We are thrilled to share that **Emily Wernsdorfer Hooker**, Director of Mission and Outreach at **Ferncliff**, has stepped in to lead this initiative. Ferncliff will now coordinate directly with Bombas to order, house, and distribute these donations to various nonprofit partners across the region.

Current Inventory

Ferncliff recently took delivery of **3,000 pairs of socks**, organized into the following sizes and styles.

Calf-length socks (250 pairs per box)
4 boxes size XL
4 boxes size L
2 boxes size M
Ankle-length socks (250 pairs per box)
4 boxes size XL
3 boxes size L
2 boxes size M

We are incredibly grateful to both Bombas for their continued generosity and Ferncliff for providing the space and logistics to keep this vital program moving forward.

A box (250 pairs) of calf-length socks and a box of ankle-length socks were delivered to the Little Rock Stewpot and are in the process of being given to the diners along with their lunch bags.

Photos of the boxes of socks and Emily holding some of the socks are shown below.

PROVIDENCE PARK

AN INNOVATIVE HOUSING INITIATIVE

Providence Park is an innovative housing initiative aimed at providing permanent, supportive, and sustainable housing to chronically homeless individuals in a

community-driven environment. Emphasizing the importance of meeting basic needs to tackle homelessness at its core, this approach aims to enhance quality of life, reduce societal costs, and foster sense of belonging and stability for its residents. In partnership with Pulaski County and inspired by Austin's Community First Village, Providence Park plans to eventually house 400 tiny homes with full support services—medical, mental, dental—and income opportunities for central Arkansas's chronically homeless. It's a call to action to uplift individuals from the streets into a community designed to empower.

On Wednesday, April 29th, Little Rock Stewpot sponsored the first Community Meal at Providence Park. The first few neighbors have just moved into the Park. The meal was cooked by Michael, Little Rock Stewpot Manager, and transported to the Park where it was served to about 20 individuals including the neighbors, volunteers, staff, and workers. Michael served chicken and andouille sausage gumbo, buttered rice, rolls, and cookies. The Little Rock Stewpot volunteers from Second Presbyterian Church did the serving and received a tour of the facilities. Little Rock Stewpot hopes

this can become a monthly commitment as we reach out to assist a partner agency that is providing permanent housing and supportive services to those who have been chronically homeless in our community. Providence Park has completed 5 tiny homes along with the main building (Harmony Hall), a health care clinic (medical, dental, mental health and lab), an orchard and garden, prayer labyrinth plus the roads and infrastructure for up to 400 homes in the years to come. Providence Park is an intentional community designed to offer health and wholeness to people who have been unhoused for more than a year.

The newest resident is Christine. For the past five years, Christine experienced homelessness, navigating life between hotels when possible, shelters, storage units, Salvation Army and the streets. During that time, her mobility challenges became increasingly difficult, making each day even harder. Despite everything she has faced, Christine carries a powerful perspective: no one should ever look down on people who are unsheltered, because kindness matters. Christine is now in an ADA accessible tiny home at Providence Park and enjoyed the gumbo

and rice meal prepared and served by Little Rock Stewpot volunteers.

Some of the Little Homes

Little Rock Stewpot Manager Michael Easley and Board Chair David Gill enjoy lunch with Providence Park

neighbors, staff and volunteers

Ready to Serve

Seven Gallons of Gumbo

Little Rock Stewpot Volumteer Servers from Second Presbyterian Church

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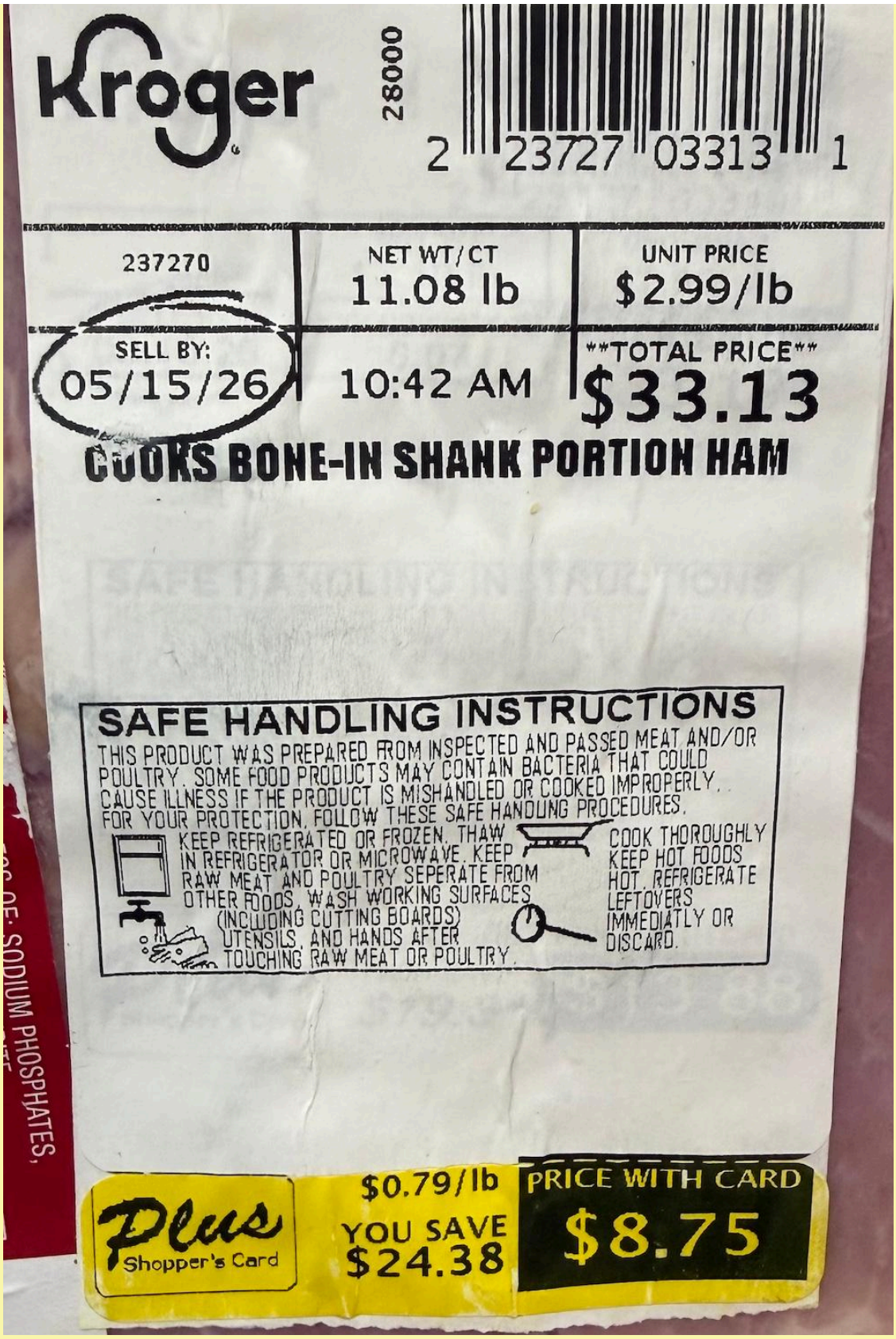
Little Rock Chinese Community Donates Food to the Little Rock Stewpot

On a periodic, spontaneous basis, the Little Rock Chinese Community donates food to the Little Rock Stewpot. In the past they have donated numerous large jars of peanut butter, which is a staple that is used every day to make peanut butter and jelly sandwiches. They have also donated large boxes of chips which are also used daily. On Tuesday, May 5th, they donated 10 large hams to the Little Rock Stewpot. Two days later, they

called back and said the hams were still on sale and were going to bring ten more. That's 20 large hams. The hams were originally priced in the $30.00 range but were on sale for a Little over $8.00. **Thank you! Thank you!**

Jason will Make good use of these Hams


PEEL
Cook's
HICKORY SMOKED
SHANK PORTION HAM
AND WATER PRODUCT 23% OF WEIGHT IS ADDED INGREDIENTS
TRADITIONAL BONE-IN
Smithfield Packaged Meats Corp.
Smithfield, VA 23430, U.S.A.
www.MyCooksHam.com 1-855-411-7675
Ready-To-Eat
Keep Refrigerated
Once Opened, Use Within 5 Days
0342345A
USE/FZ BY MAY 15 2026
6135536073
21:54
EST.509L
L1B
Nutrition Facts
Varied servings per container
Serving size 3 oz. (84g)
Amount per serving
Calories 150
% Daily Value*
Total Fat 11g 14%
Saturated Fat 4g 20%
Trans Fat 0g
Cholesterol 40mg 13%
Sodium 980mg 43%
Total Carbohydrate 2g 1%
Dietary Fiber 0g 0%
Total Sugars 2g
Includes 2g Added Sugars 4%
Protein 11g
Vit. D 0.3mcg 0% • Calcium 10mg 0%
Iron 0.4mg 2% • Potas. 360mg 8%
CURED WITH: WATER, DEXTROSE, SALT, CONTAINS 2% OR LESS OF: SODIUM PHOSPHATES, POTASSIUM ACETATE, POTASSIUM LACTATE, SODIUM DIACETATE, SODIUM NITRITE
Kroger
20000
2 23727 03313 1
237270
NET WT/CT 11.08 lb
UNIT PRICE $2.99/lb
SELL BY: 05/15/26
10:42 AM
TOTAL PRICE $33.13
COOKS BONE-IN SHANK PORTION HAM
SAFE HANDLING INSTRUCTIONS
Plus
$0.79/lb
YOU SAVE $24.38
PRICE WITH CARD $8.75



Little Rock Stewpot Cookout

Executives from Arkansas Health & Wellness (AHW) gathered at the Little Rock Stewpot on Thursday, May 14,

to host a community cookout. The team grilled hamburgers and hotdogs, served alongside a full spread of classic toppings, assorted chips, soft drinks, and ever-popular Little Debbie snack cakes. With beautiful weather and a fantastic turnout, participants enjoyed lunch together at the outdoor picnic tables. To ensure the contribution went as far as possible, all remaining supplies were donated to the Salvation Army for their weekend meal services. Nothing went to waste!

Help Us Bring a Little Extra Comfort to Our Neighbors

As many of you know, the Little Rock Stewpot works hard to provide complete, comforting meals to those we serve every day. Recently, due to global supply chain strains and limited USDA food availability, some of the items we normally rely on have become harder to source. We are especially feeling the shortage in desserts,

snacks, and comfort items—the little things that make our meal bags feel truly complete and personal.

We are reaching out to our community volunteers, church groups, families, and supporters for help. Would you consider donating individually wrapped desserts or sweet treats to help supplement our meal bags? We prepare approximately 60–70 bags at a time, and items like cookies, brownies, Rice Krispie treats, and snack cakes would go a long way in bringing extra comfort and dignity to our neighbors.

Thank you all for your continued support of Little Rock Stewpot and our mission to serve with compassion and consistency.

Volunteers can Bring desserts when they come to work at the Little Rock Stewpot. Others can drop them off at our Salvation Army Location at 1111 West Markham St. and weekday between 9:00 a.m - 1:00p.m.

McDonald's – Palacios Enterprises Brings Food to the Little Rock Stewpot

McDonald's – Palacios Enterprises initially brought food and helped serve lunch at the Little Rock Stewpot for both Thanksgiving and Christmas in 2025. Beginning in January 2026, they agreed to donate an entrée every 4th Friday of the month. On Friday, May 22, they brought 50 sacks, each containing a hamburger, three chicken nuggets and a cookie. Because Jason, Little Rock Stewpot Day Manager, felt that the sacks were not quite enough for an adult, the sacks were handed out as a bonus along with the regular sack lunch. Thank you McDonald's – Palacios Enterprises.

Photos of the fifty bags and the contents of the bags are shown below.


the
Stewpot
Feeding all who enter.

Outreach Ministry of St. Andrew Catholic Cathedral

Guided by the words of Jesus Christ—“Whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me”—the Outreach Ministry of St. Andrew Catholic Cathedral is dedicated to alleviating the suffering of the

unsheltered population in Little Rock and North Little Rock. Putting this mission into action, the ministry delivered 60 water kits to the Little Rock Stewpot on Friday, May 29. Designed to provide critical relief from the heat, each kit included:

- A reusable sports bottle
- Two bottles of water
- A neck-cooling scarf
- An informational flyer detailing where to access free local resources and assistance

Make a Donation

Stewpot's financial support comes from donations from churches, individuals, corporations and grants. With food costs rising and our numbers increasing each month, we really need your financial support. Please help support the Little Rock Stewpot. Checks can be mailed to The Little Rock Stewpot, Post Office Box 2278, Little Rock, AR 72203. You can also make an online donation by clicking on Make a Donation below. When you click on Make a Donation, you will have the

option of making an online donation using PayPal or a credit card.

Make a Donación

[Post Office Box 2278, Little Rock, AR 72203]
[stewpotlr@gmail.com]
[http://www.stewpot-littlerock.org/]

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