

The AHTD

# CENTERLINE

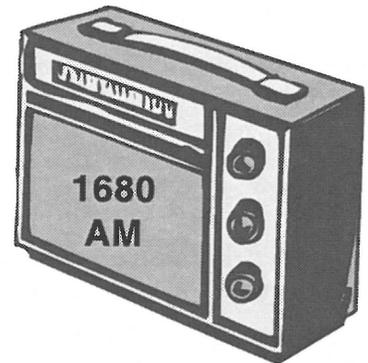
VOLUME 8, NUMBER 5 • MAY 27, 1999

## Interstate 40 Construction Information Available on Radio

Motorists can now turn their vehicle radios to 1680 AM to receive information involving the Interstate 40 reconstruction project between Mayflower and Morgan in Central Arkansas. The radio station is one of the quickest and easiest ways for citizens to find out what conditions exist along this particular stretch of interstate.

The public notification system began operation March 29. One transmitter located near Conway provides eastbound information on I-40, and another located in the Crystal Hill area of North Little Rock provides westbound information. Each site operates independently of the other so that information does not overlap. The construction information will be updated as conditions warrant.

Signs informing motorists of the 1680 AM frequency are posted on I-40, I-430 and several state highways near the project area. During periods when no construction activity is taking place, the state will broadcast weather information from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).



## ***Sick Leave Compensation Correction***

Employees are now eligible for compensation of *a portion* of their unused sick leave when they retire. Under Act 1127 of 1999, a person eligible for retirement benefits will be paid for a portion of their unused sick leave according to the chart below.

At least 50 days, but less than 60 .....	50% of unused days multiplied by 50% of daily salary
At least 60 days, but less than 70 .....	60% of unused days multiplied by 60% of daily salary
At least 70 days, but less than 80 .....	70% of unused days multiplied by 70% of daily salary
Over 80 days .....	80% of unused days multiplied by 80% of daily salary

To calculate the payment, the appropriate percentage from above is multiplied by the employee's daily salary (annual salary divided by 260). That number is then multiplied by the appropriate percentage of unused sick days the employee has accumulated. The employee is then paid that amount up to a cap of \$7,500.

# OZONE ACTION DAYS

The State Highway and Transportation Department is participating in a pilot project with the Department of Health, the Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ), the Federal Highway Administration, and Metroplan to raise public awareness regarding air quality. The Ozone Action Days program is designed to educate the public about air quality and reduce exposure to air pollution and its related risks.

AHTD employees in Faulkner, Lonoke, Pulaski and Saline counties will be notified when an Ozone Action Day is scheduled. On those days, participants are asked to voluntarily take measures that reduce the amount of ground level ozone. This may include car pooling, refueling a vehicle late in the day, combining or postponing errands and mowing grass another day.

Ozone Action Days may be designated anytime in the

months of May through September. The Department of Environmental Quality will contact the AHTD Human Resources Division who will contact the appropriate divisions and districts. Notification signs will then be placed on exit doors and bulletin boards.

For further information contact Virginia Porta in Statewide Planning of the AHTD Planning and Research Division at 501-569-2602.

## Direct Deposit Notice

The Arkansas Department of Finance and Administration has requested that all employees participating in direct deposit at any Regions Bank verify the account number and routing number on their direct deposit check stub with the account number and routing number on their personal checks. Any differences should be reported to Customer Service at Regions Bank.

## Arkansas Highways Magazine Deadline

As most of you know, there will be only two issues of the *Arkansas Highways* magazine

in 1999: the Spring issue which was published in late April, and the Fall issue which will be published in October.

The copy and photo deadline for the Fall 1999 issue is Wednesday, July 28, 1999.

This issue will include children at AHTD employees who are 1999 high school and college graduates. With submission of graduate photographs please include the graduate's full name, name of high school or college, parent's name, and



In FALL 1999 Issue

division or district where the parent works. Photos and information should be sent to the appropriate division or district magazine reporter before the deadline.

For more information contact the Public Affairs Office at 501-569-2573.

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Published monthly by and for employees of the Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department as a medium of departmental news and other information. Correspondence and materials should be directed to the Public Affairs Office, 10324 Interstate 30, Room 1002, P.O. Box 2261, Little Rock, Arkansas 72203-2261, 501-569-2227.

**ARKANSAS  
STATE HIGHWAY COMMISSION**

HERBY BRANSCUM, JR., CHAIRMAN  
JOHN "M" LIPTON, VICE CHAIRMAN  
J.W. "BUDDY" BENAFIELD  
MARY P. "PRISSY" HICKERSON  
JONATHAN BARNETT

DAN FLOWERS  
DIRECTOR OF  
HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION

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## Memorial Day Holiday

Monday, May 31, 1999 is a state holiday for Highway and Transportation Department employees in observance of Memorial Day.

Work will be suspended statewide except for emergencies and to provide essential services.

# 1999 Equipment Operators' Rodeo Semi-Final Competitions Completed

The semi-final rounds of competition for the 1999 Equipment Operators' Rodeo have been completed. First place winners in each event of the semi-finals will participate in the statewide competition scheduled for June 10 at the Central Shops in Little Rock. Shown below is a list of the remaining semi-final winners.

## DISTRICT TWO

### Tractor/Lowboy

1st ..... Red Taylor  
2nd ..... Jerome Miller  
3rd ..... Melvin Ford

### Tandem Axle Dump Truck

1st ..... Susan Mathis  
2nd ..... Tommy Gateley  
3rd ..... Mario Boyd

### Single Axle Dump Truck

1st ..... Teddy Walton  
2nd ..... Donald Nugent  
3rd ..... Felicia Spicer

### Tractor/Mower

1st ..... John Moorehead  
2nd ..... Clarence Edwards  
3rd ..... Edward Kirkham

### Backhoe

1st ..... Kirk Chidester  
2nd ..... Kenneth Edwards  
3rd ..... Stacy Stepp

### Motor Patrol

1st ..... Lamar Reynolds  
2nd ..... A.D. Ford  
3rd ..... Jefferson Wade

## DISTRICT THREE

### Tractor/Lowboy

1st ..... Reginald Easter  
2nd ..... Kenneth Adams  
3rd ..... Richard Oglesby

### Tandem Axle Dump Truck

1st ..... Mike Purtzer  
2nd ..... Mike Crussel  
3rd ..... Gary Collier

### Single Axle Dump Truck

1st ..... Terry Trotter  
2nd ..... Brian Johnson  
3rd ..... Kathryn Johnson

### Tractor/Mower

1st ..... Doris Whitaker  
2nd ..... Willie Martin  
3rd ..... Ramon Rodriguez

### Backhoe

1st ..... David Morton  
2nd ..... Patty Applegate  
3rd ..... Rick Williams

### Motor Patrol

1st ..... Roy Neiman  
2nd ..... Lonnie Hazel  
3rd ..... Richard Kidd

## DISTRICT FOUR

### Tractor/Lowboy

1st ..... Mike Schmalz  
2nd ..... George Lee  
3rd ..... Joe Showl

### Tandem Axle Dump Truck

1st ..... Lionel Elder  
2nd ..... Tim Henretty  
3rd ..... Terral Scroggins

### Single Axle Dump Truck

1st ..... Fred Ridenhour  
2nd ..... Johnny Carte  
3rd ..... David Richards

### Tractor/Mower

1st ..... Fred Ridenhour  
2nd ..... Johnny Carte  
3rd ..... Jesse Whitlock

### Backhoe

1st ..... Brandon Jones  
2nd ..... Peggy Scott  
3rd ..... James Copeland

### Motor Patrol

1st ..... Joe Showl  
2nd ..... Larry Lingo  
3rd ..... Norman Drew

## DISTRICT NINE

### Tractor/Lowboy

1st ..... Tommy Jackson  
2nd ..... Charles Christopher  
3rd ..... Christy Kolb

### Tandem Axle Dump Truck

1st ..... Terry Eidson  
2nd ..... Allen Comfort  
3rd ..... Bob Clark

### Single Axle Dump Truck

1st ..... Lowell Cox  
2nd ..... Randy Keef  
3rd ..... Rosanna Blansett

### Tractor/Mower

1st ..... Ashley Hale  
2nd ..... Stacy Casto  
3rd ..... Darwin Barrett

### Backhoe

1st ..... Eldon Watson  
2nd ..... Ricky Sattler  
3rd ..... Greg Howerton

### Motor Patrol

1st ..... Kenny Riley  
2nd ..... Randall Edgmon  
3rd ..... Ashley Hale

## AHP Cpl. Ross Batson Receives FHWA Award

Corporal Ross Batson of the Arkansas Highway Police has been recognized by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) for his outstanding performance as an Associate Staff Member of the Office of Motor Carriers' National Training Center (NTC).

In a letter from George L. Reagle, FHWA's Associate Administrator for Motor Carriers, Batson was praised for his efforts. "This award recognizes your continued support and exceptional dedication to the Motor Carrier Training Program through your enthusiastic leadership and professionalism while assisting us in presenting high quality instruction," Reagle wrote.

"We could not have achieved our success without your assistance as an instructor. Your performance exemplifies the true meaning of dedication and commitment and should be commended," the letter concluded.

Batson has been involved in the NTC training program since 1989 and has taught over 70 classes. He is a 12-year veteran of the AHTD's Highway Police Division.



# AHTD PEOPLE



APRIL 1999

## NEW EMPLOYEES

### Maintenance

**Randy Crouch**, Single Axle Truck Driver; **Marilyn Embry**, Sign Maker I

### District 1

**Herman Greenwood**, Single Axle Truck Driver; **Deldrick Burton**, Construction Helper II

### District 2

**Elizabeth Fox**, General Laborer

### District 3

**Merritt Wilkinson**, Construction Helper I

### District 6

**Robert Grady, Sr.**, Single Axle Truck Driver; **David Young**, **Kirt Ellison**, General Laborers

### District 7

**James Johnston**, Single Axle Truck Driver

### District 8

**Joseph Knight**, Civil Engineering Technician

### District 9

**Christy Kolb**, Single Axle Truck Driver

## PROMOTIONS

### Maintenance

**Tommy Kirkpatrick**, Pavement Profiler Job Superintendent; **Joshua Musick**, Sign Erector

### Roadway Design

**Linda Gunn**, Advanced Design Engineer; **Liz Jones**, **Rick Rainey**, Senior Design Technicians

### State Aid

**Charles Smith**, Section Head

### Surveys

**Brian Freyaldenhoven**, Surveys Crew Chief; **Larry Miller**, Survey Technician I; **Dean Wilkerson**, Senior Bridge Design Engineer

### District 3

**Suzanne Bullard**, Field Clerk II

### District 4

**Patricia Kiddy**, **Bradley Sharp**, Single Axle Truck Drivers; **Robert Wagner**, Maintenance Aide I; **Dale Rodlun**, Distributor/Roller Operator

### District 6

**Melvin Mabry**, Motor Patrol Operator; **Tommy Pearson**, **Deon Pickens**, Bridge Repairers I; **Daniel Roten**, Bridge Repairer II; **Michael Sibley**, Maintenance Aide I

### District 7

**Myllinda Cheatham**, Maintenance Aide I; **Jody Johnson**, Maintenance Aide II; **Charlie Ryder**, Asphalt Tank Truck Driver

### District 9

**Stacy Casto**, Maintenance Aide I

### District 10

**Randal Cooper**, Storeroom Supervisor

## SERVICE

### 30 Years

**Phyllis Womack**, E&P Buyer; **Jerry Heffington**, P&C Reproduction Technician; **David Hammond**, D-6 Construction Project Coordinator; **Stanley Smith**, D-7 District Bridge Inspector; **Gary Scroggins**, D-8 Inspector; **Harold Blackwell**, D-10 Crew Leader

### 25 Years

**Ronald Elmore**, AHP 1st Lieutenant; **Benny Henley**, D-2 Inspector; **Harold Turner**, D-5 Multi-Axle Truck Driver; **Ronald Sheetrum**, D-5 Guard; **Stanley Sutterfield**, D-6 Single Axle Truck Driver; **William Cox**, D-9 Crew Leader; **Louis Carter, Jr.**, D-9 Area Maintenance Supervisor; **Billy Rea**, D-9 Guard; **Freddie Ficht**, D-9 Motor Patrol Operator/Finish; **Jerry Crawford**, D-10 Motor Patrol Operator/Finish

### 20 Years

**Charles Bragg, Jr.**, AHP Sergeant; **Coleman Nesbitt**, D-1 Street Sweeper Operator; **R. D. Brown, Jr.**, D-3 Multi-Axle Truck Driver; **Daniel Howell**, D-5 Welder; **James Doster**, D-6 Storeroom Supervisor; **David Tenner**, D-6 Backhoe/Front End Loader Operator; **Steve McNeese**, D-6 Single Axle Truck Driver; **Bobby Irons**, D-6 Area Headquarters Attendant

### 15 Years

**Frank Young**, AHP Corporal; **James Moore**, Human Resources External EEO Coordinator; **Jerry Mitchell**, D-1 Bridge Repairer II; **Charles Davis**, D-3 Rest Area Attendant; **Clinton Littlejohn**, D-8 Electrical, Plumbing & Mechanical Repairer; **William Styles**, D-9 Maintenance

Aide I; **Ricky Sattler**, D-9 Crew Leader; **Joe Riley**, D-10 Maintenance Aide II; **Randy Still**, D-10 Advanced Construction Field Engineer

### 10 Years

**Ladonna Nelson**, AHP Motor Carrier Safety Specialist I; **Billy Brown, Jr.**, AHP Patrol Officer First Class; **Bruce Street**, D-1 Resident Engineer; **Charles Rogers**, D-3 Construction Aide II; **James Walters**, D-4 Maintenance Aide II; **Tony Kelly**, D-6 Backhoe/Front End Loader Operator; **Armon Perrin, Jr.**, D-9 Construction Materials Inspector; **Craig Rosten**, D-10 Senior Mechanic; **Jimmie Cone**, D-10 Guard

### 5 Years

**Latonya Clay**, Human Resources Office Administrative Assistant I; **Ann McGibbony**, P&C Safety Program Manager; **William Ryan**, D-3 Construction Aide I; **Travis Bell**, D-7 Maintenance Aide I; **Dennis Condley**, D-8 Backhoe/Front End Loader Operator; **James Bradford**, D-8 Backhoe/Front End Loader Operator; **Laura Ball**, D-9 Single Axle Truck Driver; **Rosanna Blansett**, D-9 Single Axle Truck Driver; **Thomas Dixon**, D-9 Bridge Repairer I; **Alan Brand**, D-10 Distributor/Roller Operator; **Mary Hilburn**, D-10 Rest Area Attendant

## RETIREMENTS

**Roger Umholtz**, District 4 Rest Area Attendant, retired March 30, 1999 with 12+ years service

**Laverne Thompson**, Legal Office Administrative Assistant V, retired April 15, 1999 with 21+ years service

**Robert Shelton**, Planning & Research Data Collection Technician, retired April 23, 1999 with 19+ years service

**Melvin Bowen**, District 4 Shop Supervisor, retired April 22, 1999 with 20+ years service

**Robert Morris**, District 7 Distributor/Roller Operator, retired April 12, 1999 with 11+ years service

**Gary Scroggins**, District 8 Inspector, retired April 12, 1999 with 30 years service

**Jeff Pillow**, District 10 Area Maintenance Supervisor, retired April 30, 1999 with 21+ years service