

# CenterLine

## AHTD Develops Emergency Response

The Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department is the first state agency or commission to develop a Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) in Arkansas.

A total of 45 staff members recently completed an intensive, two-day course in order to become members of the Department's CERT program.

(See *EMERGENCY*, page 2)



(l. to r.) Monica Saffle, Janette Thompson (victim) and Terry McCallister practice first aid.



(l. to r.) Instructor Jim Burns, Colleen McClure and Jimmie Sneed examine fire extinguishers.

## AHTD Photographer Places First In Contest

Results from the Federal Highway Administration's (FHWA) most recent annual "Photo Opportunity Competition" are in and AHTD Photographer John Jackson has been honored in several categories, including first place in the Close Up category.

The FHWA has held an annual photo competition for State highway agencies since 1994. The competition spotlights efforts being made by state roadside vegetation managers across the country. Their job is to plant native and non-native wildflowers, preserve our natural heritage, restore native plant communities and manage vegetation in an ecological way.

There were eight categories in the contest. A total of 120 photographs from ten different states were submitted. Jackson placed in three categories:

**Close Up -  
1st Place**

**Native Flowers &  
Grasses -  
2nd Place**

**Protected Remnants -  
3rd Place (tie)**

Jackson's photographs featured shots of Pale Purple Coneflowers on Highway 412 and Prairie Blazing Star on Interstate 630.

First-place photographs will appear in "Greener Roadside," the quarterly newsletter of the FHWA. Some non-winning photos have appeared in the 2007 Earth Day calendar produced by the FHWA.

(See *PHOTOGRAPHY*, page 3)



This photograph of Prairie Blazing Star took first place in the "Close Up" category.

## EMERGENCY (Continued)

The program teaches employees basic skills to help themselves, their families, neighbors and co-workers in the aftermath of a disaster. Participants learn skills in emergency preparedness, disaster psychology, fire safety, search & rescue and first aid.

Using the training learned in the classroom and during exercises, CERT members can assist others in their neighborhood and workplace following an event when professional responders are not immediately available to help.

"We learned a great deal during our two-day training," commented Denise Powell, Administrative Aide IV in the Public Affairs Office.

"It was an interesting and enjoyable course and will be very useful should the need arise to apply what we learned," Powell added.



(l. to r.) Tony Evans and Alicia Garrett turning off the gas.



(l. to r.) David Dawson, Wayne Whitley, Ben Thomas, and James Lee serve as accident victims for Karla Sims.

## The Staff Minute



**Employee:** Terri Inman, Resident Office Technician in the Jonesboro Resident Engineer's Office, District 10

**Length of Service:** I began with the Department in 2001.

**Job Duties:** My job is all about numbers. I am responsible for making sure that all pay items are documented and paid correctly.

**Favorite part of the job:** One of my favorite things is finalizing a job and processing it out of our office. It's like the grand finale. My passions in life are helping people and solving problems. This job is about both. If I'm not able to help them, I'll at least make them feel good about it.

**Background:** After graduating from Westside High School in 1982, I took 11 years to get a degree in Business Administration at Arkansas State University (ASU). After working in the ASU Finance Office for 18 years, I took the position as the Resident Office Technician position in the Jonesboro RE office. Transitioning from education to construction was hard, but both jobs were all about numbers.

**Family:** I have two children, Jon David, 17, and Rachel, 14, who actually like each other! My husband of five years, David, spoils me everyday and tells me I'm special. I'm not sure what he means by that but I think it is good. Together we have five children and one grandchild. We recently remodeled a house in Jonesboro for our family and are blessed to have a yard we can work in. David builds houses and decks as a hobby so I try to help even if it is just being his cheerleader.

**Hobbies:** Nowadays, I love to read books my children are interested in, watch my teenagers play in the drum line at Nettleton and hang out at the house, usually going through boxes of memorabilia, asking myself "now why was I keeping this?" The other day, I found an unopened birthday card with money in it! I think I'll keep looking for treasures.

## Where Is This?

See answer at bottom of last page.



# Highway Police Host Inspection Competition

The Arkansas Highway Police (AHP) hosted the 4th Annual Commercial Motor Vehicle Inspection Competition on June 21st in Springdale.

Open to police officers from across the state, the competition focuses on promoting uniformity of inspection procedures used by law enforcement agencies. The inspections held for the event were set up to provide roadside scenarios which allowed an insight into typical inspection environments.

In addition to sharpening inspection skills, the event promoted camaraderie between inspectors across the state and strengthened the relationship between enforcement and the trucking industry.

The competition consisted of three inspection categories: Hazardous Materials, Motor Coach Inspection and Level One Inspection.

"The Motor Carrier Safety Regulations are numerous and complex," stated AHP Chief Ron Burks.

"This competition provides an opportunity for our officers to showcase their skills, knowledge and abilities, all while encouraging and strengthening the safety relationship with the industry they regulate," Burks added.

"The level of expertise the officers exhibit during the competition is a direct reflection of how serious they take their job and even more so, it highlights the true desire

they have to remove unsafe commercial vehicles and drivers from our state's highways."

For the second consecutive year, Buckie Thomas received the Grand Champion Award. Thomas will represent the AHP and the state of Arkansas during the 2007 North American Inspector's Championship to be held August 20-26 in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

## THIS YEAR'S TOP INSPECTORS:

**Hazardous Materials**  
PFC James Canard

**Motor Coach**  
CPL James "Buckie" Thomas

**Level One Inspection**  
CPL James "Buckie" Thomas



(l. to r.) CPL James "Buckie" Thomas and AHP Chief Ron Burks.



CPL Randy Harrison inspecting wheels during the competition.

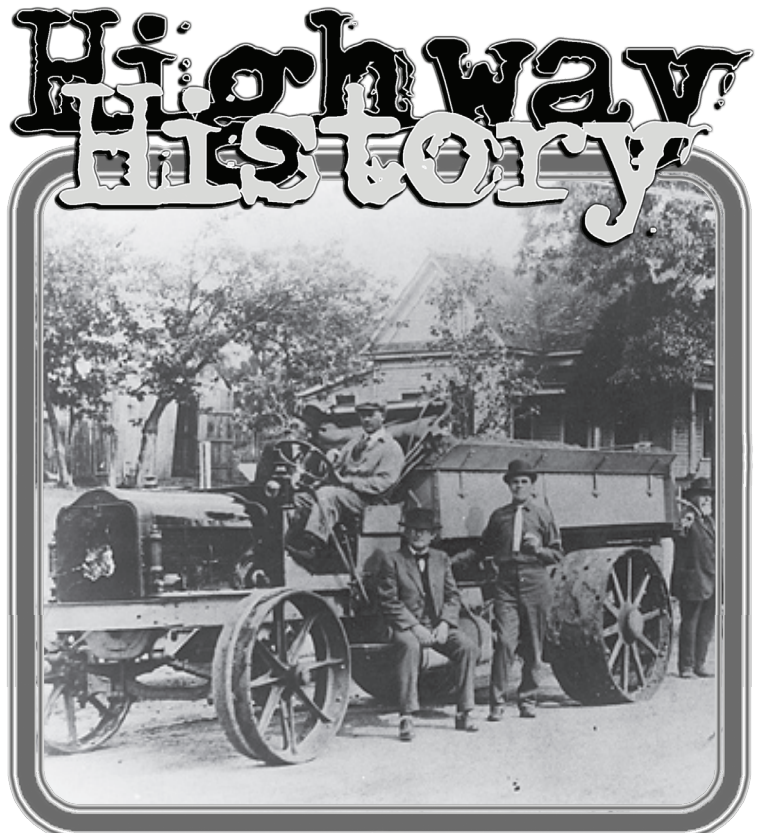
## PHOTOGRAPHY (Continued)

"It's an honor to have my photographs recognized," stated Jackson. "The contest is an opportunity to see what other photographers across the country are doing."

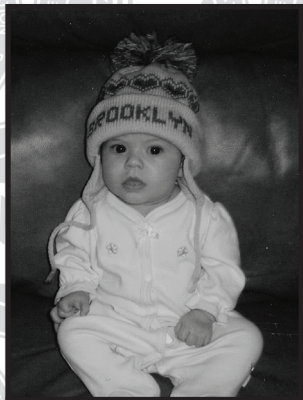
A multi-disciplinary jury reviewed the entries and determined the winners.



Placing third in the "Protected Remnants" category was this photo of pale purple coneflowers.



One of the first motorized dump trucks in Camden in the 1920s.



Arkansas Highway Police: Brooklyn Elise Agnew, born December 5, is the first grandchild of CPL Roy M. Martin.



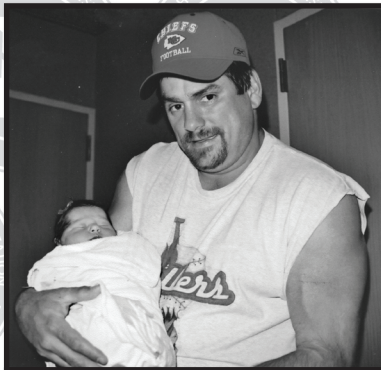
District 10: John R. Porter, District Permit Officer, shown with his wife Betty, retired from the Department with 38 years on June 27. He was Permit Officer for 31 1/2 years.



District 3: Angie Arledge, daughter of LaVerne Arledge, District Storeroom Supervisor, completed her Nursing Degree from University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences (UAMS) in May.



District 7: (l. to r.) Randy Gates, Area Maintenance Supervisor, receives his 30-year service award from Carl Bachelor, District Engineer.



District 6: Estel Taylor, Senior Body Repairer and Painter, holds his daughter, Faith Hannah, born May 23, weighing 7 pounds, 13 ounces.



District 9: (l. to r.) Chris Seritt, Senior Inspector, receives his 20-year service award from Stacy Burge, Resident Engineer.



District 3: (l. to r.) District Engineer Don Donaldson congratulates Mike Flowers, Area Maintenance Supervisor, as he retires with 28+ years of service.



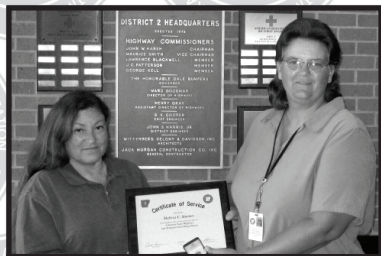
District 8: (l. to r.) B.J. McAlister, District Maintenance Supervisor, presents 5-year service awards to Terry Jones, Backhoe/Front End Loader Operator; Kris Parish, Backhoe/Front End Loader Operator; and Gerald Voss, Multi Axle Truck Driver. Also receiving an award, but not pictured, was Buck Snider, Sign Erector.



District 9: (l. to r.) Roy Norman, Senior Construction Materials Inspector, receives his 35-year service award from Stacy Burge, Resident Engineer.



District 3: (l. to r.) District Engineer Don Donaldson presents a 35-year service award to Larry Johnson, Bridge Crew Supervisor.



District 2: (l. to r.) Deborah Pruitt, Area Maintenance Supervisor, presents Melissa Starnes, Multi Axle Truck Driver, with her 5-year service award.



District 9: (l. to r.) Wayne Emmons, Construction Aide II, receives his 5-year service award from Stacy Burge, Resident Engineer.



District 8: Bill Pettus, Front End Loader Operator, and the Faulkner County Crew bought and signed an Arkansas flag for Bill's son, Ruan (I.), who displays it proudly with a fellow soldier.



District 8: Gary Long, Equipment Maintenance Supervisor, retired May 16 with 28+ years of service.



District 3: Taking first place in the First Annual AHTD Golf Tournament for the Nevada County Cancer Society were (l. to r.) Jeff Otis, Crew Leader; Jim (Bob) Lamb, Bridge Repairer II; Sammy Kelesoma, Backhoe/Front End Loader Operator; and Johnny Wake, Dozer Operator – Finish.



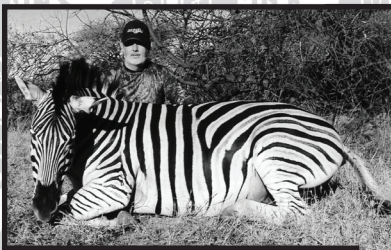
District 9: (l. to r.) Ralph Fulton, District Engineer, presents Steve Lawrence, District Maintenance Engineer, with his 20-year service award.



District 8: (l. to r.) Frank Russenberger, District Engineer, presents 30-year service awards to Bruce Bartlett, District Sign Crew Supervisor, and Tommy Littleton, District Construction Engineer.



District 4: Mark Simpson, Shop Supervisor, (l.) and Kenneth Tucker, Equipment Maintenance Supervisor, (r.) present Leroy Oliver, Senior Mechanic, a plaque for retirement after 13+ years of service.



District 4: Mark Williams, Bridge Job Superintendent, went on a hunting safari in South Africa and shot, among other prey, this zebra and warthog, each with a bow and arrow. The warthog kill is in contention for the Safari Club International Top 50.



Heavy Bridge: Maintenance Crew receives safety award. (l. to r.) Richard Frazier, Bridge Repairer II; Robert Tankersley, Bridge Repairer II; David Mayberry, Crew Supervisor; David Hicklin, Crew Leader; Sam McIntare, Bridge Repairer I; Charlie Lefevers, Bridge Repairer I; and Todd Drake, Bridge Repairer II.



Construction: (l. to r.) Emanuel Banks, State Construction Engineer, receives his 20-year service award from Allan Holmes, Assistant Chief Engineer-Operations.



District 8: (l. to r.) B.J. McAlister, District Maintenance Supervisor, presents service awards to Roy Treadwell, Crew Leader, 15 years; David Teeter, Bridge Repairer I, 10 years; and Andy May, Maintenance Aide II, 20 years. Also receiving an award, but not pictured, was Hurlan Muncy, District Guard, 10 years.



District 9: (l. to r.) Kit Core, Area Maintenance Supervisor, presents Jeff Miles, Maintenance Aide I, with his 10-year service award.

