



Department Announces Promotions

The AHTD announced the following promotions on October 20th.

David Henning has been named District 2 Maintenance Engineer. Henning began working for the Department in June of 1988 as an Advanced Estimates Technician in Contract Estimates. He advanced to Civil Engineer Technician a year later. In 1990, Henning advanced to Civil Engineer I and then transferred to the Pine Bluff Resident Engineer Office in November of that year. He was promoted to Construction Field Engineer I in December of 1991, and a year later advanced to Construction Field Engineer II. In 1994, Henning was promoted to Advanced Construction Field Engineer. He transferred to the Construction Division in 1995 becoming a Civil Engineer IV. Henning obtained the position of Staff Construction Engineer in 2002. Henning has a bachelor's degree in Construction Engineering Technology from the University of Arkansas at Little Rock.

Jeff Venable has been named District 7 Maintenance Engineer. Venable began working for the Department

in January of 1986 as a Construction Field Engineer I at Resident Engineer Office #64 in Hot Springs. In 1987, he was promoted to Advanced Construction Field Engineer. Venable transferred to Resident Engineer Office #65 in Little Rock in 1994 when he became the Assistant Resident Engineer. He obtained his position of Resident Engineer for the Camden Office in 2002. Venable has a bachelor's degree in Agricultural Engineering from Louisiana Tech University.

Michael Kelly has been named Assistant Division Head of the Surveys Division. Kelly joined the Department as a Civil Engineer in the Surveys Division in June of 2002. He advanced to Civil Engineer I a year later. In 2004, Kelly was promoted to Civil Engineer II and became a Civil Engineer III in 2005. He obtained the position of Automated Surveys System Engineer in 2007 and was promoted to the position of Staff Surveys Engineer in February of this year. Kelly has a bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering from Louisiana Tech University.

Henning, Venable and Kelly are all Registered Professional Engineers.



David Henning



Jeff Venable



Michael Kelly

The Staff Minute



Employee: Darin Laughard, Senior Inspector for RE 32, Hope, District 3

Length of Service: 21 years

Job Duties: My job is a unique one. It ranges from inspection of construction projects to assisting the District with special projects as directed. It requires me to work with contractors and to keep a good working relationship with their superintendents. I'm a CPR instructor which allows me to meet more people in our District than would ordinarily occur on a daily routine. I also assist in the daily operations of the Survey Crew in our office. My nickname in the R.E. Office is "MacGyver" because when there are problems to be taken care of, I am usually assigned the task to fix the problem(s).

Favorite part of the job: I really enjoy surveying and being outside. I'm a "do-it-yourselfer" and really enjoyed being the Inspector on the Arkansas Welcome Center in Texarkana. I will carry the knowledge that I gained on that project for years to come.

Background: My family owned the Freeze King (fast food restaurant in Nashville, AR) from 1969 until 1976 where I learned to count change, cook and work with the public. I graduated from Hope High School in 1984 and worked in several different areas including construction until my best friend Jason Ebird (RE 31), who was working summers at the time, asked if I had applied with the Department. I applied the next day and went to work a week later. Thanks, Jason. I've worked my way from Construction Helper to my current title of Sr. Inspector upon my promotion in 2001.

Family: My wife Bonita and I have been married for over 19 years. She is an office manager for Shields Janitorial Supply and Backyard Pools and Spas. She has been there for 19 years and loves her work. We have a son and daughter that keep us busy when we're not at work. They both attend Hope Public Schools. Our son Jordan is 14 and

The AHTD at the Arkansas State Fair



A new feature at the Department's booth at this year's State Fair was a display on historic bridges in Arkansas. Fourteen bridges built between the years of 1874 and 1961, and the history of each, were included in the display.

loves baseball, football and hunting. He is on his way to becoming an Eagle Scout. Our daughter Gillian is 11 and loves soccer, hunting, shopping and writing letters to people in our Church. They both participate in LTC (Leaders to Christ) in Dallas on Easter Weekend. This helps them learn more about the Bible and serving our Lord.

Hobbies: We have a cabin on the Ouachita River near Mt. Ida. We enjoy spending time there and fishing or riding our four wheelers in the mountains and exploring the area. I go to many different campouts with the Boy Scouts and really enjoyed canoeing and camping in Canada for 10 days last summer. I install elaborate stereo systems in automobiles. I personally competed in Stereo contests from 1988 until 1999, and two other cars that I built were in competition until 2002. I won second place twice at World Finals and third, fourth and fifth place several times. I own a 1996 Impala SS that we take to car shows, and of course, it has a full blown stereo in it that my son loves to play loud. I was able to road race it at Archway Raceway in St. Louis and at Texas Motor Speedway in Dallas. I also raced it in an auto-cross event and drag event in St. Louis at the Impala Nationals.

CONSTRUCTION CORNER



Construction is underway on a new Arkansas Welcome Center at Blytheville. Work began on the Center in July of 2007. The contract was awarded to Olympus Construction of Jonesboro for \$3,484,991.

Phase One of the project included providing a temporary Welcome Center trailer, where Parks and Tourism employees could continue to assist visitors to the Natural State. In addition, Phase One consisted of demolishing a portion of the old Center while keeping the bathroom facilities accessible to the public.

Approximately 60% of the work is completed. Presently, the heating and cooling, sheetrock, bathroom tile, sidewalks and pavilion trim are being installed. Upcoming construction activities will include colored concrete walks, exterior lighting, skylights, flooring, staining and sealing the wood elements.

Douglas Fir and Pine are being used for the building. In addition to being North America's most plentiful softwood species, Douglas Fir is also one of the strongest and hardest of the softwoods. The rock used on the Welcome Center is native Arkansas fieldstone. The 6,500 square foot structure will be heated and cooled by a geothermal system, utilizing over 5,000 feet of underground piping.

Construction and landscaping should be completed by the spring of 2009.

In 2007, over 53,000 travelers visited the old Blytheville Welcome Center.

DISTRICT TEN

United Way Campaign 2008

The AHTD's 2008 United Way campaign kicked off on November 3rd. Last year's campaign raised over \$30,000 and hopes are high that we can surpass that figure this year.

As the nation's largest charity, United Way of America understands the impact that charitable giving has on improving communities and helping individuals.

The United Way is dedicated to making our community a better place for all of us. Through your gifts and involvement, they support over 100 health and human service programs at their family of agencies.

The United Way movement creates long lasting change by addressing the underlying causes of problems that prevent progress in our communities.

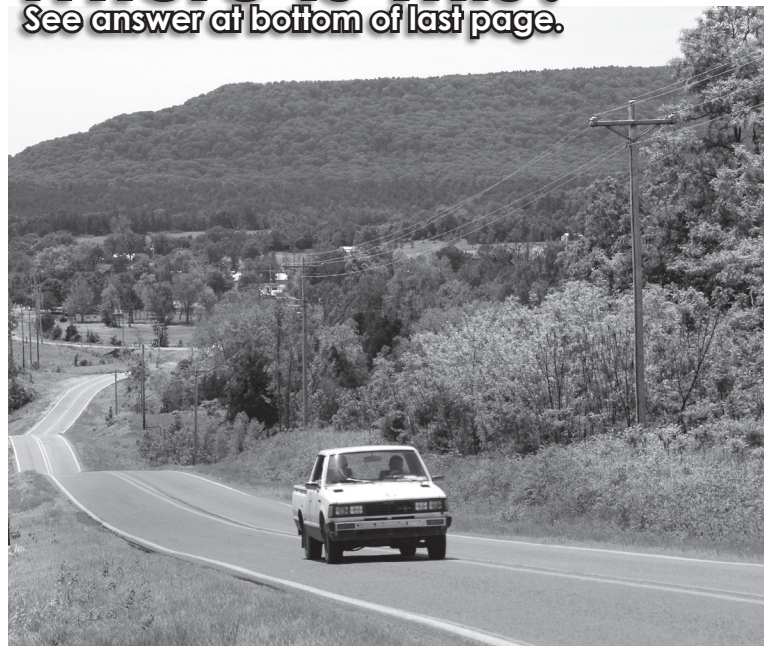
Those wishing to pledge may do so using a payroll deduction or by making a one-time contribution. If you haven't received a pledge card, see your United Way Coordinator or contact Tara Robinson in Central Office at 501-569-2455.

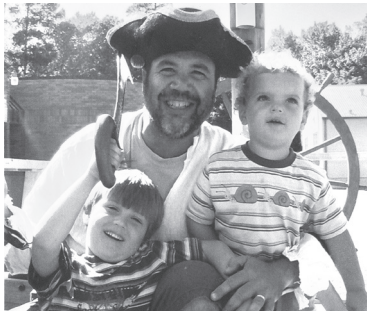
Deadline for pledges is November 24th. Contributions to the United Way are tax deductible.



Where Is This?

See answer at bottom of last page.





Construction: David Henning, Staff Construction Engineer,* with sons Hunter, age 5 (l.), and Shawn, age 3, at St. Theresa's Autumnfest.

*David Henning has recently been promoted to District 2 Maintenance Engineer.



Construction: (l. to r.) Mike Sebren, State Construction Engr., presents David Henning, Staff Construction Engr.,* with his 20-year service award.



Construction: Ron Price, Section Head - Contract Estimates, presents Tina Adams, Estimates Supervisor, with her 25-year service award.



Maintenance: (l. to r.) Joe Peacock, Paint Transp. Truck Driver, receives his 5-year service award from Tony Evans, Staff Maintenance Engineer.



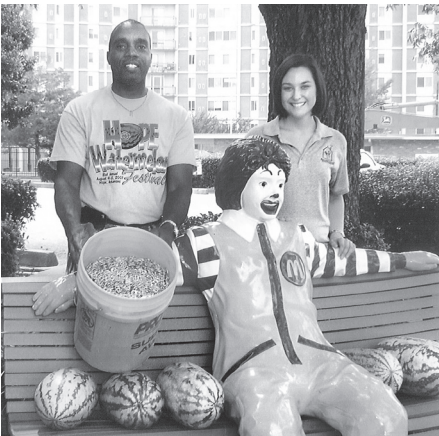
Maintenance: (l. to r.) Kevin Purifoy, Section Head - Communications, receives his 20-year service award from Tony Sullivan, State Maint. Engineer.



Maintenance: (l. to r.) Mark Lyons, Staff Traffic Engineer, receives his 20-year service award from Tony Sullivan, State Maintenance Engineer.



Materials: (l. to r.) Bill Pay, District Materials Supervisor, receives his 20-year service award from John Bettis, Materials Area Engineer.



District 3: Reginald Easter recently donated a 5-gallon bucket of aluminum can tabs and a few ripe Hope watermelons to the Ronald McDonald House in Little Rock.



District 4: (l. to r.) John Sharum, Resident Engineer, presents Ernest Schlaefli, Construction Aide II, with his 20-year service award.



District 6: (l. to r.) Eric Paulus, Area Maintenance Supv., presents Keith Gragson, Motor Patrol Op. - Finish, with his 15-year service award.



District 7: Nathan Edwards, District Bridge Inspector, killed this 8-point buck during muzzle loading season in October.



District 7: (l. to r.) Joel Todd, Maintenance Job Superintendent, presents Deborah Purifoy, Paver Operator, with her 15-year service award.



District 8: Receiving their service awards were (l. to r.) Melissa Ross, Personnel Clerk, 5 years; and Regina Colclough, Dist. Receptionist, 15 years.



District 9: (l. to r.) Aaron Worsham, Backhoe/Front End Loader Op., receives his 5-year service award from Stan Risley, Area Maintenance Supervisor.



District 9: (l. to r.) Kit Core, Area Maintenance Supervisor, presents James Morris, Distributor/Roller Operator, with his 5-year service award.

Upcoming Dates

HOLIDAYS

THANKSGIVING	November 27 - 28
CHRISTMAS	December 24 - 26

SERVICE AWARDS

DISTRICT 1	December 10, 10 a.m.
DISTRICT 2	December 16, 11 a.m.
DISTRICT 3	December 3, 11 a.m.
DISTRICT 4	December 12, 11 a.m.
DISTRICT 5	December 11, 10 a.m.
CENTRAL OFFICE	December 18, 10 a.m.
DISTRICT 6	December 18, 12 noon
DISTRICT 7	December 1, 1:30 p.m.
DISTRICT 8	December 4, 11 a.m.
DISTRICT 9	December 5, 11 a.m.
DISTRICT 10	December 9, 11 a.m.

Inclement Weather

The months ahead could bring us a round or two of frozen precipitation.

In the event that AHTD employees are excused by official action due to inclement weather, the following policy will be in effect:

Official media notice to state agencies will apply to AHTD employees except designated essential personnel. The Inclement Weather Policy excuses employees from work until 10:00 a.m. unless otherwise specified by official media notice. When inclement weather is isolated to a particular area of the state, the District Engineer is authorized to determine if the Inclement Weather Policy applies to that area.

Employees who report to work after the excused time will be charged leave calculated between the excused time and their arrival time. Employees who do not report to work at all will be charged for a full day's leave.

Sick leave or annual leave may be utilized for inclement weather. Leave without pay will be utilized for employees who are temporary, part-time or in an exhausted leave status.

AHTD employees working under the flex schedule must adjust their time accordingly.

Cafeteria Plan Enrollment

Enrollment in the Department's Section 125 Cafeteria Plan for the Plan Year 2009 is underway this month. Forms for enrollment in the program have been distributed to all AHTD employees.

To be eligible for enrollment, you must be employed by the Department for six months. Those employees declining participation for Plan Year 2009 will not be eligible to enroll until the next Plan Year beginning January 1, 2010, unless they incur a qualified change in family status. In addition, employees that enroll cannot make changes to their plan selection during the year unless they incur a qualified change in family status.

Remember, you must sign the form even if you are declining participation in the program. Forms should be returned to your District or Division Office on or before November 26, 2008.

If you have questions regarding this program, please contact Fiscal Services at 501-569-2510 or 501-569-2512.

new employees

ARKANSAS HIGHWAY POLICE - Yolanda Gomillion, Administrative Aide I

HEAVY BRIDGE - Ernie Jewell, Bridge Repairer I

MAINTENANCE - Kimberly Elrod, Sign Layout Supv.

DISTRICT 4 - Floy Armer, Single Axle Truck Driver - John Boggs, Mechanic - Terry Buhajla, General Laborer - Angela Crossland, Single Axle Truck Driver - John Dibble, Single Axle Truck Driver - Edward Fisher, Single Axle Truck Driver - Russell Henrie, Single Axle Truck Driver - Clifton James, Single Axle Truck Driver

DISTRICT 8 - Jessica Guinn, Single Axle Truck Driver - Terence Kramer, Single Axle Truck Driver - Bobby Standridge, Skill Trades Trainee - Jose Villasenor, Single Axle Truck Driver

promotions

BRIDGE - Holly Thomas, Advanced Bridge Design Engineer

CHIEF ENGINEER - Jessie Jones, Civil Eng. V

HUMAN RESOURCES - Yulissa Rogers, Office Administrative Assistant II

MATERIALS - David Ross, Staff Geotechnical Eng.

PLANNING & RESEARCH - Gary Curtis, Data Collection Technician - Brian Davis, Data Collection Technician - William Hale, Data Collection Technician - Jason Smith, Data Collection Technician - Lawrence Waits, Data Collection Technician

ROADWAY DESIGN - Keli Wylie, Senior Design Eng.

SURVEYS - Michael Kelly, Asst. Division Head

DISTRICT 2 - Eugene Bryant, Single Axle Truck Driver, Arkansas - Charles Dabner, Single Axle Truck Driver, Arkansas - David Henning, District Maint. Engineer - Max Watts, Senior Body Rep. & Painter

DISTRICT 4 - D. Summers, Backhoe/Front End Loader Operator - Simon Wiley, Senior Mechanic

DISTRICT 5 - Lisa Carlson, Maintenance Aide II, Independence - James McCoy, Maintenance Aide II, Independence - Raymond Recker, Motor Patrol Operator-Finish, Independence - Kendall Stroud, Senior Inspector, RE 52

DISTRICT 6 - Roy Hanley, Single Axle Truck Driver, Prairie - Matt McCoy, Single Axle Truck Driver, Prairie - Frederick Plante, Single Axle Truck Driver, Prairie - Franklin Williford, Single Axle Truck Driver, Pulaski

DISTRICT 7 - Lindsey Dow, Single Axle Truck Driver, Calhoun - David Jarvais, Construction Aide I, RE 73 - Donald Juniel, Single Axle Truck Driver - Kenneth Starr, Bridge Repairer I - Jeffrey Venable, District Maintenance Eng.

DISTRICT 8 - Juan Coronado, Senior Mechanic - Jimmy Daniel, Bridge Repairer I - David Duncan, Maintenance Aide I, Yell - Jeremy Ford, Bridge Repairer I - Gary Hicks, Senior Mechanic - Justin Huffman, Senior Mechanic - Joann McNeill, Maintenance Aide I, Johnson

DISTRICT 9 - Clint Morris, Construction Aide I, RE 92

DISTRICT 10 - Mary Landrum, Field Clerk II, RE 06 - Sylvia Stormes, Single Axle Truck Driver

service

ARKANSAS HIGHWAY POLICE - James Boyce, Sergeant, 30 yrs. - Regina Duncan, Office Administrative Assistant III, 5 yrs.

BRIDGE - Barbara Cox, Office Adm. Asst. V, 20 yrs.

COMPUTER SERVICES - Pamela Edwards, Data Processing Manager, 30 yrs.

CONSTRUCTION - Dennis James, Construction Project Coordinator, 35 yrs., RE 84

HEAVY BRIDGE - Michael Hill, Staff Heavy Bridge Maintenance Engineer, 15 yrs.

MATERIALS - Terry Hardison, Laboratory Coordinator, 35 yrs.

PROGRAMS & CONTRACTS - Marcus Johnson, Reproduction Technician, 10 yrs.

RIGHT OF WAY - Sheryl Fletcher, Office Administrative Assistant V, 25 yrs.

DISTRICT 1 - Tracy Heard, Bridge Rep. I, 10 yrs.

DISTRICT 2 - Rory Benson, Station Attend., 5 yrs. - Donnie Burns, Backhoe/Front End Loader Opr., 5 yrs. - Johnny Turley, Maintenance Aide II, 30 yrs.

DISTRICT 3 - Michael Haggard, Multi-Axle Truck Driver, 10 yrs. - Neal Price, Motor Patrol Opr., 5 yrs.

DISTRICT 4 - Brenda Bates, Multi-Axle Truck Driver, 15 yrs. - Joseph Eyerman, Sign Crew Supervisor, 10 yrs. - William Jones, Spreader Operator, 5 yrs. - Shannen Ray, Area Maintenance Supervisor, 15 yrs.

DISTRICT 5 - Ernie Hunt, Maintenance Aide I, 10 yrs. - Charles Tate, Multi-Axle Truck Driver, 5 yrs.

DISTRICT 6 - Billy Bailey, Distributor/Roller Opr., 5 yrs. - Matthew Creppel, Multi-Axle Truck Driver, 5 yrs. - Robert Davidson, Street Sweeper Operator, 5 yrs. - Patricia Rimmer, Rest Area Attendant, 15 yrs. - Clifford Roland, Motor Patrol Operator, 20 yrs. - Hobort Watson, Crew Leader, 20 yrs.

DISTRICT 7 - Thomas Hodge, Senior Mechanic, 15 yrs. - Richard Long, Rest Area Attendant, 5 yrs.

DISTRICT 8 - Lisa Vaughan, Area Headquarters Attendant, 15 yrs.

DISTRICT 10 - Roger Specking, Asst. Dist. Bridge Inspector, 25 yrs. - Darsha Tipton, District Bookkeeper, 10 yrs.

retirement

ARKANSAS HIGHWAY POLICE - Joe Upton, Second Lieutenant, 34+ yrs.

DISTRICT 3 - Earnest Edney, Shop Supervisor, 21+ yrs. - Kenneth Wilkins, Area Hq. Attendant, 21+ yrs.

DISTRICT 5 - Tommy Jones, Construction Project Coord., 43+ yrs.

DISTRICT 6 - Joseph Wharton, Rest Area Att., 7+ yrs.



memorials

CONSTRUCTION - Billy Jane Bussa, 10/9/08, retired

PLANNING & RESEARCH - Jerry Don Ward, 10/22/08, retired

DISTRICT 1 - Edward Frierson, 8/17/08, retired

DISTRICT 2 - Jefferson Wade, 10/21/08, retired

DISTRICT 3 - Kellie Pilgreen, 9/24/08, retired

DISTRICT 4 - Raymond C. Walker, 10/22/08, retired - Homer E. Cox, 11/4/08, retired

DISTRICT 5 - Alfred J. Courtney, 11/4/08, retired - Borden R. Tate, 11/8/08 - Johnny Harmon, 10/7/08, retired

DISTRICT 9 - Louis C. Mathis, 10/9/08, retired

active duty

As of 11/10/08, the AHTD had 19 employees serving active duty in the United States military. Dates denote the deployment date.

ARKANSAS HIGHWAY POLICE - Shawn Foust, Sergeant, 8/4/07

MATERIALS - David Kraft, Geot. Drill Party Chf., 1/2/08

DISTRICT 1 - James Barte, Senior Insp., 2/19/08

DISTRICT 4 - Nathan Reed, Multi-Axle Truck Driver, 10/3/05 • Kevin Tucker, Bridge Repairer I, 10/1/07

DISTRICT 5 - Greg Hellmann, Inspector, 10/1/07 • David Smith, Inspector, 10/1/07

DISTRICT 6 - Shirley Hammett, Area Hq. Att., 7/20/04

DISTRICT 8 - Michael Bunton, Asphalt Tank Truck Driver, 10/1/07 • James Harris, Motor Patrol Operator, 10/1/07 • Cornell Newsome, Single Axle Truck Driver, 05/07/08

DISTRICT 9 - Ashley Hale, Ferry Boat Pilot, 9/5/07 • Douglas Henry, Single Axle Truck Driver, 10/1/07 • Joseph Ragland, Maint. Aide I, 10/1/07 • Cameron Whitney, Sign Erector, 10/9/07 • Randall Williams, Ferry Boat Pilot, 9/10/07

DISTRICT 10 - Donald Evance, Con. Aide I, 10/1/07 • Rufus Mitchell, Rest Area Att., 10/1/07 • Elvis Richmond, Sr. Construction Mat. Insp., 10/1/07

"Where Is This?"

Highway 309 near Mount Magazine in Logan County