

CenterLine

MAY 2009



New Website To Debut This Summer

After more than four years in the planning stages, the Department will unveil its new website on the Internet in just a matter of months.

A great deal of planning has been taking place behind the scenes in preparation to launch the new site. A Web Page Update Task Force was formed in 2004 and began the work of developing the framework of the new site. The last year and a half have been dedicated to the construction of the site.

Members of the Task Force include Bobby Bradshaw, Danny Chidester, Daniel Eutsler, Larry Lewers, Bob Scoggin and Davin Webb.

According to Task Force Chairman Bob Scoggin, "One of the biggest challenges we faced was the fact that while we were collecting new information from the Divisions and Districts to put on the new website, we

had to update the existing information from the current website for use on the new one. It may not look like it, but the current website contains a huge amount of information."

In the spring of 2008, a website designer/coordinator, Daniel Eutsler, was hired by the Department to oversee design and construction of the site and maintain it once it is up and running.

"It's been very challenging putting the new website together," says Eutsler. "I say that due to the amount of new information that it will contain."

The new site will still be found at www.arkansashighways.com but visitors will discover an entirely new look.

"The main thing that is new is the format," adds Scoggin. "We have spent a lot of time trying to make the new site user friendly. We hope that most everything someone would need is just a few clicks away. We have



Above is a current representation of ArkansasHighways.com's new look.

placed buttons on the page for the road construction map, weather map, for contractors and consultants, commodities and services, added an interactive calendar and added a box for upcoming events such as public meetings, conferences, bid lettings and more. We have also added a section for travelers that include information on gas prices, weather, Park and Ride lots and Rest Areas. Traffic cams will be added in the future."

A large number of documents have been included on the new site. They range from design manuals to historic bridge pictures.

"Site information will be regularly updated," adds Eutsler. "We will continue to develop and add new features even after the website is available to the general public."

The Centerline will keep employees posted as to when the new site will go live.



The AHTD's Web Site Task Force: (l. to r.) Daniel Eutsler; Larry Lewers, Davin Webb, Danny Chidester, Bob Scoggin and Bobby Bradshaw.

Look Inside for the 2009 Graduates!

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Status Report: ARRA Projects in Arkansas

Signs are beginning to pop up across the state denoting AHTD construction projects that are utilizing funding from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA).

In April and May, the Department awarded contracts on 58 jobs utilizing ARRA funding totaling \$104 million. The AHTD has identified 103 projects to be funded with stimulus dollars.

“Helping the overall economy and putting people to work were obvious goals of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act,” stated AHTD Director Dan Flowers. “Consequently, we have stimulus-funded projects located in nearly 80% of Arkansas’ most economically distressed counties. And since the impact of each project will be felt beyond individual county lines, we believe all those counties and their citizens will directly feel the benefit of these projects.”



Timing of the work was an important component of the Department’s plan.

“We didn’t want to see a spike in activity followed by a steady decline,” Flowers added. “Since we are awarding about two years worth of projects in a 13-month time-frame, we wanted to keep that elevated level of activity for as long a period of time as possible.”

The AHTD wanted to vary the types of work being performed as well. Projects range from major widenings to basic rehabilitations, and from passing lanes to traffic signal jobs.

“We’ve really tried to focus on the reinvestment and sustainability aspects with our project selection and timing,” adds Flowers. “I think we’ve been very successful.”



AHTD Connects with Small Businesses

The AHTD took an active role in the Arkansas Procurement Opportunities Conference held in Little Rock on June 2nd.

The event was a matchmaking opportunity between corporations/government entities and small businesses.

For small businesses, the event was a chance to make connections with companies they’ve never done business with, to renew past connections and to network with other small businesses that need their services. For corporations, prime contractors and government entities, it opened up a new pool of possible suppliers.

In addition to matchmaking opportunities, the conference featured guest speaker Dan Sturdivant, Assistant Director, Outreach Programs of the Department of Homeland Security. The 19th Annual Small Business Awards luncheon was also a part of the conference.



(l. to r.) Becky Hunt, Division Bookkeeper, Equipment & Procurement, visits with a potential vendor at the conference.

And the Retirement Board Nominees Are...

It is time to vote to fill a position on the Retirement System Board of Trustees.

The position is for a two-year term beginning July 1, 2009, and ending June 30, 2011. All active members of the retirement system were eligible for nomination. The two nominees receiving the most votes among active members were Scott Bennett and Elizabeth Mayfield Hart. Nominated as retiree members were Jake Weston and Mark Widner.

A ballot has been mailed to employees. Once you've marked your ballot, be sure to mail it back to the Department on or before June 15th.



Employee: Robert Robertson, Construction Project Coordinator, Van Buren Resident Engineer's Office, District Four

Length of Service: 23 years and 9 months

Job Duties: I work closely with contractors to make sure projects assigned to R.E. Office 42 are constructed according to the plans and standard specifications. I calculate grades for bridges and roadways, and compare the grades to the plans to ensure accuracy. I analyze plans and recommend changes needed so that projects can be constructed in a functional and economical method. I maintain records to make sure the contractors are paid according to the work they have completed. I also inspect the materials used to construct highways to make sure they meet or exceed the standard specifications.

Favorite part of the job: It has to be the relationships that have developed between my co-workers and contractors over the years. I enjoy the feeling of accomplishment when a project is completed on time and under budget.

Background: I graduated from Paris High School in 1979 as president of my senior class. I attended the University of Arkansas for two years. I worked in the oil field and

other various jobs before starting with the Department in 1985. I began with the survey crew in R.E. Office 62 and worked in Little Rock for four years before transferring to the Alma R.E. Office. That office moved to Mountainburg, then combined with the Van Buren Office, and will soon move to Fort Chaffee, in Barling.

Family: I got married in April to my lovely bride, Kim, on the beach in the U.S. Virgin Islands at St. Thomas. Wow! We now reside in Ozark.

Hobbies: My hobbies are golf, hunting and traveling, when I can. I love to snow ski and make homemade wine on the side.

Where Is This?

See answer at bottom of last page.



ROADEO RESULTS



The AHTD Roadeo finals will be held in Little Rock on June 11th.

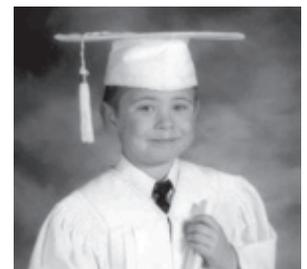
		TRACTOR/ LOWBOY	TANDEM AXLE DUMP TRUCK	SINGLE AXLE DUMP TRUCK	TRACTOR/ MOWER	BACKHOE	MOTOR PATROL
District 4	1st	Mark Standridge	Joseph Work	Cynthia Thompson	Jeremiah Jackson	Lewis James	Jimmie Jetton
	2nd	Terral Scroggins	Doyle Davis	Tim Henretty	Serrita Pense	Eric Brigance	Allen James
	3rd	Rodney Graham	Brad McCurry	Jimmie Sampley	Brent Riddle	Mark Williams	Perry Dorr
District 5	1st	Jimmy Eldridge	Keith Foushee	James Moody	Keith Skelton	Bill Barker	Sammy Bennett
	2nd	Howard McLaughlin	Ronnie Majors	Michael Foster	Randy Rector	Jon Jones	Nick Rushing
	3rd	Ricky Herring	Brad Fulks	Cavin Hall	Loren Trewyn	Justin Tyler	Daniel Recker
District 9	1st	Tracy Wynn	Terry Sartin	Jamie Wheeler	Bubba Hall	Chad Foster	Randall Edgmon
	2nd	Donnie Billups	Charlie LaFevers	Darrell Canion	Dennis Drewry	Zack Ogburn	Jeremy Merriman
	3rd	Denton James	Terry Jones	Josh Godbehere	Herb Sweet	Cameron Whitney	Jasper Spradling
District 10	1st	Trent Wood	Tony Ruhl	Tim Garrison	David Prine	Heath Eubanks	Vic Blevins
	2nd	Chad McMillon	Mark Fender	Todd Clifford	Jason Orrick	Rick Hale	Dustin Miller
	3rd	Jimmy Adams	James Miller	Angie Fender	Donnie Pfeifer	Kristie Mott	James Keasler



Bridge: (l. to r.) Dale Heft, Advanced Structures Engineer, receives his 5-year service award from Phil Brand, Division Head.



Bridge (l. to r.) Phil Brand, Division Head, presents Steven Peyton, Senior Bridge Design Engineer, with his 10-year service award.



Fiscal Services: Austin Bailey, grandson of Emily Boggs, Administrative Aide III, is a 2009 graduate of Kindergarten at Davis Elementary School in Bryant.



Note of Correction: (l.) Rachel Cruce, daughter of Martin Cruce, is listed incorrectly in the graduate insert as graduating Parkview High. She is actually graduating from the University of Arkansas in the field of Architecture.



Highway Police: (l. to r.) Captain Don Hastings presents PFC J.B. Ketchum with his 25-year service award.



Maintenance: (l. to r.) John Mathis, Staff Maintenance Engineer, presents Marilyn Embree, Sign Layout Specialist, with her 10-year service award.



Maintenance: (l. to r.) Roger Mahan, Pavement Profile Crew Leader, receives his 20-year service award from Tony Evans, Staff Maintenance Engineer.



District 1: Rex Vines, District Maintenance Engineer, stands with his sons (l. to r.) Matthew & Luke, and a turkey he killed this year.



District 2: (l. to r.) Ezra McFadden, District Maintenance Supervisor, presents Linda Mack, Station Attendant, with her 15-year service award.



District 3: James Thompson, Crew Leader, was honored with a fish fry as a going away party by his crew on March 4th. James retired with 20+ years of service with the Department.



District 3: (l. to r.) Reginald Easter, Lowboy/Float Truck Driver, gives bundles of soft drink tabs to the Arkansas Children's Hospital and the Ronald McDonald House. This year, he also donated a bicycle.



District 3: (l. to r.) Greg Harding, District Construction Engineer, presents Johnny King, Charlie Rogers and Corey Chandler their certificates for successfully completing the two week training course for Bridge Inspection held in Little Rock this spring.



District 4: (l. to r.) Joe Eyerman, District Sign Crew Supervisor, presents Stacy Shields, Maintenance Aide II, with his 5-year service award.



District 4: Kenzie Kendrick, daughter of Joseph Lindsey, Single Axle Truck Driver, and granddaughter of Paul Kendrick, Dozer Operator - Finish.



District 4: (l. to r.) Jeff Stroud, Resident Engineer, presents Doug Perrin, Senior Construction Material Inspector, with his 20-year service award.



District 4: (l. to r.) Trey Stormes, Senior Mechanic, receives his 5-year service award from Mark Simpson, Shop Supervisor.



District 5: Meagan Martin was chosen to take a trip to South Africa through the Discovery Student Adventure program. She is the daughter of Ronnie Martin, Construction Aide III.



District 6: (l. to r.) Jerry Zuber, Maintenance Job Superintendent, presents Vance Moudy, Maintenance Crew Distributor Operator, with his 10-year service award.



District 6: (l. to r.) Jerry Zuber, Maintenance Job Superintendent, presents Jerry Cantrell, Multi-Axle Truck Driver, with his 5-year service award.



District 7: Ricky Cummings, Street Sweeper Operator, holds daughter, Harley Laine Cummings, in one hand and his 2009 turkey kill in the other.



District 7: Harley Laine Cummings celebrates her first Easter. She was born October 19th. Harley's parents are Ricky Cummings, Street Sweeper Operator, and Stephanie Cummings, Fuel Clerk.



District 9: (l. to r.) Ricky Sattler, Area Maintenance Supervisor, receives his 5-year service award from Steve Lawrence, District Maintenance Engineer.



District 9: (l. to r.) Rosanna Blansett, Maintenance Aide I, receives her 15-year service award from Don Baker, Area Maintenance Supervisor.



District 10: Michael Keeling, grandson of Lou Varvil, Janitor, is a 2009 graduate of Fort Campbell High School in Kentucky.

new employees

CONSTRUCTION - Demetrice Dotson, Civil Engineer, RE 11 - Caleb Henry, Civil Engineer, RE 24 - Ernest Pointer III, Construction Helper I, RE 23

HEAVY BRIDGE - Darrell Coleman, Bridge Repairer I

PLANNING & RESEARCH - Kassie Bornds, Office Administrative Assistant IV - David Siskowski, Civil Engineer

PROGRAMS & CONTRACTS - Jennifer Williams, Administrative Aide I

RIGHT OF WAY - Nathaniel Williams, Administrative Assistant I

SURVEYS - Bryan Bobo, Surveys Helper - David Patton, Surveys Helper - Jerry Prince, II, Surveys Helper

DISTRICT 1 - Doris Boswell, Single Axle Truck Driver - Elmer Brown, General Laborer - Jeffery Corbit, General Laborer - Joseph Rucker, Jr., Single Axle Truck Driver - Carlos Williams, Jr., Single Axle Truck Driver

DISTRICT 2 - Gary Washington, Single Axle Truck Driver

DISTRICT 3 - Mark Castle, Mechanic

DISTRICT 4 - Jack Imbush, Single Axle Truck Driver - Steven Kuakahela, General Laborer - David Watts, General Laborer - Shane Whitlock, General Laborer - Lendal Williams, Jr., General Laborer - Michelle Yohe, General Laborer

DISTRICT 5 - Charles Headley, Single Axle Truck Driver

DISTRICT 6 - Randall Burkett, General Laborer

DISTRICT 7 - Nakia Anderson, General Laborer - Gregory Morris, General Laborer - Dustin Tugwell, Single Axle Truck Driver

DISTRICT 8 - Hershell Cotton, General Laborer - Andrew Dorsey, Single Axle Truck Driver - Tracy Henderson, Single Axle Truck Driver - Douglas Owens, Single Axle Truck Driver

DISTRICT 9 - James Greer, Single Axle Truck Driver - Jamie Wheeler, Senior Mechanic

promotions

COMPUTER SERVICES - Raymond Leung, Automation Engineer V

CONSTRUCTION - Rita Rockwell, Office Administrative Assistant V

HIGHWAY POLICE - William Scott, Jr., Sergeant - James Thomas, Sergeant

MATERIALS - Kevin Rogers, Geotechnical Aide II

PLANNING & RESEARCH - Valerie Gifford, Transportation Management Analyst II

RIGHT OF WAY - Stefanie Wilson, Administrative Assistant I

SURVEYS - Charles Cleveland, Surveys Helper

DISTRICT 2 - Dawn Boyd, Construction Aide I, RE 23 - David May, Finish Carpenter

DISTRICT 4 - Zachary Scroggin, General Laborer, Crawford Co.

DISTRICT 5 - Rickey Ring, Maintenance Aide II

DISTRICT 7 - Bobby Helms, Maintenance Aide II, Clark Co. - Marion Howell, Bridge Repairer II

DISTRICT 10 - Jason Orrick, Maintenance Aide II, Lawrence Co.

service

BRIDGE - Steven Peyton, Senior Bridge Design Engineer, 10 yrs.

CONSTRUCTION - Jim Doster, Subcontract Administrator, 30 yrs. - Donald Evance, Construction Aide I, RE 05 yrs., 5 yrs. - Armon Perrin, Jr., Senior Construction Materials Insp., RE 43, 20 yrs. - William Ryan, Senior Insp., RE 31, 15 yrs. - Randy Still, Advanced Construction Field Engineer, RE 04, 25 yrs. - Sherry Stout, Field Clerk II, RE 52, 15 yrs. - Robert Swan, Construction Aide II, RE 31, 5 yrs.

ENVIRONMENTAL - Langston Carr, Environmental Analyst I, 5 yrs.

FISCAL SERVICE - Teresa Hesselbein, Payroll Specialist, 20 yrs.

HIGHWAY POLICE - Billy Brown, Jr., Sergeant, 20 yrs. - Frank Young, Corporal, 25 yrs.

HUMAN RESOURCES - James Moore, Sect. Head - EEO, 25 yrs.

PLANNING & RESEARCH - Tracy Covington, Transportation Management Analyst I, 10 yrs.

DISTRICT 1 - Charles Henderson, Lowboy or Float Truck Driver, 5 yrs. - Dennis Johnson, Single Axle Truck Driver, 5 yrs. - Billy Martin, Distributor/Roller Operator, 10 yrs. - Jerry Mitchell, Bridge Repairer II, 25 yrs.

DISTRICT 3 - Charles Rogers, District Bridge Inspector, 20 yrs.

DISTRICT 4 - Stacy Shields, Maintenance Aide II, 5 yrs. - Trey Stormes, Senior Mechanic, 5 yrs.

DISTRICT 5 - Evan Higginbottom, Roller Operator, 5 yrs. - Daniel Howell, Shop Supervisor, 30 yrs. - Bruce Street, District Maintenance Engineer, 20 yrs.

DISTRICT 6 - Richard Broyles, Guard, 5 yrs. - Jerry Cantrell, Multi-Axle Truck Driver, 5 yrs. - Steve McNeese, Single Axle Truck Driver, 30 yrs. - Vance Moudy, Distributor Operator, 10 yrs. - Jeffery Ray, Single Axle Truck Driver, 5 yrs. - Horace Rogers, Multi-Axle Truck Driver, 5 yrs. - David Tenner, Motor Patrol Operator-Finish, 30 yrs.

DISTRICT 7 - Travis Bell, Area Hq. Attendant, 15 yrs. - James Johnston, Bridge Repairer II, 10 yrs.

DISTRICT 8 - Dennis Condley, Bridge Rep. II, 15 yrs.

DISTRICT 9 - Joseph Andrysko, Spreader Operator, 10 yrs. - Rosanna Blansett, Maintenance Aide I, 15 yrs. - Thomas Dixon, Crew Leader, 15 yrs. - Ricky Sattler, Area Maintenance Supervisor, 25 yrs. - William Styles, Maintenance Aide I, 25 yrs.

DISTRICT 10 - Alan Brand, Area Headquarters Attendant, 15 yrs. - Sherrell Owens, Senior Mechanic, 5 yrs. - Craig Rosten, Senior Mechanic, 20 yrs.



retirement

HIGHWAY POLICE - Shawn Foust, Sergeant, 16+ yrs.

MAINTENANCE - Louis Dillard, Telecommunications Operator, 23+ yrs.

SURVEYS - Oliver Gossett, Surveys Aide III, 33+ yrs.

DISTRICT 4 - Connie Meyer, Area Headquarters Attendant, 39+ yrs. - Donald Pergeson, Maintenance Aide II, 39+ yrs. - Leo Turner, District Bridge Inspector, 36+ yrs.

DISTRICT 10 - Margaret Valliant, Motor Patrol Operator, 23+ yrs.

memorials

HIGHWAY POLICE - Richard L. Birtcher, 4/25/09, Retired - Buddy Dumas, 5/15/09, Retired

MAINTENANCE - James F. Taylor, 5/11/09, Retired

MATERIALS - John Tallant, 4/19/09, Retired

DISTRICT 1 - Alfred Crumley, 4/24/09, Retired

DISTRICT 3 - Dale Aaron, 5/11/09, Retired

DISTRICT 6 - Mark D. Abbott, 5/7/09, Active

DISTRICT 9 - Olma L. Keck, 5/13/09, Retired - Loyd Hopper, 5/17/09, Retired

DISTRICT 10 - A. J. Blaylock, 5/7/09, Retired

active duty

As of 5/23/09, the AHTD had 8 employees serving active duty in the United States military. Dates denote the deployment/return date.

MATERIALS - David Kraft, Geotechnical Drill Party Chief, 1/2/08

DISTRICT 4 - Nathan Reed, Multi-Ax. Tr. Drv., 10/3/05

DISTRICT 6 - Shirley Hammett, Area Headquarters Attendant, 7/20/04

DISTRICT 7 - Abel Ayala, Sgl. Axle Tr. Drv., 1/27/09

DISTRICT 8 - James Harris, Motor Patrol Operator, 10/1/07

DISTRICT 9 - Ashley Hale, Ferry Boat Pilot, 9/5/07 - Douglas Henry, Single Axle Truck Driver, 10/1/07 - Cameron Whitney, Sign Erector, 10/9/07

"Where Is This?"

Interstate 540 just south of Fayetteville.

The Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department (Department) complies with all civil rights provisions of federal statutes and related authorities that prohibited discrimination in programs and activities receiving federal financial assistance. Therefore, the Department does not discriminate on the basis of race, sex, color, age, national origin, religion or disability, in the admission, access to and treatment in Department's programs and activities, as well as the Department's hiring or employment practices. Complaints of alleged discrimination and inquiries regarding the Department's nondiscrimination policies may be directed to James B. Moore, Jr., Section Head - EEO/DBE (ADA/504/Title VI Coordinator), P. O. Box 2261, Little Rock, AR 72203, (501) 569-2298, (Voice/TTY 711), or the following email address: james.moore@arkansashighways.com. This notice is available from the ADA/504/Title VI Coordinator in large print, on audiotape and in Braille.