



Center Line

DECEMBER 2011

Governor Praises Bond Election Effort at AGR/TC Board Meeting

The Arkansas Good Roads/Transportation Council (AGR/TC) held its board meeting on December 1st in Little Rock. The meeting was a good opportunity for Governor Mike Beebe to thank all of those who worked on the recent GARVEE Bond election and an opportunity for the AHTD and others to express their appreciation for the support Johnnie Bolin, former Executive Director of AGR/TC, and the Council have provided over the years.

Governor Beebe was the featured speaker at the meeting. Beebe took time to thank the Council and others in attendance for their hard work on the GARVEE Bond election.

"I thought the program would pass, but I was shocked at 81% approval," Beebe stated. "All of you in this room know how to work together and how to get things done."

"Arkansas voters overwhelmingly did the right thing," Beebe added. "This program will create jobs, improve safety on the highways, and there are no new taxes."

The Governor recognized Arkansas Highway Commission Chairman Madison Murphy for his hard work on the program, and for his monetary support.

As part of the program, Frank Vozel, Deputy Director and Chief Engineer for the AHTD, made a presentation focusing on the steps the Department has already taken to implement the new Interstate Rehabilitation Program. The Department has hired a financial advisor, identified the types of work that will be done on the Interstates and is in the final stages of hiring design consultants.

Vozel also took time to discuss the upcoming challenge of educating voters on the benefits of the proposed Constitutional Amendment to temporarily raise the current sales tax by one-half cent. The measure will be on the ballot in November 2012.

"If passed, it would authorize the Commission to issue up to \$1.3 billion in general obligation bonds," Vozel stated.

"The revenue derived from this program would be used for four-lane highway construction or adding capacity to existing four-lane highways. If all bonds are issued, a program totaling

approximately \$1.8 billion could be undertaken over a ten-year period," Vozel added.

Commissioner Tom Schueck, Vozel and Murphy presented Bolin with a proclamation appointing him as a Goodwill Ambassador for the Department. The proclamation recognized Bolin for his work as Director of the Council and for his years in the House of Representatives.

After being recognized by those in attendance during the meeting, Bolin gave special thanks to former AHTD Director Dan Flowers, the Highway Commission, Vozel and Beebe for their work over the years.

"You are to be recognized for working for the most critical needs of this state."

Following the board meeting, a luncheon was held to honor Bolin for his work at the Council.



Johnnie Bolin, former Executive Director of the Arkansas Good Roads Transportation Council (2nd from right) receives a proclamation from (l. to r.) Commissioner Tom Schueck, Commission Chairman R. Madison Murphy and AHTD Deputy Director and Chief Engineer Frank Vozel.

Henning Promoted to District Engineer

David Henning, District Two Maintenance Engineer, has been named District Two Engineer effective January 26th.

Henning has a bachelor's degree in Construction Engineering Technology from the University of Arkansas at Little Rock. He is a Registered Professional Engineer.



Henning began work 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 July of 1990, Henning advanced to Civil Engineer I and transferred to the Pine Bluff Resident Engineer Office in November of 1990. He was promoted to Construction Field Engineer I in December of 1991 and a year later advanced to Construction Field Engineer II. In February of 1994, Henning was promoted to Advanced Construction Field Engineer.

He transferred to the Construction Division in March of 1995, becoming a Civil Engineer IV. He was promoted to the position of Staff Construction Engineer in June of 2002. Henning obtained his current position of District Two Maintenance Engineer in October of 2008.

Commission & Letting Schedule

The Highway Commission has scheduled the following Commission Meeting and Letting dates for Calendar Year 2012. The dates shown are for Commission Meetings and Lettings in Little Rock unless otherwise noted.

February 8	June 13 (Letting - Little Rock)
March 20 (Commission Meeting - El Dorado)	July 25
March 21 (Letting - Little Rock)	September 11 (Commission Meeting - NE Arkansas)
April 12 (Joint Meeting w/ Parks & Tourism and AEDC - Bentonville)	September 12 (Letting - Little Rock)
May 2	October 24
June 12 (Commission Meeting - NW Arkansas)	November 28



Employee: Ora Mae Helton, Headquarters Attendant, Pope County, District 8

Length of Service: 11 years

Job Duties: I keep up with the miles and hours on our equipment, make sure we have oil and fuel to run the equipment, and keep up with the time sheets for our crew. I clean our building, mow the yard, and answer the phone. I also keep up with the inventory for sand, gravel, tiles, cold mix, and herbicide.

Favorite part of the job: My favorite part is our crew. They are like my second family. I am one of the oldest ones on our crew but I enjoy running the loader and loading trucks and meeting the people that come and go through the shop.

Background: I started work at the Department on September 8, 2000, as a General Laborer and then advanced to Single Axle Truck Driver. In 2002, I was promoted to Maintenance Aide I. In 2006, I was promoted to my current job title, Headquarters Attendant.

Family: My husband, Donald, is my best friend and we have six children between us and eighteen grandchildren. I am also blessed to still have my mother in my life.

Hobbies/Interests: I love to cook holiday meals for all the family to come and enjoy. I also enjoy going to church, driving through the mountains, and walking the Pedestal Rock Trail located off of Highway 16 because of the beautiful rock formations located there. God has put so much beauty in this world, you just have to open your eyes to see it.

THE ARKANSAS HIGHWAY COMMISSION & AHTD DIRECTOR

WISH YOU A SAFE & HAPPY
HOLIDAY SEASON!

COMMISSION

Chairman R. Madison Murphy
Vice Chairman John Ed Regenold
John Burkhalter
Dick Trammel
Tom Schueck

&

DIRECTOR

Scott Bennett

Holidays

The following is an upcoming state holiday for AHTD employees. All work will be suspended except for cases of emergency.

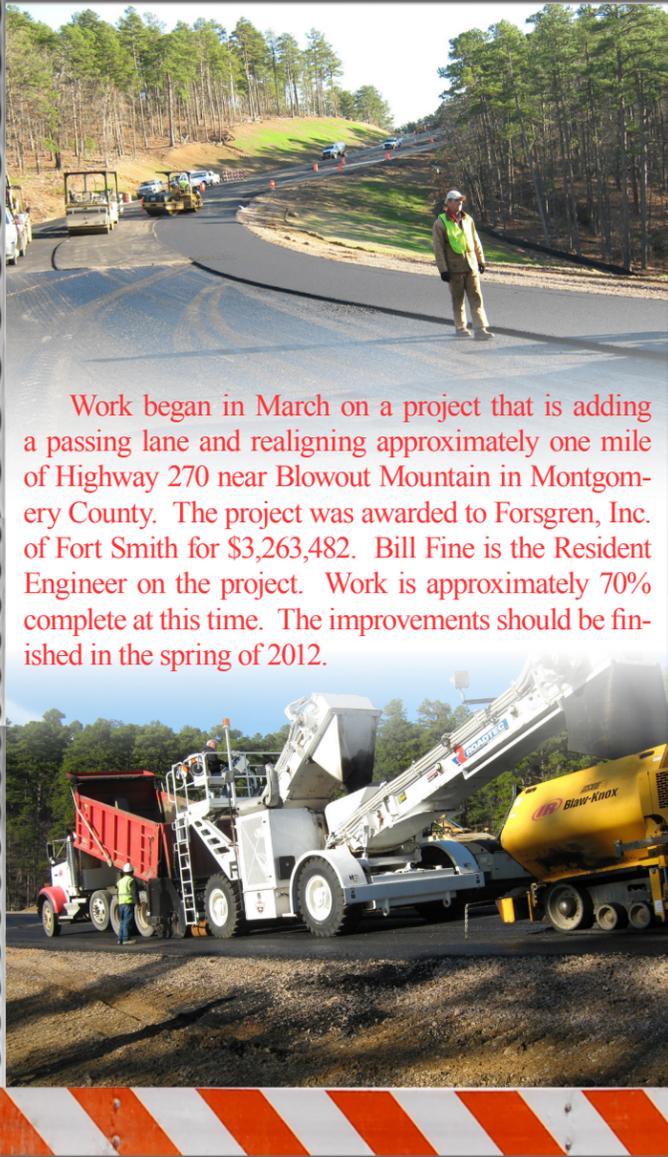


Martin Luther King, Jr.

&
Robert E. Lee
Birthdays Observed

Monday, January 16th

CONSTRUCTION CORNER DISTRICT 8



Work began in March on a project that is adding a passing lane and realigning approximately one mile of Highway 270 near Blowout Mountain in Montgomery County. The project was awarded to Forsgren, Inc. of Fort Smith for \$3,263,482. Bill Fine is the Resident Engineer on the project. Work is approximately 70% complete at this time. The improvements should be finished in the spring of 2012.

Are You Reading This Online?

To read the CenterLine online, see www.arkansashighways.com and click the **Publications** tab. You'll find issues of the CenterLine employee newsletter and the Arkansas Highways magazine under that tab. Look from home or at work to see AHTD's publications in **FULL COLOR!**

what's COOKING

This month's "What's Cooking" recipe is from...

Barry Cruz • Right of Way

DUCK GUMBO



- 3-4 bay leaves
- Chopped parsley
- 1 large onion, chopped
- 3-4 cloves of minced garlic
- 1 bunch celery, chopped
- 1 red bell pepper, chopped
- 1 green bell pepper, chopped
- 1 bunch green onion, chopped
- 1 tsp dried red pepper
- Cajun spice to taste (I use Louisiana brand)
- 3 cans of Rotel
- 1 can of tomato sauce
- 1 large pkg. of chicken thighs
- 2 pkgs. of polish sausages cut into slices
- 3-4 ducks

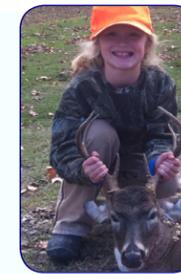
Boil duck and thighs in extra large pot until tender, then debone and return to broth.

Separately, make about 2 cups of roux in a skillet by combining equal parts all-purpose flour & unsalted butter. Cook over low heat until mixture is copper penny color, stirring constantly to prevent burning.

Add vegetables to roux and stir until they are hot, add to duck/chicken mixture. Add spices, rotel, tomato sauce & sausage. You may need more liquid so have some beef or chicken broth on hand to use. Cook over low heat 3-4 hours, stirring often to prevent sticking. Serve over rice.

*You can substitute all chicken instead of duck.

Please submit your recipe for possible publication in the CenterLine to: Shelli Russell, P.O. Box 2261, Little Rock, AR 72203, or shelli.russell@ahtd.ar.gov.



DIRECTOR: Dalli Chivers, age 8, killed this 8-point buck in the youth hunt. She is the granddaughter of Ron Price, Section Head of Construction Payments & Audit, and Linda Price, Administrative Assistant.



EEO/DBE: (l. to r.) James Moore, Section Head - EEO/DBE, presents Wanda Ashley, Internal EEO Coordinator, with her 20-year service award.



HIGHWAY POLICE: (l. to r.) Austin Keen of Benton, age 9, killed this doe on November 4th in Bradley County. Austin is grandson of Pat Brown.



DISTRICT 4: (l. to r.) Billy Home, Senior Mechanic, and Glen Beckner, Welder, received their 10-year service awards.



DISTRICT 4: (l. to r.) Mike Pickens, Maintenance Job Superintendent, presents Larry Lingo, Crew Leader, with his 15-year service award.



DISTRICT 5: Daniel Recker, Crew Leader, killed this 15-point buck in Missouri in October.



DISTRICT 6: (l. to r.) Terry Trotter, Area Maintenance Supervisor, presents Deborah Mealler, Rest Area Attendant, with her 10-year service award.



DISTRICT 6: (l. to r.) Joe Carter, Backhoe/Front End Loader Operator, receives his 5-year service award from Janet Bogle, Area Maintenance Supervisor.



DISTRICT 6: Matthew Creppel, Maintenance Aide II, killed this 10-point buck.



DISTRICT 7: (l. to r.) Cain & Carter Jackson are the great grandchildren of Rosie Smith, Rest Area Attendant.



DISTRICT 7: (l. to r.) Randy Gates, Area Maintenance Supervisor, presents Michael Brown, Backhoe/Front End Loader Operator, with his 10-year service award.



DISTRICT 8: (l. to r.) David Tolleson, District Construction Engineer, presents David Ross, Resident Engineer, with his 10-year service award.



DISTRICT 9: (l. to r.) Abel Arellano, Distributor/Roller Operator, receives his 5-year service award from Stan Risley, Area Maintenance Supervisor.



DISTRICT 9: (l. to r.) Jim McFadin, Maintenance Aide II, receives his 10-year service award from Ron Stanfill, Area Maintenance Supervisor.



DISTRICT 9: (l. to r.) Jason James, Assistant Resident Engineer, presents David Hipp, Construction Aide III, with his 5-year service award.



DISTRICT 9: (l. to r.) David King, Maintenance Aide I, receives his 5-year service award from Don Baker, Area Maintenance Supervisor.



DISTRICT 9: (l. to r.) Greg Howerton, Area Maintenance Supervisor, presents Jeffrey McFall, Backhoe/Front End Loader Operator, with his 10-year service award.



DISTRICT 9: (l. to r.) Jim Hopkins, Maintenance Aide II, receives his 5-year service award from Everett Burr, Sign Crew Supervisor.



DISTRICT 9: (l. to r.) Greg Howerton, Area Maintenance Supervisor, presents Robert Leamons, Maintenance Aide II, with his 10-year service award.

AHTD PEOPLE • EMPLOYEE STATISTICS FOR NOVEMBER 2011

new employees

CONSTRUCTION - JOSHUA KING, ENGINEER I, RE 94

HEAVY BRIDGE MAINTENANCE - ANTHONY CAUDEL, BRIDGE REPAIRER - BRADY TERRY, BRIDGE REPAIRER

HUMAN RESOURCES - PAM HICKMAN, ASSISTANT DIVISION HEAD

MATERIALS - ROBBIE ROBERTSON, TESTING EQUIP. SPEC.

ROADWAY DESIGN - DANIEL KOCH, ENGINEER

DISTRICT 1 - JERRY CROCKETT, GENERAL LABORER - MARK PONDER, SINGLE AXLE TRUCK DRIVER - JACKIE STARLING, SINGLE AXLE TRUCK DRIVER

DISTRICT 2 - THOMAS FERRELL, SINGLE AXLE TRUCK DRIVER - DAVID HOLLOWAY, SINGLE AXLE TRUCK DRIVER - PAUL JACKSON, MECHANIC

DISTRICT 3 - RICHARD COLE, PARTS RUNNER - MICHAEL KLEIN, GENERAL LAB. - PAUL STANLEY, SINGLE AXLE TR. DR.

DISTRICT 4 - ARROW THORNBURG, GENERAL LABORER

DISTRICT 5 - MICHAEL COPELAND, SINGLE AXLE TR. DR.

DISTRICT 6 - RICKY LOCKRIDGE, SINGLE AXLE TR. DR. - NORRIS MOORE, SINGLE AXLE TR. DR. - ERIC THORN, GENERAL LAB. - JOHNNY WILLIAMS, GENERAL LAB.

DISTRICT 7 - RANDY HOPPER, GENERAL LABORER

DISTRICT 8 - BRANDON BIRD, GENERAL LABORER - ROBERT HAMRICK, SINGLE AXLE TRUCK DRIVER - BRANDON MALARDIER, SINGLE AXLE TRUCK DRIVER - JOSEPH MCCLISH, GENERAL LAB. - ROGRICK MORRIS, SINGLE AXLE TR. DR. - JOHN SMITH, GENERAL LAB.

DISTRICT 9 - DENNIS CONNORS, MECHANIC - RONALD MURRAY, SINGLE AXLE TRUCK DRIVER - COLIN THOMAS, SINGLE AXLE TRUCK DRIVER

DISTRICT 9 - LACY WISEMAN, PARTS RUNNER

DISTRICT 10 - JOANA SMITH, GENERAL LABORER - MARIO YOUNG, GENERAL LABORER

promotions

EQUIPMENT & PROCUREMENT - COLLEEN MCCLURE, DIVISION OFFICE MANAGER - KAREN RANKIN, BUYER

FISCAL - ANGELA MCMILLER, ADMINISTRATIVE AIDE I

HIGHWAY POLICE - STACEY MACHADO, MOTOR CARRIER SAFETY AUD. - HOLLY HUTCHESON, PERMIT TECH. - DARREN SMITH, MOTOR CARRIER SAFETY INSPECTOR - JAMES THOMAS, MOTOR CARRIER SAFETY INSPECTOR

INTERNAL AUDIT - TWANDRIA CAMPBELL, OFFICE ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT IV

MAINTENANCE - THOMAS PENN, TRAFFIC SERVICES AIDE - PAUL POWELL, MAINTENANCE AIDE II

MATERIALS - TROY FRAZIER, GEOTECHNICAL DRILL OP. - CHRISTOPHER WELLS, MATERIALS TECHNICIAN III - HENRY WILLIAMS, MATERIALS TECHNICIAN V

PLANNING & RESEARCH - DOUGLAS BEATY, CARTOGRAPHER II - JORDAN LEIGH BITTLE, CARTOGRAPHER II - LESLIE GOSHIEEN, OFFICE ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT V

PUBLIC AFFAIRS - CARMA TOLLETT, ADM. AIDE IV

DISTRICT 2 - LUKE STOVALL, ENGINEER I, RE 24

DISTRICT 3 - SAMANTHA CROW, REST AREA ATTENDANT, MILLER CO.

DISTRICT 4 - STEVEN CARTER, BRIDGE REP. I - WILLIAM DAVIS, DOZER OP. - JOSE MALAGON, BRIDGE REPAIRER I - SAM SALINAS, BRIDGE REP. I - CHRISTINA SIMMONS, ROLLER OP. - JOSHUA YOUNG, MULTI-AXLE TRUCK DR.

DISTRICT 5 - ROBERT ADKINS, DISTRIB./ROLLER OP., CLEBURNE CO. - MONA CRISLER, DISTRIB./ROLLER OP., WHITE CO.

DISTRICT 6 - EUGENE REED, BACKHOE/FRONT END LOADER OPERATOR, PULASKI CO.

DISTRICT 7 - DOYLE BOWLIN, SINGLE AXLE TRUCK DRIVER, CLEVELAND CO. - JOHN CALLENDER, SENIOR CONST. MAT. INSP., RE 73 - TIM FERRELL, MAINT. AIDE II, BRADLEY CO. - KENNETH YEAGER, SPREADER OP.

DISTRICT 8 - CLINT KING, FINISH CARPENTER - JOSEPH KNIGHT, ASST. RESIDENT ENGINEER, RE 86 - ELMAN PINEDA, BACKHOE/FRONT END LOADER OPERATOR

DISTRICT 9 - KYLAN MCCUTCHEON, BACKHOE/FRONT END LOADER OPERATOR - MICHELLE PARKER, ENGINEER, RE 94 - KENDALL SHELTON, SENIOR INSPECTOR, RE 92 - JOHN WATTS, SENIOR BODY REPAIRER AND PAINTER

DISTRICT 10 - MICHAEL BORDEN, MOTOR PATROL OP., MISSISSIPPI CO. - MICHAEL BROWN, SINGLE AXLE TRUCK DRIVER, MISSISSIPPI CO. - JIMMY BRUCE, BACKHOE/FRONT END LOADER OP., MISSISSIPPI CO. - JIMMIE CROCKETT, SINGLE AXLE TRUCK DRIVER, POINSETT CO. - JERRY LADD, MOTOR PATROL OP. - FINISH, CLAY CO.

service

COMPUTER SERVICES - PAUL DOWDY, APPLICATIONS ANALYST/PROGRAMMER V, 15 YRS.

CONSTRUCTION - DAWN BOYD, CONST. AIDE II, RE 23, 5 YRS. - JEFFERY BYERLY, INSP., RE 23, 10 YRS. - CAROLINA CASTELLANOS, CONST. FIELD ENG. II, RE 62, 10 YRS. - CARL EFIRD, CONST. AIDE I, RE 64, 15 YRS. - MIKE HAYS, RES. ENG., RE 61, 15 YRS. - MACK SCOTT, CONST. AIDE II, RE 34, 10 YRS. - PATRICK SMITH, CONST. AIDE II, RE 53, 10 YRS. - KENDALL STROUD, CONST. PROJ. COORD., RE 52, 25 YRS. - JEREMY THOMAS, ASST. RES. ENG., RE 34, 10 YRS.

DBE/EEO - WANDA ASHLEY, INT. EEO COORD., 20 YRS.

EQUIPMENT & PROCUREMENT - MICHAEL COLLINS, STOREROOM ASSISTANT I, 5 YRS.

FISCAL - COREY KEY, BUDGET & EXPENDITURE CONTROLLER, 10 YRS. - MARVLYN UNDERWOOD, OFFICE ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT II, 10 YRS.

HUMAN RESOURCES - EDDIE TANNER, SAFETY INSPECTION OFFICER, 20 YRS.

MAINTENANCE - PAUL FORST, STRIPING ZONER II, 15 YRS. - MANDY PRICE, OFFICE ADM. ASSISTANT V, 10 YRS.

MATERIALS - MICHAEL CREAMER, MATERIALS TECH. I, 25 YRS. - DAWN RICHARDS, SECTION HEAD - CHEMISTRY LAB, 20 YRS. - DEBORAH TYLER, MATERIALS TECH. IV, 10 YRS. - KHARI WITHERS, MATERIALS TECH. IV, 10 YRS.

ROADWAY DESIGN - AMY KING, ADV. DESIGN ENG., 15 YRS.

SURVEYS - GREGORY GARDNER, SURVEYS AIDE II, 5 YRS. - MICHAEL MOHLER, SURVEYS SPECIALIST, 15 YRS. - DAVID ROREX, SURVEYS HELPER, 10 YRS.

DISTRICT 1 - RICK HICKS, MULTI-AXLE TR. DR., 5 YRS. - GERRY WASHINGTON, MAINT. AIDE II, 15 YRS. - HERBERT WILEY, REST AREA ATTENDANT, 10 YRS.

DISTRICT 2 - KEITH ETUE, BACKHOE/FRONT END LOADER OP., 10 YRS. - WAYNE GIVENS, DISTRIB./ROLLER OP., 5 YRS. - ARTHUR HUGGINS, HYDR. EXCAV. OP.-FIN., 35 YRS. - JEFFREY JOHNSON, MULTI-AXLE TR. DR., 5 YRS. - JEFFERY POWER, MOTOR PATROL OP.-FIN., 10 YRS. - BRUCE SMITH, WELDER, 5 YRS.

DISTRICT 3 - LYLE FERGUSON, BACKHOE/FRONT END LOADER OP., 5 YRS. - NICHOLAS GREEN, MAINT. AIDE I, 5 YRS. - TERRY HOSEY, MOTOR PATROL OP.-FIN., 20 YRS.

DISTRICT 4 - GLEN BECKNER, WELDER, 10 YRS. - MONTY FRAZIER, ASST. BRIDGE INSP., 5 YRS. - KENNETH GENTRY, AREA MAINT. SUPV., 25 YRS. - TARA HOLLAN, AREA HQ. ATT., 10 YRS. - BILLY HORNE, SR. MECHANIC, 10 YRS. - GEORGE MANNING, SWEEPER OPERATOR, 10 YRS. - BRADLEY MCCURRY, REST AREA ATTENDANT, 10 YRS. - FREDERICK TRENT, BRIDGE REPAIRER II, 5 YRS.

DISTRICT 5 - RUTH MOODY, SGL. AXLE TR. DR., 15 YRS.

DISTRICT 6 - DEBORAH MEALLER, REST AREA ATTENDANT, 10 YRS.

DISTRICT 7 - JERRY LANGLEY, MULTI-AXLE TR. DR., 5 YRS.

DISTRICT 8 - DEBBIE ANDERSON, MULTI-AXLE TR. DR., 10 YRS. - AUDRY EMBERTON, MAINT. AIDE I, 10 YRS.

DISTRICT 9 - ABEL ARELLANO, DISTRIB./ROLLER OP., 5 YRS. - KELLY JURGENA, DOZER OP.-FIN., 10 YRS.

DISTRICT 10 - LARRY HARRIS, MAINT. AIDE II, 10 YRS.

retirement

CONSTRUCTION - TINA ADAMS, EST. SUPV., 28+ YRS.

EQUIPMENT & PROCUREMENT - DAVID WOODALL, WELDER, 27+ YRS.

RIGHT OF WAY - DEAN FARRIS, ACQ. AGENT II, 26+ YRS.

SURVEY - CHARLES STARKS, PHOTOGRAM. SUPV., 31+ YRS.

DISTRICT 3 - RANDY SINYARD, CREW LEADER, 17+ YRS.

DISTRICT 4 - JOHNNY PALMER, AREA MAINT. SUPV., 31+ YRS.

DISTRICT 5 - MELVIN YATES, DIST. BR. INSP., 35+ YRS.

DISTRICT 9 - RONNIE BOHANNON, DISTRIBUTOR/ROLLER OPERATOR, 5+ YRS.

DISTRICT 10 - CHARLES EVANS, SENIOR MECH., 31+ YRS.

memorials

LEGAL • JOHN TED BLAGG, 12/8/11, ACTIVE

DISTRICT 2 • ANDREW DANIEL FORD, SR., 11/29/11, RETIRED

DISTRICT 9 • NORMAN ARLO BREEDLOVE, 12/5/11, RETIRED

active duty

As of 12/12/11, the AHTD had 2 employees serving active duty in the United States military. Deployment date noted.

MAINTENANCE • DUSTIN T. SMITH, SIGN ERECTOR, 3/30/11

DISTRICT 6 • GEORGE LEE, CONSTRUCTION AIDE I, 08/27/11