



Center Line

FEBRUARY 2012

Program Update: Litter Reporting Hotline

In December of 2004, the Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department kicked off a new Litter Violator Reporting System and 24-hour Litter Hotline asking motorists' assistance in fighting a constant litter problem on Arkansas' highways. Today, seven years after it was announced, the program is still going strong.

"Our Department spends \$4.7 million a year on litter removal," stated AHTD Director Scott Bennett. "The Litter Hotline program has had a positive effect on keeping proper disposal of trash on the minds of motorists traveling our highways."

Now in its eighth year, Department officials have kept statistics each year on the volume of calls to the hotline and the type of litter being reported. For 2011, almost 5,000

(Continued on page 3)



Arkansas State University Offers Online Degree Programs to AHTD Employees

The AHTD is pleased to announce an opportunity for all Department personnel to complete a bachelor's degree or obtain a master's degree online through an Academic Outreach Initiative.

Arkansas State University is offering two distinct, high quality, affordable degree programs.

The first one is a Bachelor of Science degree in Interdisciplinary Studies. This program is designed for those with previously earned college credit. Students self-design a curriculum taking courses in three areas of emphasis which are representative of some of ASU's majors and minors. The program has six start dates each year and each online course is completed in seven weeks. The cost of the program is \$578 per course.

The second program is a Master of Public Administration degree. This nationally accredited MPA program is designed to enhance the careers of public sector professionals in order to achieve management, director or executive-level positions within their chosen fields. This MPA program degree offers courses that focus on the skills required for effective public management. It also has six start dates per year. Each online course is completed in seven weeks. Cost of this program is \$722 per course.

These programs are also available to family members of Department personnel.

A university representative will provide additional information and resources upon request. For more information and to get started, call 866-621-8096.



2012 AHTD Equipment Operators Rodeo Finals

This year's finals will be held at the Central Shop on May 31, 2012. Semi-final competitions for the Districts and Central Office have been scheduled as follows:

DISTRICT 1.....	APR 12	DIST. 6/CENTRAL OFC.....	MAR 29
DISTRICT 2.....	MAR 27	DISTRICT 7.....	MAR 15
DISTRICT 3.....	MAR 8	DISTRICT 8.....	APR 5
DISTRICT 4.....	APR 19	DISTRICT 9.....	MAY 3
DISTRICT 5.....	APR 26		

what's COOKING

Kay Smith • District 7
Momma's Cranberry Salad



- 1 quart Cranberries
- 1 package of Jell-O (cherry or strawberry)
- 2 cups of sugar
- 1 small can of crushed pineapple
- 1 tablespoon of plain gelatin
- 1 1/2 cups of miniature marshmallows (more or less to taste)
- 1 cup of nuts, chopped (walnuts, pecans, almonds)

Run cranberries through food chopper/processor and cover with sugar. Let stand overnight. The next morning, dissolve Jell-O in 1 cup of hot water. Dissolve plain gelatin in cool water and add to hot Jell-O. When it begins to congeal, add cranberries, pineapple, nuts and marshmallows. Keep in refrigerator or freezer.

Please submit your recipe for possible publication in the CenterLine to: David Nilles, P.O. Box 2261, Little Rock, AR 72203, or david.nilles@ahtd.ar.gov.

Register Now for Annual AHP Bass Classic



Many of us may have stored our fishing gear for the winter, but make plans now to pull it out in time for the 18th Annual Arkansas Highway Police Howard Sims Memorial Bass Classic.

This year's fishing tournament will be held April 28th & 29th on Lake DeGray, near Arkadelphia. The competition is open to all AHTD employees, retirees and their families.

As always, there will be great prizes for the top finishers. In addition, door prizes will be drawn after the meal on Saturday.

The entry fee is \$100 per team. Deadline for registration is April 15th. A late fee applies after that. Make plans now to attend. Good food, fellowship and a whole lot of fishing make for a good time!

For more information, contact Chrissy Williams at 501-569-2423 or Ned Ward at 870-703-6328.

Litter Hotline (cont.)

calls were received by the Arkansas Highway Police. The program has received that many calls or more each year that it has been in existence.

"Based on the volume of calls we receive each year, it is obvious that this program has been well received by the public and has motivated motorists to do something about litter on the highways," Bennett added.

In addition to the number of calls received, data is kept on the type of litter being discarded. Among the items reported to the hotline are typical items such as plastic shopping bags, aluminum cans, food wrappers, paper and cigarette butts. Among the more unusual items appearing on the list of things thrown or falling from vehicles were a bookshelf that fell off the back of a vehicle, flip flops, plywood, a living room chair, a laundry basket and cd/dvd cases.

"All of these items have to be picked up by our Department

4-Day Work Week...

Effective March 8th through October 31, 2012, the following personnel will work a four-day, ten-hour schedule Monday through Thursday from 7:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. with a half hour lunch:

Field Maintenance Personnel; District Shop Crews; Storeroom Personnel; Area Maintenance Supervisors; Job Superintendents; Shop Supervisors; Equipment Maintenance Supervisors; Signing, Striping and Profiling Crews; Traffic Engineering Personnel; Sign Shop Personnel; Surveys Division Survey Parties; Heavy Bridge Maintenance Crews; Facilities Management Personnel; Radio Maintenance Specialists; Safety Inspection Officers; Equipment and Procurement Shop Personnel; and Technical Services Section Field Personnel.

On those weeks containing a holiday, the schedule will revert to a five-day, eight-hour work week. Vacation or sick leave for a ten-hour day will be charged as ten hours. Half days will be charged as five hours.

Districts will rotate service station personnel so that one person will be on a five-day, eight-hour work week in order to keep the station open from 7:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on Friday.

The Equipment Preventive Maintenance Program is to be carried out fully during the four-day work week period.

crews or by volunteers in the Adopt-A-Highway program," Bennett added.

Motorists who spot a littering violation along any streets, roads or highways are encouraged to call the hotline at 1-866-811-1222 to report the situation. Phone calls are answered 24 hours a day by an office of the Arkansas Highway Police who then record the incident. A letter regarding the violation is then sent to the registered owner of the vehicle.

"Recurring violations reported from the same vehicle may eventually result in an in-person visit by an Arkansas Highway Police Officer to investigate the problem," states Arkansas Highway Police Chief Ron Burks. "We want motorists to know that Arkansas' litter laws are actively enforced."

For more information on the Litter Reporting Hotline, contact the Public Affairs Office at 501-569-2227.

CONSTRUCTION CORNER DISTRICT 1



A brand new Arkansas Welcome Center is going up on Interstate 40 in West Memphis. The contract was awarded in March of 2010 to Olympus Construction, Inc. of Jonesboro, Arkansas, for \$3,784,756. Work began in May of that year. The Center is located between Ingram Boulevard and 7th Street. Since 2001, new Welcome Centers have been built in Blytheville, Corning, El Dorado, Fort Smith, Lake Village and Texarkana. A new one is being built in Helena-West Helena as well. Construction is over halfway completed on the West Memphis project. Work on the Center should be complete in the summer of this year.



Employee: Randall Edgmon, Crew Leader, Newton County Crew, District 9

Length of Service: 25+ years

Job Duties: I supervise the crew on the road and assist the foreman when needed. I make sure the work area is safe and all signs are in place. I deal with the public with any concerns they may have.

Favorite part of the job: I enjoy the crew and at the end of the day I like to see the end results that we have accomplished.

Background: I began working for the Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department in 1986 as a General Laborer and Single Axle Truck Driver. I was promoted to Motor Patrol Operator Rough in 1988 and Motor Patrol Operator Finish in 1997. In 2000, I was promoted to Crew Leader. I have competed in the Equipment Rodeos and enjoyed meeting all of the other contestants.

Family: I have been married to my wife Karen for 31 years. We have two daughters, Alisha Martin and son in law Clint Martin, daughter Lauren Edgmon and granddaughter Kaitlyn Martin. Kaitlyn's sister is expected in May. My wife and I, and both daughters, are members of the Mossville United Baptist Church.

Hobbies: I enjoy spending time with family. I have a small farm that I enjoy working on. I also enjoy playing music with my family.

Catastrophic Leave Donations

All employees are reminded to check their vacation leave balances. Balances which exceed the maximum carry-over may be donated to the Catastrophic Leave Bank.

Donation of unused hours must reach the Personnel Office before March 30th.

For further information, contact the Human Resources Office at 501-569-2451.



PLANNING & RESEARCH: (l. to r.) Elizabeth Mayfield-Hart, Staff Planning Engineer, presents Greg Nation, Administrative Assistant III, with his 20-year Service Award.



INTERNAL AUDIT: Jon Haydon, son of Asst. Chief Auditor Vicki Haydon, graduated first in his class academically from the 2011 Law Enforcement Training Academy in Pocahontas in November. He is now a Bryant Police Officer. He is pictured with his wife Maddie.



MAINTENANCE: Roger Mahan, Milling Crew Leader, and Jodi Salisbury, Station Attendant, Nashville, were married on November 11, 2011.



MAINTENANCE: (l. to r.) Roy Box, Pavement Profiler Operator, receives his 5-year Service Award from Tony Evans, Staff Maintenance Engineer.



RIGHT OF WAY: Mary Belle Jackson, Realty Appraiser III, celebrated retirement with a cake, friends and co-workers.



DISTRICT TWO: (l. to r.) Charles Smith, RE 24 Inspector, receives his 20-year Service Award from Thomas Drye, RE 24 Resident Engineer.



DISTRICT SIX: (l. to r.) Resident Engineer Dan Burnett presents Carolina Castellanos, Construction Field Engineer II, with her 10-year Service Award.



DISTRICT SIX: (l. to r.) Allen Anthony, Jr., Area Headquarters Attendant, receives his 10-year Service Award from Eric Paulus, Area Maintenance Supervisor, Garland County.



DISTRICT NINE: (l. to r.) Joe Davidson, Equipment Maintenance Supervisor, receives his 40-year Service Award from Jeff Wheeler, District Maintenance Engineer.



DISTRICT NINE: A reception was recently held to honor Greg Howerton, Area Maintenance Supervisor, Carroll County, on his retirement and to thank him for his 35+ years of service. Pictured are: (l. to r.) Steve Lawrence, District Engineer; Greg Howerton and Jeff Wheeler, District Maintenance Engineer.



DISTRICT NINE: (l. to r.) Steve Lawrence, District Engineer, presents Tammy Phillips, District Office Manager, with her 20-year Service Award.



DISTRICT NINE: (l. to r.) Keith Carpenter, Crew Leader on the Bridge Crew, receives his 10-year Service Award from Bob Mas-sengale, Bridge Crew Superintendent.

new employees

COMPUTER SERVICES • Jason Ellis, Application Developer I
CONSTRUCTION • Jarrod Brightwell, Engineer; Leslie Burton, Field Clerk I; Daniel Greenwood, Construction Helper
ENVIRONMENTAL • Kristina Boykin, Environmental Analyst I
FISCAL SERVICES • Julie Kesterson, Sr. Accountant
HEAVY BRIDGE MAINTENANCE • Ronnie Honeycutt, Bridge Repairer I
INTERNAL AUDIT • Kevin Chadwick, Auditor
MAINTENANCE • Ragnar Anderson, Sign Erector; Jacob Trotter, Sign Erector
PLANNING AND RESEARCH • Blake Poole, Engineer
ROADWAY DESIGN • Christopher Allen, Engineer
DISTRICT 1 • Shae George, Single Axle Truck Driver; Cedric Parchman, Single Axle Truck Driver
DISTRICT 2 • Robert Faulkner, Single Axle Truck Driver; Justin Wilson, General Laborer
DISTRICT 4 • Amy Smith, Personnel Clerk; Kevin Lewis, General Laborer; Justin Leding, Single Axle Truck Driver; Hayden Slayton, General Laborer; Jeremy Young, General Laborer; Randy Pounds, General Laborer
DISTRICT 6 • Terry Moore, Single Axle Truck Driver; Greg Tenison, Single Axle Truck Driver
DISTRICT 8 • Bobby Mourot, Single Axle Truck Driver
DISTRICT 10 • Kendal Ashby, Skill Trades Trainee; Jarian Borders, General Laborer

promotions

ARKANSAS HIGHWAY POLICE • Promoted to Corporal: Michael Almeda, Joy Bean, Fidel Caballero, James Canard, Felix Carr, Raunona Clemons, James Cooper, Jason Daggs, Johnny Debord, Joseph Harris, Louis Hatchett, Chad Heath, Anita Hollis, James Ludwig, Gregory Massey, Daniel McArthur, Jr., Alma Medlen, Sharlotte Mixon, Daniel Morales, Clyde Murphy, Jr., William Oliphant, Gerald Overman, William Person, Nicholas Phillips, Andreas Pruitt, Robin Samons, Robert Sellers, Ricky Smith, Terry Stobaugh, Kreston Taylor, Alvin Todd, Gregory Toland, Fred Ware and Jeremy Watkins

BRIDGE • Courtney Rome, Design Engineer; Christopher Williams, Design Engineer; Amanda Wyatt, Engineer I

EQUIPMENT & PROCUREMENT • Teri McConnell, Office Administrative Asst. V

PLANNING & RESEARCH • Minghua Qiu, Engineer I; David Siskowski, Transportation Engineer; Patricia Slater, FTA Grants Officer

RIGHT OF WAY • Randy Cobb, Realty Appraiser II; Samantha Cole, Office Administrative Asst. III

ROADWAY DESIGN • Rita Haynes, Senior Designer; Adnan Qazi, Design Engineer

DISTRICT 2 • Trevis Bentley, Construction Field Engineer I; Ryan Blankenship, Construction Field Engineer I; Craig Bowden, Maintenance Aide I; Lance Bowers, Construction Field Engineer I; Deborah Cotton, Multi Axle Truck Driver; Kenneth Gibbs, Distributor Operator; David Henning, District Engineer

DISTRICT 3 • Kathy Johnson, Field Clerk II

DISTRICT 4 • Robert Dummeyer, Multi Axle Truck Driver; Jason Hughey, Resident Engineer; Sarah Marker, Single Axle Truck Driver; Patricia Mowrey, Area Maintenance Supervisor; Stephen Nickell, Engineer I

DISTRICT 6 • James Dean, Resident Engineer; Michael Weidman, Single Axle Truck Driver; Jennifer Williams, Personnel Clerk

DISTRICT 7 • Jason Jacobs, Backhoe/Front End Loader Operator; Benjamin Wood, Motor Patrol Operator;

DISTRICT 8 • Marcus Canady, Multi Axle Truck Driver; John Smith, Rest Area Attendant; Charles Wise, Multi Axle Truck Driver

DISTRICT 9 • Rickey Clark, Sr. Construction Material Inspector; Thomas Dohn, District Bridge Inspector; Darren Etchison,

Maintenance Aide I; Scott Greehaw, Bridge Repairer II; Robert Kelley, Area Maintenance Supervisor; Darren Ramsey, Bridge Repairer II; Lannie Sanderson, Area Headquarters Attendant; Paul Thornhill, Crew Leader

DISTRICT 10 • Kendal Ashby, Skill Trades Trainee; Michael Brown, Backhoe/Front End Loader Operator; Michael Farrell, Crew Leader; Dwayne Pharis, Motor Patrol Operator-Finish; Wesley Reece, Welder; Daniel Roe, Senior Mechanic; Brandon Sutton, Inspector; Marsha Vowell, Area Headquarters Attendant

service

ARKANSAS HIGHWAY POLICE • Scott Fraley, 2nd Lt., 20 yrs.; Diane Gates, Permit Technician, 5 yrs.; Stacey Machado, Motor Carrier Safety Auditor, 5 yrs. Tracy Morris, Corporal, 20 yrs.

CONSTRUCTION • John Ballard, Adv. Construction Field Engineer, 15 yrs.; John Callender, Sr. Construction Material Inspector, 10 yrs.; Terry Evans, Construction Field Engineer II, 10 yrs.; William Evans, Inspector, 20 yrs.; Rodger Frost, Construction Aide, II, 5 yrs.; Gerald Hall, Adv. Construction Field Engineer, 25 yrs.; James Hogan, Inspector, 25 yrs.; Robert Hughes, Construction Aide I, 10 yrs.; Terry Standard, Sr. Construction Materials Inspector, 10 yrs.

ENVIRONMENTAL • Karla Sims, Environmental Analyst I, 5 yrs.

FISCAL SERVICES • Joy Brooks, Administrative Asst. III, 10 yrs.

MATERIALS • Gary Brown, Geotechnical Drill Party Chief, 30 yrs.; Steven Faulkner, Geotechnical Drill Party Chief, 25 yrs.

PLANNING & RESEARCH • Sandra Busby, Adv. Research Assistant, 20 yrs.; Jessie Jones, Asst. Division Head, 10 yrs.

ROADWAY DESIGN • Linda Gunn, Staff Design Engineer, 20 yrs.

DISTRICT 1 • Anthony Burnett, Crew Leader, 10 yrs.; Anthony Flex, Bridge Repairer I, 10 yrs.; Jimmy Pulley, Jr., Bridge Job Superintendent, 20 yrs.

DISTRICT 2 • Jerald Hopkins, Distributor/Roller Operator, 5 yrs.; Eddie Kling, Motor Patrol Operator-Finish, 20 yrs.

DISTRICT 3 • John Littrell, Distributor/Roller Operator, 10 yrs.; Steven Muldrew, Distributor Operator, 10 yrs.

DISTRICT 4 • Charles Brummett, Motor Patrol Operator, 5 yrs.; Robert McEntyre, Asst. Bridge Inspector, 10 yrs.; Jose Malagon, Bridge Repairer I, 5 yrs.; Darren Smith, Maintenance Aide II, 10 yrs.; Tommy Towler, Motor Patrol Operator, 5 yrs.

DISTRICT 5 • James Kelley, Jr., Senior Mechanic, 20 yrs.; Calvin Leonard III, Single Axle Truck Driver, 10 yrs.; Dennis Walling, Dozer Operator, 10 yrs.

DISTRICT 6 • Bruce Anthony, Jr., Area Headquarters Attendant, 10 yrs.; Lee Burrow, Maintenance Aide I, 5 yrs.; Michael Byrd, District Bridge Inspector, 20 yrs.;

DISTRICT 7 • David Arnold, Sign Erector, 10 yrs.; Ronald Hudson, Maintenance Aide I, 10 yrs.;

DISTRICT 8 • Randall Burris, Multi Axle Truck Driver, 5 yrs.; Walter Gray, Lowboy/Float Truck Driver, 40 yrs.; Seth Houghton, Crew Leader, 5 yrs.; David Smith, Backhoe/Front End Loader Operator, 5 yrs.

DISTRICT 9 • Donald Baker, Area Maintenance Supervisor, 35 yrs.; Keith Carpenter, Crew Leader, 10 yrs.

DISTRICT 10 • Richard Carmack, Maintenance Aide I, 15 yrs.; Danny Douglas, Crew Leader, 35 yrs.; Johnny Gardner, Welder, 20 yrs.

retirement

EEO/DBE SECTION • James Moore, Section Head, EEO, 27+ yrs.

EQUIPMENT & PROCUREMENT • Howard Kitchens, Equipment Specialist, 22+ yrs.

HUMAN RESOURCES • John Barnett, Crew Leader, 24+ yrs.

MATERIALS • Donald Griffin, District Materials Supervisor, 39+ yrs.

RIGHT OF WAY • Marie Claunch, Closing Agent, 42+ yrs.; Sherry Pratt, Administrative Officer III, 30+ yrs.

DISTRICT 1 • Jesse Davis, Storeroom Assistant II, 32+ yrs.

DISTRICT 2 • David Alverson, Motor Patrol Operator-Finish, 22+ yrs.; James House, District Engineer, 41+ yrs.

DISTRICT 4 • Robert Kolb, Senior Body Repair & Painter, 27+ yrs.

DISTRICT 5 • Ronald Satterwhite, Assistant Resident Engineer, 38+ yrs.

DISTRICT 6 • Charles Crain, Senior Construction Materials Inspector, 33+ yrs.

DISTRICT 7 • Lucian Lindsey, Multi Axle Truck Driver, 33+ yrs.; Dwight Watson, Single Axle Truck Driver, 5+ yrs.

DISTRICT 8 • Dennis Langston, Crew Leader, 28+ yrs.

DISTRICT 9 • Karen Hodge, Maintenance Aide I, 6+ yrs.

DISTRICT 10 • Danny Douglas, Crew Leader, 35+ yrs.; Johnny Gardner, Welder, 20 + yrs.

memorials

COMPUTER SERVICES • Eugene A. Ashcraft, 2/13/12, retired

CONSTRUCTION • William L. Moore, 1/18/12, retired

FISCAL SERVICES • Patricia Koonce, 1/12/12, Fiscal Services

DISTRICT 2 • Selma B. Chavis, 1/15/12, retired; Ray Cunningham, 2/5/12, retired; James Taylor, 2/8/12, retired

DISTRICT 5 • William E. Coles, 1/19/12, retired; Hubert Cliff Martin, 2/11/12, retired

DISTRICT 6 • Lloyd Hall, 2/17/12, retired

DISTRICT 10 • Justin Bell, 2/16/12, Active; Hollen Jefferson, 1/17/12, retired; Joe Riley, 1/30/12, retired

active duty

As of 2/23/12, 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

Spring Forward....

Don't forget to set your clocks ahead one hour on Saturday night, March 10th.

Daylight Saving Time begins on Sunday, March 11th.