

Arkansas Highways

FALL 1996

Director's Message

The employees of our Department have the responsibility of planning, designing, constructing, and maintaining the 16th largest state highway system in the country. At 16,255 miles, Arkansas' state highway system is comparable in size to those found in much larger states like Michigan, Florida and California.

Ours is no small task. But to make the task even more difficult, we carry out these responsibilities with less revenue than most other states. In fact, we rank 41st in terms of revenue available to support our system.

In spite of these numbers, our employees continue to do a good job with the resources available. In terms of the amount we spend on administrative functions, we consistently rank among the lowest in the country. And we have let to contract over 50 percent of the miles planned under the 1991 Highway Improvement Program (HIP), though only 37 percent of the planned program time has passed.

The demands being placed on the Department continue to increase. We are operating with virtually the same number of employees we had twenty years ago even though responsibilities have increased. And despite the progress just mentioned on the HIP, many people in the state believe the program is not progressing fast enough.

In order to meet the public's expectations, we must find new ways to address our most pressing needs.

The Department has identified approximately 8,400 miles of highway, or about half of the system, which carries 90 percent of the traffic. These routes include the Interstates, the National Highway System, and other arterials and connector routes that link our state together. These routes constitute the backbone of our system. Nevertheless, the expectations and demands of our customers for maintenance and improvements are not confined only to these routes.

Working closely with our partners and stakeholders will insure that our highway system is maintained and improved consistent with the available resources.



Paul Flowers
DIRECTOR OF HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION

ARKANSAS HIGHWAYS

FALL 1996

ARKANSAS STATE HIGHWAY COMMISSION



L.W. "BILL" CLARK
CHAIRMAN



BOBBY HOPPER
VICE CHAIRMAN



HERBY BRANSCUM, JR.
MEMBER



JOHN "M" LIPTON
MEMBER



J.W. "BUDDY" BENAFIELD
MEMBER

ARKANSAS HIGHWAYS is published quarterly by and for employees of the Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department as a medium of departmental news and other information. Correspondence and material should be directed to ARKANSAS HIGHWAYS, Chief of Administration and Public Affairs, P.O. Box 2261, Room 1004, Little Rock, Arkansas 72203-2261. ARKANSAS HIGHWAYS is distributed free to the public upon request and to all Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department employees.

EDITOR
Randy Ort

COMPOSITION & LAYOUT
Carolyn Johnson

EDITORIAL ASSISTANT
Keith Stephens

PHOTOGRAPHER
John Jackson



ARKANSAS HIGHWAYS
IS PRINTED ON
RECYCLED PAPER WITH SOYBEAN INK

ARKANSAS HIGHWAYS

Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department
P.O. Box 2261 • Little Rock, Arkansas 72203-2261

VOLUME 42 • NUMBER 3 • FALL 1996

CONTENTS

FEATURES

| | |
|--|----|
| Governor Visits AHTD | 2 |
| Commission Raises Speed Limits | 4 |
| Flowers Elected President of SASHTO | 6 |
| Interstate System Celebrates 40th Anniversary | 7 |
| Arkansas' First Highway Tunnel Under Construction | 8 |
| Materials Division Hosts AASHTO Subcommittee Meeting | 11 |
| Public Hearing Held for N.L.R.'s 37th Street | 12 |
| AHP Golf Tournament Aids Arkansas Special Olympics | 12 |
| Dedications: | |
| Highway 65 in Chicot County | 13 |
| Chaney Drive at Batesville | 13 |
| Visitor Center and Museum at Hope | 14 |
| Texarkana Tourist Information Center | 15 |
| Engineering Intern Orientation Program | 16 |
| Summer Transportation Institute | 17 |
| Retiree Profile: Thomas Huie | 18 |
| District 2 Employee Ronnie Clark | 20 |
| AHTD Promotions | 21 |

OTHER ARTICLES

| | |
|-----------------------------|--------------------|
| Director's Message | Inside Front Cover |
| Letters | 23 |
| In Memory | 31 |
| Around the Department | 32 |

COVER PHOTO: State Highway 62 West in Carroll County
BACK COVER PHOTO: State Highway 88 in Polk County
Photographs by John Jackson

Commission Invites Governor Mike Huckabee and Staff to Department for Briefing

At the invitation of the Arkansas State Highway Commission, Governor Mike Huckabee visited the Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department on August 21. The Commissioners welcomed and visited informally with the Governor prior to Chairman L.W. "Bill" Clark introducing Director of Highways and Transportation Dan Flowers.

Flowers gave an overview of the department including the mission statement, organization, and status of the 1991 Highway Improvement Program.

The Governor and his senior staff were told that some of the most significant problems facing the Department are meeting expectations of the traveling public and finding an increased and stable

source of funds. "We have the 16th largest highway system in the nation, but are 41st in total spend-

ing per mile and 39th in maintenance per mile," Flowers explained.



Governor Mike Huckabee, left, is welcomed to the Department by Commission Chairman L.W. "Bill" Clark, right, and Vice Chairman Bobby Hopper, center.



AHTD Director Dan Flowers, left, visits with Governor Huckabee.



Governor Huckabee is greeted by Jane Wilson, Chief of Administration and Public Affairs.

Flowers went on to say that the AHTD is anticipating a \$4 billion shortfall in funding over the next 10 years. "We have identified approximately \$7 billion in highway needs over this period. This far exceeds the \$3 billion in expected revenues."

Governor Huckabee told the group he is aware that something needs to be done regarding the condition of state highways and that he is open to suggestions. He stressed that he prefers that any highway program be supported by a strong grassroots effort.

After the meeting Huckabee and his staff were given a quick tour of the Department's Planning and Research Division by Deputy Director and Chief Engineer Roger Almond.



Commissioners L.W. "Bill" Clark and John "M" Lipton discuss matters with Governor Huckabee, AHTD Director Dan Flowers, and Dick Barclay, the Governor's Executive Director of Legislative Affairs and Budget.



Governor Huckabee with Commissioners John "M" Lipton and Herby Branscum, Jr.



Don Melton, right, the Governor's Executive Director for Local Governments and Transportation Liaison, in conversation with, left to right, Ralph Hall, Assistant Chief Engineer for Operations; Larry Dickerson, Chief Fiscal Officer; and Bob Walters, Assistant Chief Engineer for Design.



Ed Rolle, center, Executive Assistant to the Governor for Plans and Policy, visits with Public Affairs Officer Randy Ort, left, and Deputy Director and Chief Engineer Roger Almond, right.



Scott Bennett, left, Planning & Research Assistant Division Head, explains the Transportation Monitoring System to Governor Huckabee and Jim von Grep, the Governor's Executive Director of Governmental Operations.

Commission Raises Speed Limits on State's Suburban and Rural Roadways

Motorists traveling many of Arkansas' major highways are now allowed to legally drive faster.

At its July 17 meeting, the Arkansas Highway Commission voted to raise the speed limits on rural fully controlled access facilities to 70 m.p.h. for passenger cars. Speed limits for trucks with a gross weight of 20,000 pounds or more and buses designed to transport 16 or more passengers (including the driver) will remain at 65 m.p.h.

The Commission also raised speed limits on suburban freeways around the state to 60 m.p.h., including Highway 412 between Siloam Springs and Tontitown, at its August 28 meeting. The new suburban speed limits apply to both passenger cars and trucks. The new speed limits took effect on September 16 as the AHTD replaced the old signs.

Highway 412 is designated as a rural expressway with high-type partial control of access. Because of the higher level of access control, the route can adequately handle the nominal increase in the speed limit.

The highway segments in designated urban areas have characteristics that are appropriate for the current speed limit of 55 m.p.h., the Commission concluded.

The new speed limits are the

result of the repeal of the National Maximum Speed Limit (NMSL) that defined urban and rural boundaries for the purpose of setting speed limits. In urban areas, speed limits are now based upon area characteristics such as design speed, interchange spacing, traffic volume, average speed and type of traffic.

The Commission retained the 55 m.p.h. limit on Little Rock's innermost freeway sections. Those are Interstate 30 from I-40 to Highway 65; all of Interstate 630; Interstate 40 from Burns Park to Prothro Junction in North Little

Rock; and U.S. 67-167 from I-40 to Kiehl Avenue in Sherwood.

Originally, the Arkansas Highway Commission set maximum speed limits at 70 m.p.h.

In 1970 the maximum speed limit was raised to 75 m.p.h. on fully controlled access facilities. However, speeds were dropped to 55 m.p.h. nationally in 1974.

In 1987 the Commission increased speed limits to 65 m.p.h. on rural interstates. Rural controlled access facilities other than interstates (portions of Highway 65 and 67) were raised to 65 m.p.h. in 1988.



On August 19, AHTD sign crews installed 70 m.p.h. signs.

Speed limit changes

FREEWAYS WITH RURAL CHARACTERISTICS RISING TO 70 M.P.H.

- I-30 Texas state line to Mabelvale West in Little Rock
- I-40 Oklahoma state line to I-430 in Little Rock
- I-40 I-440 to State Highway 118 in West Memphis
- I-55 U.S. 64 in Marion to Missouri state line
- U.S. 63 West of Marked Tree to State Highway 18 Spur in Jonesboro
- U.S. 65 I-30 in Little Rock to Pine Bluff Bypass
- U.S. 67/167 .. Air Force Base at Jacksonville to State Highway 18 at Newport
- U.S. 71 Fayetteville Bypass to McKissic Creek
- S.H. 540 I-40 to Mountainburg



URBAN FREEWAYS REMAINING AT 55 M.P.H.

- I-30 I-440 in Little Rock to I-40 in North Little Rock
- I-40 Burns Parks to Prothro Junction in North Little Rock
- I-630 I-30 to I-430 in Little Rock
- U.S. 67-167 .. I-40 to Kiehl Avenue in Sherwood

SUBURBAN FREEWAYS OR RURAL EXPRESSWAY RISING TO 60 M.P.H.

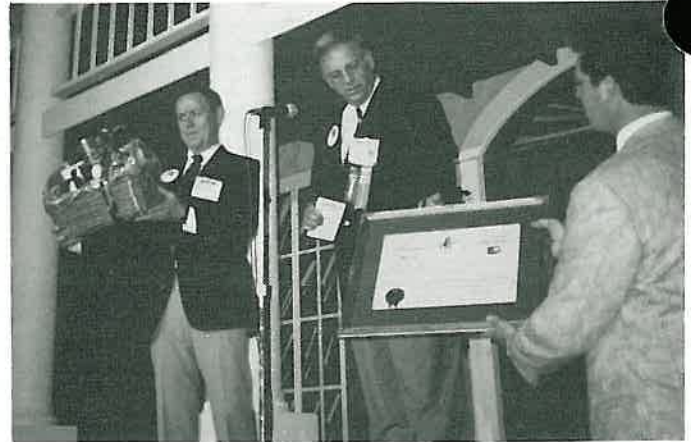
- I-30 Mabelvale West in Little Rock to I-440
- I-40 I-430 to Burns Park in North Little Rock
- I-40 Prothro Junction to I-440
- I-40 Arkansas 118 in West Memphis to Tennessee state line
- I-430 I-40 to I-30 in Little Rock
- I-440 I-30 to I-40 in Little Rock
- I-540 I-40 to Oklahoma state line
- I-55 U.S. 64 in Marion to Tennessee state line
- U.S. 63 Jonesboro Bypass (completed section)
- U.S. 71 Fayetteville Bypass
- U.S. 82 El Dorado Bypass
- U.S. 67-167 .. Kiehl Avenue to Little Rock Air Force Base in Jacksonville
- U.S. 270 Hot Springs East-West Arterial (completed section)
- U.S. 412 Siloam Springs to Tontitown
- S.H. 245 Texarkana Loop (completed section)



Flowers Elected President of SASHTO

Dan Flowers, Director of Highways and Transportation, was elected President of the Southeastern Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (SASHTO) at its annual meeting September 6-10, 1996 in Biloxi, Mississippi.

SASHTO consists of transportation officials from the states of Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia and West Virginia.



SASHTO Vice President Dan Flowers (center) presents SASHTO President and Mississippi Department of Transportation Director Dr. Robert Robinson with an Arkansas gift basket and an Arkansas Traveler certificate.



District 5 Engineer Lyndal Waits, Programs and Contracts Division Head Frank Vozel and District 1 Engineer Ray Woodruff



Dan Flowers and L.W. "Bill" Clark



Human Resources Division Head Melba Shepard with Training and Safety Section Head Wes Wimberly and Arkansas Highway Police Chief Randy Reed

SASHTO '97
Little Rock

September 12-16, 1997

Officials Celebrate 40th Anniversary of Interstate System

Statewide business and transportation industry leaders and officials joined the Arkansas State Highway Commission and Highway and Transportation Department Director Dan Flowers on June 25 to mark the celebration of the 40th anniversary of the nation's Interstate System.

Legislation creating the nation's Interstate System passed Congress on June 26, 1956. It was signed into law by President Dwight D. Eisenhower on June 29. An event marking the 40th anniversary was held in Washington, D.C. on June 26 featuring Susan Eisenhower, granddaughter of President Eisenhower, and Al Gore, Sr., father of Vice President Al Gore, Jr., who was a Senator from Tennessee who helped pass the interstate legislation in the U.S. Senate.

Construction of the interstates in Arkansas began on I-55 between the Tennessee state line and the Missouri state line. The first section of this route opened in November 1949, prior to interstate designation.

In 1975, Arkansas became the first state in the country to complete its original allotment of interstate miles. As of this year, capital investment in Arkansas' interstates totaled \$1.2 billion.

Flowers said the interstates are the most significant transportation



AHTD Director Dan Flowers, at podium, along with Highway Commissioners J.W. "Buddy" Benafield, John "M" Lipton, Chairman L.W. "Bill" Clark, and FHWA Division Administrator Bill Richardson.

system ever developed in Arkansas. "The Interstate System connects rural areas with major urban areas. It connects our citizens with neighboring states such as Missouri, Oklahoma, Tennessee and Texas and provides people with the freedom of mobility that serves as the foundation for the quality of life that we have today."

While the nation celebrated the 40th anniversary, Flowers pointed out that additional funding for the system is needed in the years ahead to enable it to meet the growing needs of Arkansas' citizens in the

21st century.

Highway Commission Chairman L.W. "Bill" Clark told the crowd that a significant challenge is ahead for the state's highway system. "For years, Arkansas has relied on user fees, primarily motor fuel taxes, to finance our road improvements on a pay-as-you-go basis. What we are seeing is an erosion of the revenue base that is used for highway purposes. We need to find a suitable form of financing that is not totally dependent upon fuel consumption."

Arkansas' First Highway Tunnel Now Under Construction

Highway Commission Hosts Legislators for Highway 71 Tour

Members of the House and Senate Committees on Public Transportation were taken on a tour of the Highway 71 Relocation project in northwest Arkansas on September 19 at the invitation of the Arkansas State Highway Commission. Committee members, Commissioners and AHTD staff were treated to a barbeque lunch at the office of L.W. Clark, Inc. in Springdale before boarding a bus for the tour.

Deputy Director and Chief Engineer Roger Almond and District 4 Engineer Harold Beaver narrated as the tour progressed south from Fayetteville on the highway's new location. The tour concluded at the Bunyard Tunnel southwest of Winslow, where participants inspected the twin tunnels under construction.



Members of the House and Senate Committees on Public Transportation of the Arkansas General Assembly, Highway Commission members and Department officials pose for a group picture in front of one of the tunnel's enormous openings.



AHTD District 4 Engineer Harold Beaver (center) explains the excavation process involved with the tunnel.



District 4 Construction Engineer Joe Shipman and Commissioner Bobby Hopper



Commissioners L.W. "Bill" Clark, J.W. "Buddy" Benafield and Herby Branscum, Jr. and State Representative Tim Wooldridge



State Representative James Jordan, left, and AHTD Deputy Director and Chief Engineer, right



AHTD Assistant Chief Engineer for Design Bob Walters, Don Felton, the Governor's Executive Director for Local Governments and Transportation Liaison, and Phil Chandler, Resident Engineer for Parson Brinkerhoff, the consulting company which oversees the tunnel construction



Transportation Committee staff members Willa Sanders and Vivian Flowers and Jane Wilson, AHTD Chief of Administration and Public Affairs



AHTD Director Dan Flowers, center, points to the retaining wall construction around the tunnel portals.



Representative B.G. Hendrix, Commissioner John "M" Lipton, Representative James Jordan and AHTD Deputy Director and Chief Engineer Roger Almond



The L.W. Clark, Inc. staff provided lunch at its Springdale office. Left to right are Steve Kirkland, Barbara Clark, Glenna Dougan, Suzanna Clark, Terry Clark, Tammy Fine, Susan Dolan and L.W. "Bill" Clark.

Materials Division Hosts AASHTO Subcommittee Meeting

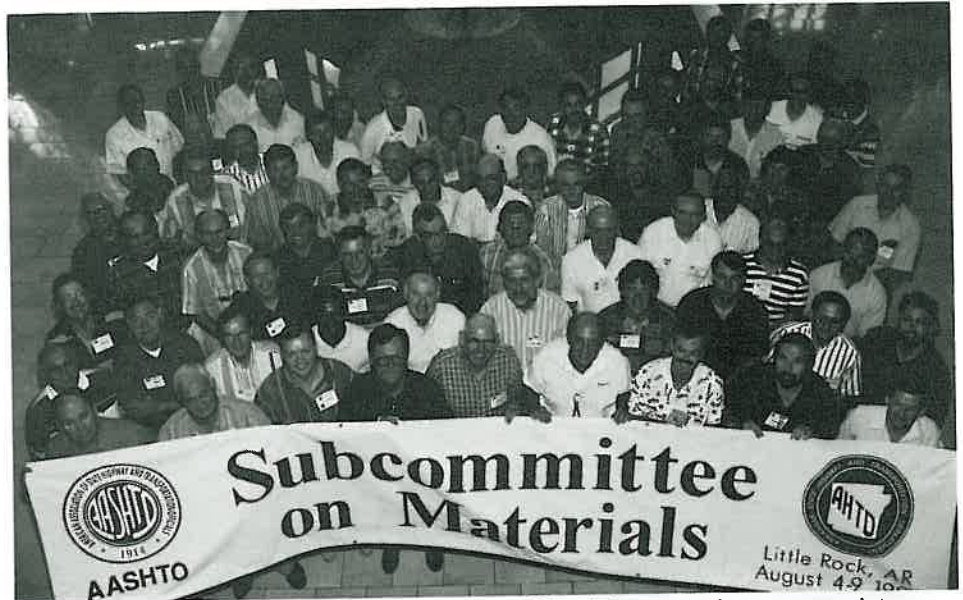
Coming from as far away as Canada, representatives of the transportation industry converged on Little Rock's Holiday Inn Select for the annual meeting of the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) Subcommittee on Materials.

Delegates from 46 states, two Canadian provinces, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and AASHTO, along with members of the Transportation Research Board (TRB) were in Little Rock August 4-9, 1996 for the conference.

The meeting focused on reviewing and revising transporta-

tion material specifications and test methods. The meeting was hosted

by the Materials Division of the AHTD.



Members of the AASHTO Subcommittee on Materials gather for a group picture.



AHTD Materials and Human Resources Division employees handled all aspects of the conference and were always available if someone needed assistance.



AHTD Director Dan Flowers welcomed the delegates during the opening session.

Public Hearing Held for North Little Rock's 37th Street

Several interested property owners were in attendance May 23 as the AHTD presented sketches and technical information regarding the 37th Street Project in North Little Rock.

The three-hour open forum public meeting was held at the North Heights Recreation Center. Proposed improvements include the widening of 37th Street to five lanes, including a continuous left-turn lane, on existing location between Camp Robinson Road and Pike Avenue.

West of Pike Avenue, the proposed roadway will consist of four travel lanes with curb and gutter on new location. The new section

will cut diagonally across existing city blocks between West 37th and West 35th Streets.

The project will help eliminate the gridlock of vehicles attempting to negotiate their way from Camp Robinson Road to MacArthur and I-40. The meeting provided local property owners and interested citizens with answers to questions surrounding the proposed road.

AHTD personnel were on hand to explain the proposed modifications, answer questions and take citizen's comments. Information on the proposed right of way appraisal and acquisition procedures as well as the environmental han-

dling documentation was also available at the meeting.

Included in the project will be an at-grade railroad crossing that will replace a crossing located about 120 feet to the southeast.

The North Little Rock City Council has approved spending nearly \$300,000 to help buy property and move utility lines for the connection project. Total land and utility relocation cost is about \$1.4 million.

The overall cost of the project is estimated at about \$3 million. North Little Rock will be responsible for another \$300,000 next year for the construction phase of the new road.

AHP Golf Tournament Aids Arkansas Special Olympics

The second annual Arkansas Highway Police Golf Tournament was held June 11, 1996, at Harbor Oaks Golf Club in Pine Bluff. Twenty-seven teams participated in the four-person scramble that netted \$4,500 for Arkansas Special Olympics.

Among the participants were Arkansas Highway Commission Chairman L.W. "Bill" Clark, Commissioner John "M" Lipton, AHTD Director Dan Flowers, Arkansas Highway Police Chief Randy Reed, Arkansas State Police Director John Bailey, Pulaski County Sheriff Randy Johnson, Pine Bluff Mayor Jerry Taylor, White Hall Mayor "Jitters" Morgan, and University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff Chancellor Dr. Lawrence Davis.

Door prizes and several hole-in-one sponsorships were donated to the event by various businesses, and each golfer was treated to a fried chicken dinner with all the trimmings at the conclusion of the day. Lori Jackson and Melvin Robinson, who are athletes in the Special Olympics program, assisted in the distribution of prizes.

"Arkansas Special Olympics is a very worthwhile program," said AHP Chief Randy Reed. "We are fortunate to be given the opportunity to contribute to such a cause through an event we all enjoy."

Winning the tournament was a team composed of AHP Cpl. Joe Lambert, AHP Pfc. Jay Thompson, AHTD Materials Division employee Harold Banks, and Roy Brooks.



L-R: AHP Captain George Coffman, Cpl. Roy Cochran, Captain James Brown, Arkansas Special Olympics Executive Director Bobby Doyle, Pfc. Jay Thompson and Cpl. John Vickers.

Eight-Mile Stretch of Highway 65 Improved to Four Lanes

An eight-mile stretch of recently four-laned Highway 65 in Chicot County was named after former State Senator Jack Gibson. A dedication ceremony was held near Lake Village on May 29.

The stretch of four-lane highway is now known as the "Jack S. Gibson Highway" in honor of the long-time legislator. The Chicot County Quorum Court passed a resolution to name the highway after Gibson.

Gibson, who was in the Arkansas Legislature for 10 years, is now Director of the Arkansas Livestock and Poultry Commission. His work has been linked to the passage of the 1991 Highway Improvement Program that will greatly improve highways across Arkansas.

Arkansas Highway Commission Chairman L.W. "Bill" Clark told the crowd that Gibson was very helpful in getting the road widened to four lanes. "When we needed a penny (an increase on the tax which would fund the pro-

gram) it was Jack Gibson who made a telephone call and got enough votes released to get the bill passed," Clark said.

Chicot County Judge Paul Fisher recognized Gibson as being instrumental in the passage of the road bill, in addition to many other pieces of legislation which helped Southeast Arkansas.



Senator Jack Gibson



Commission Chairman L.W. "Bill" Clark addresses the crowd. Left to right behind Clark are: Commissioner J.W. "Buddy" Benafield, State Senator Sam Angel, Commissioner John "M" Lipton and former State Senator Jack Gibson.

Chaney Drive Extension Dedicated in Batesville

Local leaders, dignitaries and AHTD officials were on hand August 1 to dedicate the Chaney Drive relocation project in Batesville.

AHTD Director Dan Flowers spoke to the crowd that included Senator Steve Bell of Batesville, Representative John Miller of

Melbourne, Batesville Mayor Joe Baird, Independence County Judge David Wyatt, Miss Arkansas Melonie McGarrah, Miss Batesville Allison Nail, District 5 Engineer Lyndal Waits and Batesville Resident Engineer Hulon Rice.

The project included a .232-mile extension of Myers Avenue to join St. Louis Street and Southerland Drive along with a new traffic signal.

During his speech, Flowers gave credit for Batesville area projects to the community for

working with the highway department. "If it hadn't been for the cooperation of these two working together, it would have been very difficult to get this thing done," he said. "Congratulations on a job well done."

The \$403,829.98 project gives Chaney Drive a safer connection to St. Louis Street (Highway 167). Senator Bell said local motorists will appreciate the new stretch of road and the traffic light.

Bell also praised the AHTD for its work on the project. "They are doing as well as anyone in state government about managing their funds," Bell said.



State and local officials cut the ribbon officially opening the improved section of highway.

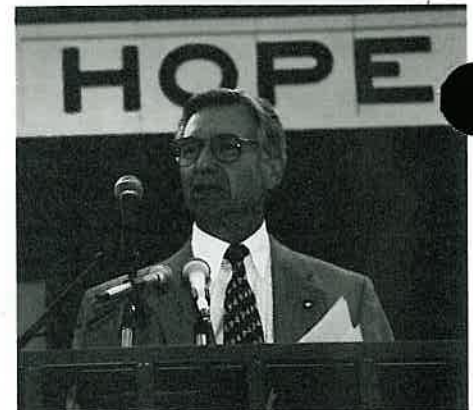
Visitor Center and Museum Dedicated at Hope

Hope rededicated its train depot on August 15 during ceremonies held in conjunction with the annual Watermelon Festival in the southwestern Arkansas city.

Arkansas Highway Commissioner John "M" Lipton was one of the featured speakers at the grand opening of the newly-named Hope Visitor Center and Museum.

Lipton told the large crowd that he is proud that the Commission could play a role in helping the city of Hope refurbish the old depot. "This was one of the first enhancement projects approved by the Commission in 1993. It was one of only 10 depot restoration projects approved in the state," Lipton said. He also noted that it was the second depot restoration project completed.

"This is an outstanding example of how city, state and federal governments can work together in a cooperative arrangement with the private sector, namely the Union Pacific Rail-



Commissioner John "M" Lipton



Governor Mike Huckabee was one of the featured speakers at the Hope dedication.

bad," Lipton noted. "By working as partners, we were able to undertake and complete this project, thus preserving a piece of history."

Other featured speakers for the event were Hope native Governor Mike Huckabee, Mayor Dennis Ramsey, and Union Pacific repre-

sentative William "Buddy" Sutton. A letter from another Hope native, President Bill Clinton, was also read during the ceremony.

The depot was originally dedicated in 1912 and the guest speaker was Charles E. Bridewell of Lake Village. Members of Bridewell's

family were also introduced during the dedication.

The structure had been serving as a maintenance building for the Union Pacific Railroad. "It has been restored to a beautiful museum and visitor information center," Lipton said.

Rededication Ceremony Held at Texarkana Tourist Information Center

Texarkana's Tourist Information Center (TIC) along the east-bound lanes of I-30 recently celebrated a much-needed facelift.

The rededication was sponsored by the Parks and Tourism staffers at the center. Highway Commissioner John "M" Lipton and AHTD Director Dan Flowers addressed the crowd and noted the changes that have been made to the center.

"This is a good example of what agencies can do when they work together," Lipton said. "A nearly obsolete facility here in Texarkana has been transformed into a showplace. As you can see, the new entrance area is a modern "mall type" layout designed to give the visitor a feeling of spaciousness," Flowers added.

Other features of the center include raised planters and redwood bench seating designed to funnel the pedestrian traffic toward the main focal points.

Flowers also pointed out that other TIC's around the state are being remodeled. "In Lake Village we have replaced siding and



In front of the Texarkana Tourist Information Center are District 3 Engineer William Tyler, Commissioner John "M" Lipton, Parks & Tourism Texarkana TIC Manager Lura Edrington, and AHTD Director Dan Flowers.

windows, planted trees and refurbished the deck. The El Dorado center has undergone a major change with the addition of planters, benches, new sod and landscaping," he added.

The funds for the project were included in a new category of the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act (ISTEA) of 1991. "They are to be used for non-typi-

cal transportation related projects," Flowers said. Examples would be sidewalks, bikeways, historic preservation and beautification.

"As Tourist Information Centers, the structures are the first or last impression of Arkansas that many tourists see, Flowers said. That is one of the main reasons we take so much pride in them."

Engineering Interns Get On-The-Job Training

In an effort to promote the transportation industry as a career, the AHTD's Engineering Intern Orientation Program was held July 17-19. This year, 57 aspiring civil engineers and 14 Career Development Program (CDP) students worked alongside their professional counterparts as they gained practical experience during their summer break from college and high school. Students from all over the state converged on the Department's 10 Districts as part of this program.

This is the fifth year of the intern program that was developed in 1991 as part of the Program for Recruitment and Retention of Civil Engineering Professionals. Since that year, 21 interns have gone on to full-time employment with the Department.

AHTD Director Dan Flowers opened the first day of the program with comments about his first

experiences with the Department.

Other speakers on the first day of the orientation program included Chief of Administration and Public Affairs Jane Wilson, Assistant Chief Engineer for Planning Steve Teague, Assistant Chief Engineer for Design Bob Walters and Assistant Chief Engineer for Operations Ralph Hall. They told the group about the importance of each of their areas of responsibility and how they mesh together to form the AHTD. Planning and Research Assistant Division Head Scott Bennett organized a guided tour of the AHTD for the young colleagues.

Intern Brian Powell, a civil engineering student at the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville, spoke to the group about the valuable experience to be gained while working at the AHTD. "We will be able to use the knowledge gained through this program and build on that when we enter the job market," Powell said.

Deputy Director and Chief Engineer Roger Almond moderated one segment of the program in which interns and staff engineers were allowed to exchange ideas, questions and comments on the roles engineers play in the Highway Department.

One unique part of this year's dinner, held at Little Rock's Otter Creek La Quinta Inn, was the addition of 14 Career Development Program students. These students were part of the first CDP class to come through the Department



Brian Powell of the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville

when they were in junior high school. The students are now 18 years or older and eligible for employment at the AHTD.

Under the Career Development Program, engineers from each AHTD district go to area junior high schools to promote engineering to the students. The Department then maintains contact with students who show an interest in engineering throughout their junior high and high school years.

Presentations on the second day offered perspectives from the planning area by Planning Engineer Joe Nelson, design by Design Engineer Dorothy Rhodes, field engineering by Advanced Construction Field Engineer Chip Johnson and personnel from Personnel Specialist Valera McDaniel.

A question and answer session led by Almond concluded the program.



Dorothy Rhodes of Roadway Design

First Summer Transportation Institute Deemed A Success for Students and Department

The first Summer Transportation Institute recently concluded after an intensive four-week program at the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff (UAPB).

The program was designed to expose select students to a variety of academic experiences intended to motivate them to consider professions in transportation. The AHTD joined the Federal Highway Administration and UAPB to engage in this newly developed program.

The project is geared toward students with an interest in science and math. It also opens lines of communication for developing scholarships, fellowship grants and employment opportunities.

AHTD Chief of Administration and Public Affairs Jane Wilson spoke to the first class of 20 students during the awards program held August 2 at UAPB. Wilson told the crowd that the AHTD was pleased to be a part of the program. "The Highway Department has traditionally supported and encouraged programs which enhance career development for the youth of our state," Wilson said.

In an effort to stay in contact with the students after they have completed the program, the AHTD is sending a birthday card to each pupil. "We want to know what happens to you when you leave," Wilson told the group. The card will include information to be returned by the student if they are



Jane Wilson
AHTD Chief of Administration
and Public Affairs



Bill Richardson
FHWA Division Administrator

interested in working for the Department while in college.

The four-week Summer Transportation Institute provides a tuition-free opportunity for young people to get firsthand college experience by living in dormitories and studying in college environments.

The selected students were involved in study time management, reviewing self-discipline topics and studying for the SAT college entrance exam.

During the four-week program, students visited the Department's Sign Shop, Highway Police, Mapping and Graphics, Photogrammetry, Computer, Materials, Environmental, selected bridge sites and the new tunnel site on Highway 71.

The Summer Transportation Institute was established after a suc-

cessful program began in South Carolina in 1993. The Federal Highway Administration, South Carolina State University and the South Carolina Department of Transportation combined to establish a partnership that enhances career awareness in the transportation industry.

In Arkansas, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) supported the program with a \$40,000 grant for the project. In future years, the Advisory Board will try to attract more funding from outside sources in an attempt to help the program grow, according to the AHTD's Advisory Board Member Valera McDaniel. "Twenty-five percent of the \$40,000 tab for the program will need to be raised from the private sector," McDaniel explained.

RETIREE PROFILE:

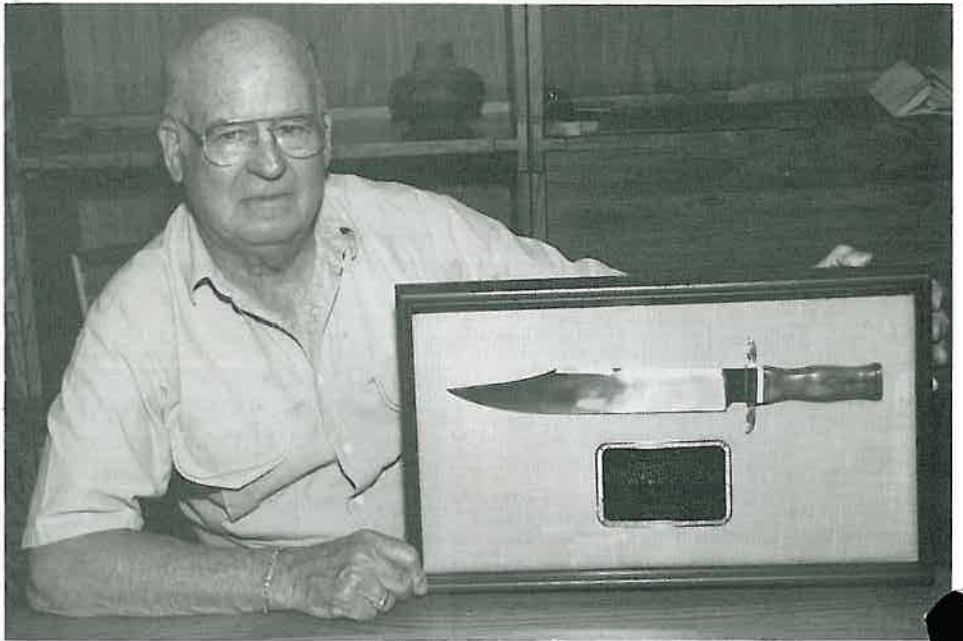
Thomas Huie Hones Hobby Into A Fine Art

Retirement can mean different things to different people, but for retired AHTD employee Thomas Huie it means sharpening his skills as a knifemaker.

Huie, who retired in June 1995 after 25 years with the Department, has been interested in knives for most of his life. "I considered trying to make one for several years, but it took a trip to Jimmy Lile's showroom in Russellville in the mid-1980's to really get me interested," Huie said. In the world of knifemaking, Lile is known for his unique knives and is considered one of the most recognized artisans of the trade.

Making the knife functional as well as a work of art is one of Huie's goals. "My wife Betty gives me lots of constructive input on my handles," he said. Huie's hobby has brought him much acclaim, but he prefers word of mouth advertising as opposed to gun and knife shows. Huie recently made a special knife for AHTD Director Dan Flowers. "Take a look at the workmanship and beauty," Flowers said as he showed off the knife.

A friend in Las Vegas asked Huie to bring him a knife from 'that guy in Russellville.' "My interest grew after I went to Jimmy Lile's and purchased my first handmade knife for my friend," he said. Huie went at his new hobby in much the same way he approached his job as a Senior Construction



Thomas Huie, retired District 5 employee, with his handmade "Arkansas Bowie"

"Making the knife functional as well as a work of art is one of my goals."



Huie uses several unique materials, such as deer and elk antlers and pecan wood, to make his knife handles.



Sanding the blade down with a belt sander gives a rough finish before he proceeds with the final polishing.

Inspector for the District 5 Resident Engineer's office at Searcy. "I did a great deal of research at the local library and read everything on the subject of knifemaking that I could find," Huie explained.

"I also spent some time with a well-known knifemaker from Plummerville named Art Wiman who gave me some good pointers," he added.

After his research, Huie made his first knife and immediately looked forward to his next project. "I would always draw on paper the shape I was looking for," Huie said. "I always consider the handle of a knife as the personality. There are so many choice hardwoods, animal antlers and other materials available for making a fine knife handle," he explained.



Huie shows off several of his handmade knives in his Augusta home.

*"I consider the handle
of a knife
as the personality."*

Thomas Huie

Huie personalizes his knives with what he calls the "Cache River Side Notch" derived from the arrowheads he collects from the Cache River near his Augusta home.

It is not unusual for Huie to spend as much as 25 hours on a single knife. "I try to make two or three knives a month," he said.

"When I retired, I thought I would work in my shop for about four hours a day, but I decided that interfered with other things that I wanted to do," he added.

His largest knife, one that took him approximately 80 hours to make, is a 12-inch "Arkansas Bowie" which has a walnut handle along with an 1836 silver peso and an 1898 American silver dollar embedded.

Besides fishing and trips to the casinos in Mississippi and Las Vegas, Huie likes to spend time with his three-year-old grandson.



Polishing the blade using a round file and a small piece of fine sandpaper gives the knife a smooth, polished surface.

District 2 Employee, Ronnie Clark, Attempts To Save Woman From Burning House

Ronnie Clark, General Laborer for the District 2 Jefferson County maintenance crew, thought he was having a typical day on the job when he went to work June 13. Little did he know this day would turn out to be very different.

Clark, who began employment with the Department in May, was working along Highway 365 near Redfield picking up limbs and trash when he noticed smoke billowing out of a wood-framed house just off the highway. "When I saw the smoke I remembered saying, 'Oh my goodness!'" Clark said.

Without thinking, Clark ran to the house yelling to see if anyone was inside. "I saw three cars in the yard and I thought someone might be home," he said. After pulling the storm door off its hinges, the heat and smoke came rolling out. "That's when the smoke hit me in the face," he explained. Clark immediately dropped to his knees and crawled into the burning house. "I started yelling and heard the voice of a woman trying to answer me," he said.

Clark tried to crawl deeper into the house, but portions of the ceiling began to fall on him and the intense heat and smoke forced him out of the house. His orange safety vest was partially melted from the fire. "I yelled one last time that I would be back, but I didn't hear any response," he said. "I knew that it was probably too late when

she didn't answer me," he added.

Clark jumped into his AHTD truck and sped to a nearby grocery store instructing the employees to call 911. "I went back and got one of the neighbors to help me. We



**Ronnie Clark, General Laborer
Jefferson County maintenance crew**

tried to get the windows open, but every time we got one open, the smoke would come rolling out," Clark said.

The White Hall Fire Department arrived a short time later, but the house was completely engulfed and almost burned to the ground. Etta Mae Sanders, 70, of Jefferson, was pronounced dead at the scene of smoke inhalation.

Clark said he regrets that he wasn't able to rescue the woman, but felt good about the number of people who attempted to help during the crisis.

"There were people stopping all over the highway and trying to help. It just goes to show that there are still some decent people in the world," he added.



All that remains of the home on Highway 365

AHTD PROMOTIONS:



Gaither

Jim Gaither **Right of Way Division Head**

Jim Gaither, Assistant Division Head of the Right of Way Division was promoted to Division Head effective October 10, 1996.

He is a graduate of Ouachita Baptist University in Arkadelphia with a bachelor's degree in biology.

Gaither began his employment with the Department in 1972 as a Right of Way Technician. In 1973 he transferred to the Environmental Division where he served in various positions and was promoted to Assistant Division Head of Environmental in 1980. He served in that capacity until 1991 when he transferred back to the Right of Way Division as Assistant Division Head.

Gaither, a native of Morrilton, currently resides in Saline County with his wife Becky. They have twin sons and a daughter.

Charles Clements **Roadway Design Assistant Division Head**



Clements

Charles Clements, Staff Design Engineer, was promoted to Roadway Design Assistant Division Head effective August 1.

He is a 1974 graduate of the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville with a bachelor's degree in civil engineering and is a registered professional engineer. He began his career with the Department in 1975 in Roadway Design serving in various positions before attaining his current position of Staff Design Engineer, Section Head of Primary Design.

He and his wife Debbie reside in Sherwood and have two sons, David and Mark.



Littleton

Tommy Littleton **District 8 Construction Engineer**

Tommy Littleton, Staff Construction Engineer for the Construction Division, was promoted to District Construction Engineer for District 8 at Russellville effective July 11.

He is a 1977 graduate of the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville with a bachelor's degree in civil engineering and is a registered professional engineer. Littleton began his career with the Department in 1977 in the Planning and Research Division after completion of the Engineering Orientation Program. He held several positions in the Programs and Contracts Division prior to his promotions to Assistant Resident Engineer in Little Rock; Resident Engineer in Hot Springs and Staff Maintenance Engineer. Littleton, a native of Russellville, and his wife Gale have one son.

Danny Keene **Facilities Management Section Head**

Danny Keene, Civil Engineer III for the Facilities Management Section of the Maintenance Division, was promoted to Section Head of Facilities Management effective August 1.



Keene

He is a 1986 graduate of the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville with a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering. Keene began his career with the Department in 1986 as an Inspector for Facilities Management assisting in the coordination of maintenance of Department buildings and rest areas. He and his wife Tracy live in Benton.

Jim Barton **Staff Construction Engineer**

Jim Barton, Resident Engineer at Yellville in District 9, was promoted to Staff Construction Engineer for the Construction Division, effective

July 11.

He is a 1978 graduate of Louisiana Tech University in Ruston with a bachelor's degree in civil engineering and is a registered professional engineer. A native of Monticello, he began his career with the Department in the Surveys Division after completion of the Engineering Orientation Program. He has served as Construction Project Supervisor for the Hot Springs Residency and Assistant Resident Engineer at Hope. Barton and his wife Julie, have two children and reside in Bryant.



Barton



Merritt

Keith Merritt **P&R Technical Services Engineer**

Keith Merritt, General Design Section Head in the Roadway Design Division, has been selected to head the Technical Services Section of the Planning and Research Division effective August 15.

He is a 1974 graduate of the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville with a bachelor's degree in civil engineering and is a registered professional engineer. Merritt began his career with the Department in 1979 and has held several design positions before his promotion to Section Head in 1988. He and his wife Sherry reside in Hot Springs.

Roadway Design **Promotions**

Brooks Booher, Hydrologic Engineer, was promoted to Staff Hydraulic Engineer for the Hydraulic Section of the Roadway Design Division effective September 26. He began his career in Construction at the Texarkana Residency.

He later transferred to the Hydraulics Section where he served in various positions attaining the position of Hydrologic Engineer.

Martin Cruce, Senior Design Engineer, was promoted to Staff Design Engineer for the General Design Section effective September 26. He began his career with the Department in 1980 in the Roadway Design Division.

He has served in various positions in the division, attaining the position of Senior Design Engineer in the Freeway Design Section.

Bob Green, Senior Design Engineer, was promoted to Staff Design Engineer for the Primary Design Section effective September 26. He began his career in the Construction Division and later transferred to Roadway Design where he has served in various positions.

All are civil engineer graduates of the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville and registered professional engineers.



Cruce, Booher, Green



Comments to the Department

Dan Flowers
Director of Highways and Transportation

Thank you for meeting with us last week and assisting with the dedication of the Chaney Drive relocation project. We always enjoy having you in Batesville, and this project is especially helpful both from a safety and convenience aspect. The new street is already being well used and the traffic signal makes the traffic in that part of town run much more smoothly and safely.

The improvements that the AHTD has accomplished in our area over the past several years has played a major role in the continuing economic growth of our area. The work that you and your staff do, along with the support of the commissioners is appreciated very much. Thank you again for meeting with us and being a part of the festivities.

Nelson Barnett
Executive Director
Batesville Area Chamber of Commerce



Dan Flowers, AHTD Director

Dan Flowers
Director of Highways and Transportation

On Saturday, July 27, 1996, Saline and Pulaski Counties experienced a flash flood causing Interstate 30 to be closed for a time. Your highway personnel were extremely helpful to us by erecting signs and placing barricades in needed areas. Your personnel kept us informed of the road conditions and water levels in a very professional manner. Your employees set an outstanding example for your department.

Again your assistance is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,
John E. Chambers, Captain
Commander, Troop A
Arkansas State Police

Lyndal Waits
District 5 Engineer
Batesville

I want to take this opportunity to express my appreciation and the appreciation of the citizens of Stone County for the tremendous job done by the employees of the State Highway Department in Stone County after the tornado that touched down in our county on April 14.

Their tireless efforts to clear the roadways of downed trees and debris are to be commended.

Thanks again,
Fred Black
Sheriff of Stone County



Stone County maintenance crew



David Darkin and Charles Johnson

Joe Barnett
District 10 Engineer
Paragould

Just want to let you know how much we appreciate all the work that has been done at the Blytheville Tourist Information Center.

The landscaping is something to be proud of. The work that has been done on the picnic tables and rest rooms are certainly a nice asset. We have really been getting some excellent comments about how nice and clean everything is.

Bill Currie, Mary Allen and Charles Johnson deserve a big thanks and a lot of credit for working so hard and keeping things in good shape while we have been going through all of this. David Darkin did a good job overseeing that everything was done correctly.

Sincerely,
Wanda Ogilvie, Manager
Blytheville Tourist Information Center

Arkansas Highway Police
Chief Randy Reed

On Saturday, July 20, 1996, my wife, granddaughter and I were returning to Memphis, Tennessee from Jonesboro. As we were traveling south on I-55 near the weigh station at Marion, the right rear tire blew out and we had to stop in front of the weigh station. As I prepared to change the tire I ask my wife and granddaughter to get completely away from the car and the interstate. As it was very hot that day they went and sat in the shade of the weigh station.

At this time, Pfc. Daniel Morales, who was already off duty at this time, saw them sitting in the heat. He invited them to come inside the station where Pfc. Elaine Fitzpatrick offered them a cool glass of water. At this time, Officer Morales came to help me with the tire changing. He just took over and did the work for me. When the spare was mounted, Officer Morales invited me into the station to wash my hands and he gave me a cold glass of water.

I want to commend Pfc. Morales and Pfc. Fitzpatrick for their hospitality and kindness shown to me and my family. You and your staff can be proud of the way these two represent your department.

My wife and I will be eternally grateful for what they did to help us. Their actions turned what could have been a catastrophe into a rather pleasant experience.

Sincerely,
Arnold Prather
Memphis, Tennessee

Arkansas Highway Police
Dear Sirs:

At a time when the police departments across the country are receiving so much negative publicity, I want to express my sincere appreciation for the courteous assistance provided by Lt. Frank Hamrick and Pfc. Mildred Riley stationed at the weigh station on Interstate 55.

My most prized possession, my wife, became separated from me as we were driving north. Their assistance in reuniting us will not be forgotten.

Sincerely,
John Beatty
Mission, Texas



Left to right are Lt. Frank Hamrick, Pfc. Mildred Riley, Pfc. Elaine Fitzpatrick and Ptl. Daniel Morales, members of the Arkansas Highway Police stationed at the Marion weigh station.

Harold Beaver
District 4 Engineer
Fort Smith

The Franklin County maintenance crew of the State Highway Department responded immediately to the county's request for assistance during the recent storm damage in the Fern area of our county. Clearing and opening the roads was essential so that emergency services could enter the area.

These individuals worked quickly and diligently together with the County Road Department personnel toward providing access to the disaster area and then remaining as long as necessary to aid citizens whose property was damaged.



Franklin County maintenance crew

Sincerely,
Joe Powell
Franklin County Judge

Ms. Jane Wilson
Chief of Administration and Public Affairs

I want to congratulate one of your employees, Patricia Greenway, for finding eleven watches that had been stolen from our dealership earlier in the day. The value was approximately \$1100. Mrs. Greenway's honesty and integrity is something that you should be proud of as we are. Please convey our thanks to Mrs. Greenway.

Sincerely,
Emmett Jones, President
Jones Harley-Davidson
Little Rock



Patricia Greenway, Office Administrative Assistant III for the Reproduction Section of Program & Contracts

Arkansas Highway Department
Fordyce, Arkansas

As Dallas County Judge, and on behalf of the Dallas County Quorum Court, I want to take this opportunity to commend you for your prompt attention to the tornado victims in Manning.

Everyone went the extra mile to provide assistance as quickly as possible. There were extra hours involved in clearing the roads of trees and getting the electric and telephone services returned. There were many other services performed to aid the citizens in trying to help them during this crisis.

Also, a special commendation will be awarded to Auxiliary Deputy Roger Seale for alarming the community that the tornado was coming. I believe that the loss of lives was prevented because of his heroic efforts.

Manning was spared even more devastation because so many of you joined together in this time of need. This type of community effort is one of the things that makes Dallas County a great place to live.

Once again I want to thank you for the part you played in an outstanding job performed during this disaster.

Sincerely,
Troy Bradley
Dallas County Judge



Fordyce maintenance crew



Tim Leet, Communications Operator

Arkansas Highway Police
Chief Randy Reed

My daughter, Heather Phillips, is a student at the University of Memphis. She frequently travels I-40 on a year-round basis. On Wednesday, July 17, her car broke down at mile marker 199. This was the first, and hopefully the last, time she has had car trouble. However, the experience was less traumatic as the result of the actions taken by the Arkansas Highway Police; specifically, the officer in Unit 184, either David Smith or Brad Perkins, and Tim Leet in your Little Rock dispatch area.

The officer in Unit 184 (my daughter failed to get the officer's name) was very helpful and tried to determine what was broken on her car. After surveying the damage, he radioed your dispatch and had Mr. Leet call me to advise the situation. Through the communications, I asked the officer to take Heather

to a safe area until I could travel approximately four hours to fix her car. He took her six miles to a Haz restaurant where she waited comfortably until I arrived.

Please give both officers and anyone else who was involved a special thanks for their handling of the situation. They should receive a commendation for their caring and professionalism as they calmed a very scared young lady and placed her in a safe haven until help arrived.

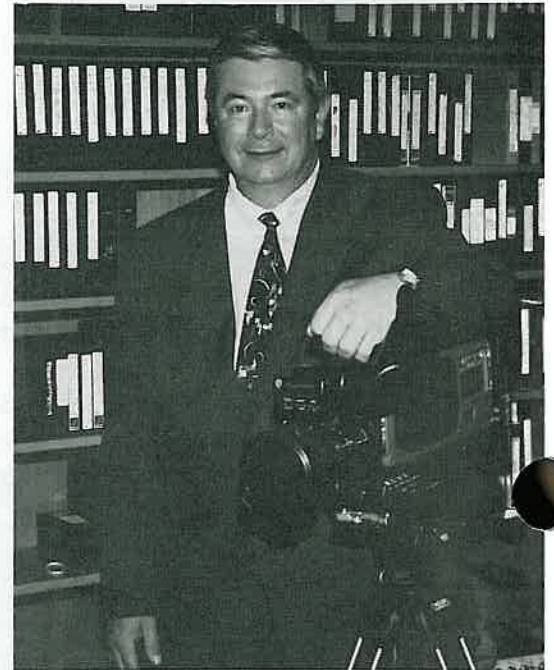
My wife and I, as well as Heather, want to express our appreciation and thanks for the efforts of the Arkansas Highway Police, especially the officers mentioned above. Respect and admiration for your department increased threefold as a result of their actions.

Thank you again,
Gary and Pat Phillips

AHTD Human Resources Division
Wes Wimberly
Section Head, Training & Safety

Thank you very much for your help in locating a training video for our flaggers. It has helped tremendously with traffic control while our crews are working along Highway 412. I appreciate your generosity.

Sincerely,
Kim Chaffin
Human Resource Manager
Paragould City Light & Water



Wes Wimberly, Section Head, Training & Safety
Human Resources Division



Alvin Vaughn
Howard County Area Maintenance Supervisor

William Tyler, District 3 Engineer
Hope, Arkansas

On behalf of the city of Nashville, we would like to thank you, your department, and especially Alvin Vaughn, Howard County Area Maintenance Supervisor at Nashville, for facilitating the Highway 371 project; the widening of the street between 4th Street and Mount Pleasant Drive.

It is a pleasure to see construction and utility companies working together to get a project accomplished.

Sincerely,
Bo Castleberry
Mayor of Nashville

Roger Cox
Public Works Director of Nashville



Connis Ingram

Baxter County Area Maintenance Supervisor

His relationship with our street department is very good. His cooperation results in better, more efficient public service from both the city and state.

Dan Flowers

Director of Highways and Transportation

I just wanted to let you know how grateful I am to you and the AHTD on behalf of our city. We were delighted to find the traffic signalization at Highway 201 south of Mountain Home and the intersections of Coley Drive and North Street has been approved. We have very serious problems with traffic danger in both of these areas and sincerely appreciate your prompt response. I was delighted to be able to announce the approval at our recent council meeting and at a meeting of our town's planning commission.

I've told many of our citizens on several occasions that the AHTD has been more than kind to our city in every way. As a fast-growing city enduring the "good" pains of growth, we have had to ask for a lot of help from the state. You and many other members of the staff have been wonderful.

Thanks again - and thanks, too, for having someone as wonderful and responsive as Connis Ingram here to help us. He has never failed to take our troubles seriously and to act as quickly as humanly possible to address them. He is an asset to our community and has helped us more times than I can count.

Sincerely,

Carol Howell

City of Mountain Home



Map Sales personnel Patsy Long and Mitzi Dunn

AHTD Map Sales

Enclosed is a check for the attached invoice. Thank you for your help and consideration. Please let me take this opportunity to compliment your staff. Everyone we encountered was very polite, helpful and patient. This was very much appreciated on my part, because I am from out of state and quite often in my travels I am treated rudely.

Again thank you,
Darlene McNeely
Phoenix, Arizona

Gene Lee

White County Area Maintenance Supervisor

It was a pleasure meeting you last Tuesday. I wanted you to know how much I appreciate your assistance in getting me back to Little Rock after my AHTD pool car broke down in Searcy. It was a frustrating experience but comforting to know that help was just around the corner. Thank you for arranging my transportation so quickly and your professional and friendly staff for coming to my rescue.

Please convey my sincere appreciation to three members of your staff. Their cheerful and positive attitude helped turn an unpleasant experience into a pleasant afternoon. Irvin Curd, Lead Person, and Johnnie Goodman, Distributor/Roller Operator, responded to my emergency telephone call and arrived almost immediately to offer assistance. After determining the car could not be fixed on the spot, they packed up my baggage, took me to the shop and assured me arrangements would be made for my return home.

Please also express my special thanks to Irma Collins, Crew Leader, who was such a congenial companion to wait after-hours with me for the arrival of another pool car from Batesville.

Thanks again to you all,
Ann Shaw McGibbony,
Public Information and Education Program Manager
Traffic Safety Section of Programs and Contracts

Dan Flowers

Director of Highways and Transportation

My name is Patti Dempsey. My husband works for the AHTD in Sevier County. I want to take this time to say thank you for having someone like Diann Gwatney on your staff. She recently helped us with a problem we had with our health insurance. We had exhausted all possibilities, then I called Ms. Gwatney. She said not to give up on her and she was right. She helped us out of a problem we could not have handled ourselves.

She is a great asset to your Department as I am sure you know. Thank you for having a person like her on your team.

Sincerely,
Richard and Patti Dempsey



Irma Collins and Johnnie Goodman



Diann Gwatney
Insurance Representative

Dan Flowers
 Director of Highways and Transportation

I would like to take this opportunity to express my appreciation for all the help Mr. James Owens, Miller County Area Maintenance Supervisor, provides to us. He works closely with my road department and is always most courteous and very professional. His willingness to work with us is a tremendous help. Every time we call upon Mr. Owens, he responds. His efforts mean a lot to me and this county.

All of the other engineers and other highway personnel in our district are friendly, professional, and assist when they can. We have worked closely with the engineers and they have provided us with any information and assistance that we have requested.

You can be proud of the people you have representing you here in Texarkana and Miller County. Please express my deepest appreciation to them.

If I can ever be of any assistance to you or your people, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,
 Hubert Easley
 Miller County Judge

IN MEMORY

EMPLOYEES

Robert Steven Glover
 District 8
 Resident Engineer
 died July 24, 1995

Charles Arthur Janes
 District 9
 Skill Trades Trainee
 died July 28, 1996

RETIREES

James O. Hawley
 District 5
 died March 2, 1996

Ima Jean Kittler
 Permits
 died April 16, 1996

Dee Dale Edens
 District 9
 died May 18, 1996

Larkin Herman Gilbert
 District 7
 died July 13, 1996

Walter L. Owen
 District 1
 died March 4, 1996

Jesse Timothy Files
 District 7
 died April 22, 1996

Lawrence Paul Carlson
 Bridge
 died May 28, 1996

James Doyl Holman
 District 4
 died July 17, 1996

Charles Douglas Reynolds
 District 1
 died March 7, 1996

Henry W. Garner
 District 7
 died April 30, 1996

Fred Artis Johnson
 District 5
 died May 29, 1996

Erma M. Jetton
 Computer Services
 died July 22, 1996

James K. Mathis
 District 5
 died March 8, 1996

Clarence Edward Saffel
 District 3
 died May 2, 1996

Neal Peacock
 District 2
 died June 13, 1996

Otha Hewitt
 Traffic Services
 died July 27, 1996

Harry Henry Miller
 District 1
 died April 7, 1996

Fay I. Barber
 District 4
 died May 6, 1996

R.C. Chisom
 District 2
 died June 16, 1996

Ermon D. Hill
 District 8
 died July 31, 1996

Kermit S. Wendell
 District 7
 died April 8, 1996

William J. Ellison
 District 6
 died May 13, 1996

Ned Brown Breashears
 District 8
 died June 22, 1996

Lawrence W. Montgomery
 District 6
 died April 14, 1996

William L. Gingerich
 District 6
 died May 13, 1996

Homer C. Allen
 District 34
 died July 3, 1996

AROUND THE DEPARTMENT

ASSISTANT CHIEF ENGINEER FOR DESIGN



Kati Martin, 15-year old granddaughter of Administrative Assistant I Benny and Jerry Robbins, is a member of the Shadows Fast Pitch Tournament Softball Team in Grand Rapids, Texas. Kati, daughter of Vickie and Pat Martin, is the only freshman on the varsity team and was voted First Team All District and District State Newcomer.

ASSISTANT CHIEF ENGINEER FOR PLANNING



Rachel Elaine Teague is a 1996 graduate of Pulaski Academy High School. She is the daughter of Assistant Chief Engineer for Planning Steve and Nell Teague.

COMPUTER SERVICES



Service awards, L-R: Margaret Sithong, Senior Programmer/Analyst, 10 years; Dana Benetz, Computer Technician III, 15 years; Mary Green, Data Control Clerk, 20 years; Ron Mitchell, Senior Software Analyst, 10 years; Harold McNeely, Senior Automation Engineer, 15 years

CONSTRUCTION



Promotions, L-R: Jim Barton, Staff Construction Engineer; Terry Wildbur, Administrative Aide V; Ron Price, Contract Estimates Section Head; Robyn Jackson, Office Administrative Assistant I; Phyllis Barnett-Cook, Office Administrative Assistant I



Chuck Holland, left, Final Estimates Squad Leader, accepts a 15-year service award from State Construction Engineer Allan Holmes.



Blake Anthony Fite is the grandson of Karen Turner, Final Estimates Squad Leader, and James Turner, Senior Inspector for the Hot Springs Residency. Blake is the son of Amy and Shane Fite and was born June 18.

The Construction Office bid farewell to Tommy Littleton, Staff Construction Engineer, in June when he was promoted to District 8 Construction Engineer at Russellville. We welcome Jim Barton as his replacement. Jim was the Resident Engineer at Yellville. Also new to Construction is Phyllis Barnett-Cook from the Permit Section of Highway Police and Robyn Jackson who transferred from Environmental.

Working with us for the summer was Ashley Epperson and Shanalee Curtis. We wish them the best as they return to school.

ENVIRONMENTAL

Assistant Division Head Bill Richardson has been selected president of the South Central Chapter of the Society of Wetland Scientists. The society's purpose is to operate solely and exclusively as a charitable and educational organization to foster conservation and understanding of wetlands.

Tony Moore, General Laborer, joined the Department in March and works with the enhancement and restoration of wetlands impacted by highway construction.

April Higgins began as an Environmental Technician in May. Her duties include wetland mitigation and enhancement programs.

Environmental had 13 seasonal employees as part of the Department's summer employment program. Bill Bailey is completing his degree in biology this fall.

Nicole Moore is a senior pre-dental student and cheerleader at the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff.

Kelli Stobaugh is in graduate school after completing her requirements for a biology degree at the University of Central Arkansas.

Christopher Sebourm is a junior at Henderson State University pursuing a degree in biology.

Holly Cherice Jones is a sophomore at Hendrix College.

Mike McFarland, of Bryant, is a junior biology major at the University of Central Arkansas.

Jonathan Mosby is a junior at the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff majoring in biology.

Dain Carver is a sophomore at Ouachita Baptist majoring in biology.

Ryan Dawson is a recent graduate of Benton High School.

Dana Hamilton is majoring in accounting at Ouachita Tech in Malvern.

Sabrina Hardcastle recently completed her studies in wildlife management.

Amber Besancon is attending the University of Arkansas pursuing a degree in business management.

Alica Ballou is a high school COE student and will remain with the department this fall.

EQUIPMENT AND PROCUREMENT

Dewayne Combs, Buyer, was recognized for his 35 years of service with an informal dinner at Steak n' Ale Restaurant May 11.

Ricky Cranford, Welder, transferred to the Public Transportation Section of Planning and Research and Judith Orrick transferred from District 6 as Division Bookkeeper.



Maxine Shaff, Bookkeeper, retired in June and was presented with a 19" color TV/VCR from her co-workers.



Teri McConnell, former COE student, is now fulltime as an Office Administrative Assistant I.



Margaret Besancon, Office Administrative Assistant I, transferred to the Traffic Safety Section of Programs and Contracts.

HIGHWAY POLICE



Henry Glenn McCoy II, son of Glenn and Gayle McCoy, is a 1996 graduate of Bryant High School.

INTERNAL AUDIT



Shirley Wesson McElroy, Office Administrative Assistant IV, recently celebrated 25 years of service.



Mack King, Electronic Data Processing Auditor, joined the Department in July. He is a certified public accountant and a graduate of Delta State University in Cleveland, Mississippi. He is married and has two children.

MAINTENANCE



Keith Briggs, left, Heavy Bridge Maintenance Supervisor, accepts a 20-year service award from Heavy Bridge Maintenance Engineer David Lambert.



Pat Sullivan, left, Staff Maintenance Engineer, presents Tom Baker, Lowboy/Float Truck Driver, a 5-year service award.

MATERIALS

Melaney Gee, daughter of Division Head Jim Gee, graduated from the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences with a master's degree in microbiology and immunology. She will enter veterinary school at Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge this fall.

Shawn Hasley began work as the District Laboratory Technician in Hope. He replaces Rod Cole who transferred to the Hope Residency.

Materials summer employees this year included Lyndrick Nelson, Andrea Simpson and Karin Hall working in the central laboratory. They all will be attending the University of Arkansas at Little Rock this fall.

Jason Bruce and Amy King are working with District 4 Materials Supervisor Don Griffin. Jason will be attending West Ark Community College and Amy will attend the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville.

Mike Hayes is working with District 8 Materials Supervisor Sonny Loftland and will attend the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville.

Harold Banks, Materials Technician IV, one of 140 participates in the Caddo-Ebony Golf Tournament in Shreveport, Louisiana which provides college scholarships. Harold won first place and was low medalist.

Materials Area Engineer Dale Gossien and his golden retriever, "Shoreland's Chasing Buckaroux" recently scored 195 1/2 points out of a possible 200 at an obedience match in Shreveport, Louisiana.

PLANNING AND RESEARCH

Welcome to Julia Hart, Administrative Aide V, from Environmental and Jerry Dixon, Administrative Assistant III, from Programs and Contracts.

Sheila Neighbors, Planning Technician II, transferred from Statewide Planning to Finance and Economics and Margaret Donnelly promoted to Office Administrative Assistant III in Statewide Planning from the T² Program.

Shelley Miller was promoted to Transportation Management Technician II in Technical Services to work with the ARAN equipment.

Rick Cranford promoted from Equipment and Procurement to Public Transportation as the Public Transportation Coordinator and James "Scooter" Key transferred to Research as a Research Assistant from Materials.

David Lumbert, Engineering Research Technician, received a 10-year service award in July.

Statewide Planning's summer employees included Terry Esper, Tammy Howard, Felicia Girley and Kelly Garlington. In Technical Services were Sharlan Caviness, Leslie Pevytoe, J.P. Roberts and Bonnie Williams.



Research summer employees, kneeling L-R: Gary Gowda and Michael Kelley. Standing: Yanajun Qui and Shirley Stafford.

The Research Section welcomed summer employees Michael Kelley for a third year and Gary Gowda for a second summer. Newcomers included Yanajun Qui and Shirley Stafford. Michael is a senior mechanical engineering student at the University of Oklahoma. Gary and Yanajun are civil engineering students at the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville and Shirley is a freshman at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock.



Jim Kauffman, Planning Technician II in Technical Services, and Kathy Metcalf were married June 28 in Harrison.



Perry William Mills, son of Richard and Gabriell Mills, was born April 15. Richard is a Research Study Engineer in Statewide Planning.

PROGRAMS AND CONTRACTS



Weslee Dawn Bettis, daughter of Programs and Contracts Engineer I John and Heidi Bettis, was born March 9.



Brent Austin Remow is the grandson of Patricia Greenway, Office Administrative Assistant III in Reproduction. He was born January 26.

ROADWAY DESIGN

Paul DeBusk, Division Head of Roadway Design, retired June 30 with over 35 years of service. Co-workers presented him with a gift on his last day.



Reid Beckel, Consultant Coordinator, retired July 12 with 16 years service.

STATE AID



Bryan Austin Oldham is the grandson of Barbara Croswell, Office Administrative Assistant V and great-grandson of retired Photographer Johnnie Gray.

SURVEYS



Sam Johnson, left, Staff Surveys Engineer, presents a 10-year service award to Paul Womack, Surveys Technician II.

DISTRICT ONE



Five-year service awards: A.A. Carter, Area Headquarters Attendant; Elbert Fobbs, Guard; Tony Palmer, Street Sweeper Operator



Five-year service awards: Billy Garland, Welder; John Word, Single Axle Truck Driver



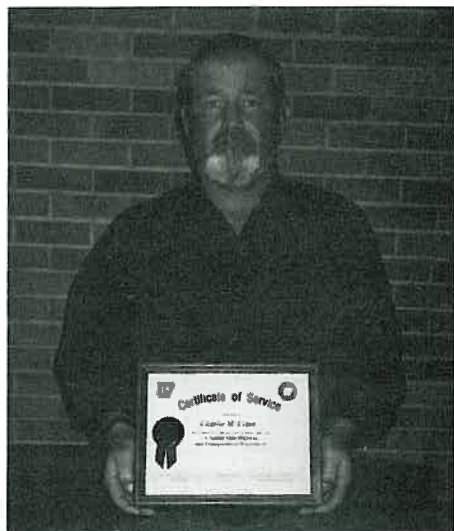
Ten-year service awards: Danny Bramel, Area Headquarters Attendant; Leroy Dinwiddie, Multi-Axle Truck Driver; Edward Frierson, Single Axle Truck Driver



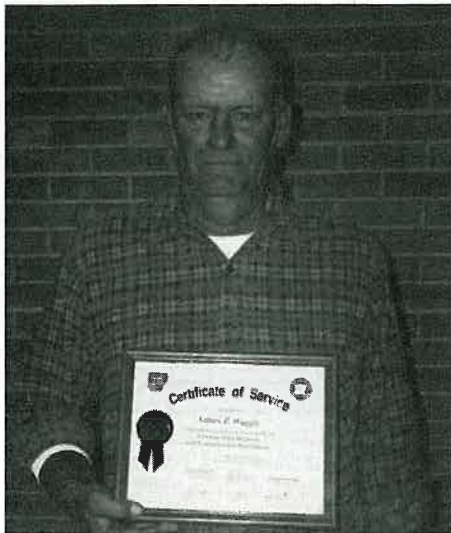
Ten-year service awards: Larry Clark, Motor Patrol Operator, Woodruff County; James Darden, Paver Operator, Districtwide maintenance crew; Terry Emerson, Vegetation Controller, St. Francis County; Alan Hutto, Guard, District Headquarters; Ronnie Johnson, Vegetation Controller, Cross County



Jim Smith, left, West Memphis Resident Engineer presents a 10-year service award to Assistant Resident Engineer Joe Sartini.



C.M. "Butch" Fryer, St. Francis County Crew Leader, receives a 15-year service award.



James Waggle, Motor Patrol Operator/Finish, Monroe County maintenance crew, receives a 20-year service award.



Charles Aldridge, Senior Mechanic and Floyd Eskridge, Cross County Lead Person, were the first place winners for bream fishing.



Three-year safety award: Juanita Fitts, Bridge Inspector Helper and Ron Ellis, Bridge Inspector



Three-year safety award: Roger Johnson, Construction Helper I and Joel Davis, District Bridge Inspector



Marlin Jarrett, Multi-Axle Truck Driver, Districtwide maintenance crew, receives a 20-year service award.



One-year safety award: Cross County maintenance crew



Five-year safety award: Monroe County maintenance crew



Jimmy Pulley and Jerry Mitchell, Bridge Repairers II, were the first place winners for bass fishing in the District One annual fishing contest held April 19 at Village Creek State Park.



Two-year safety award: Wynne Residency. Also pictured is new Field Clerk, Lisa Cleveland.



Nine-year safety award: Districtwide sign crew



Ten-year safety award:
Phillips County maintenance crew



Max Bagwell, District Construction Engineer, presents Mary Lynn Sutton, Office Technician at the McGehee Residency, a 20-year service award.



Eighteen-year accident free safety award:
West Helena Resident Engineer Office



District Engineer Jim Briley, left, and District Maintenance Engineer Ernie Westfall, right, present Jefferson County Area Maintenance Supervisor Edward Pridgeon a 25-year service award.

DISTRICT TWO



Wanda Phillips, Stock Clerk, receives a 5-year service award from Hellen Kennedy, Stockroom Supervisor.



D.W. Miles, Drew County Area Maintenance Supervisor, presents a 10-year service award to Brian Wells, Vegetation Controller.



1995 Safety Awards, L-R: Grant County Area Maintenance Supervisor Paul Griffith; Arkansas County Area Maintenance Supervisor Bob Burns; Monticello Resident Engineer Mike Thompson; Bridge Inspector Rick Wilson; District Office Manager Joey Waddle and Bridge Job Superintendent John Herrington



Finalists in the Backhoe Division of the 1996 District 2 Roдео were, L-R: 1st place, Kenneth Edwards, District maintenance crew; 2nd place, Junior Fox, Arkansas County maintenance crew at Stuttgart; 3rd place, Ellis Landers, Grant County maintenance crew



Secretary Appreciation Day at District 2, L-R: Melanie Owen, Bookkeeper; Cindy Plunkett, Fuel Clerk; Hellen Kennedy, Stockroom Supervisor; Tonya Womble, Receptionist; Ginger Haire, Janitor; Rebecca Rinchuso, Field Clerk; Wanda Phillips, Stock Clerk, Bettye Carter, Permit Officer; Lorie Thomas, Payroll Clerk, and Bonnie Harvill, Office Administrative Assistant V



Willie Patrick, Jr., son of Willie Patrick, Distributor Operator in the District sealing crew, recently graduated from kindergarten.



Angie and Johnny Brown with daughter, Brandy Marie, who was born June 14. Johnny is a Skilled Trades Trainee for the District shop.

DISTRICT THREE



William Tyler, District Engineer, is congratulated by Assistant Chief Engineer for Operations Ralph Hall on completing 30 years of service with the Department.



William Tyler and his family, daughter Julie Moren, wife Darlene, granddaughter Lana Moren, and son Matt Tyler at a bar-becue dinner held in recognition of Mr. Tyler's 30-year service award.



District Engineer William Tyler, left, presents a 20-year service award to Steve Morrow, District Shop Supervisor.

Texarkana Assistant Resident Engineer Jim Cramer and wife Lisa announce the birth of a second daughter, Hannah Katherine, born July 12.

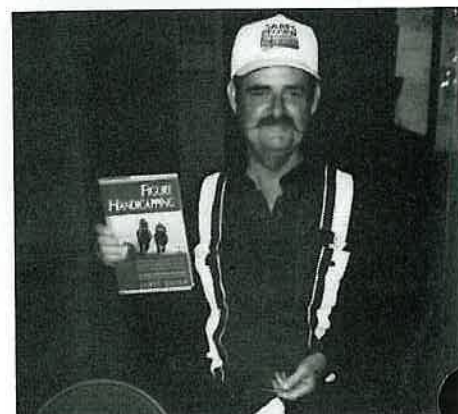
DISTRICT FOUR



Clifford Thornsberry, Lead Person, and his wife Inez at his retirement reception. Clifford retired May 30 after 35+ years with the Department. He was presented with a rod and reel from his co-workers.



Lyndy Holland, Construction Project Supervisor at the Waldron Residency, retired June 20 with 34+ years service.



Jim Baker, Construction Inspector at the Waldron Residency, retired June 18 with 30+ years service.



Pauline McCollum, Construction Aide III at the Mountainburg Residency, retired with 15 years service.



Herschel Henry, Polk County Area Maintenance Supervisor, receives a 30-year service award from District Engineer Harold Beaver.



H. Boswell, Senior Mechanic, receives a 10-year service award from Shop Supervisor Aubrey Bowen.



Gus Young, Sealing Job Superintendent, receives a 25-year service award from District Engineer Harold Beaver.



Mark Williams, Bridge Job Superintendent, receives a 20-year service award from District Engineer Harold Beaver.



District Engineer Harold Beaver congratulates Jeff Jones on his promotion from District Permit Officer to Construction Inspector at the Mountainburg Residency. Replacing Jeff as Permit Officer is Tim Lem who transferred from Highway Police.



Tom Riley, Senior Mechanic, receives a 25-year service award from District Maintenance Superintendent David Becker.



Pete Peters, Sebastian II Area Maintenance Supervisor, presents LeLand T. Reed, Motor Patrol Operator/Finish, a 10-year service award.

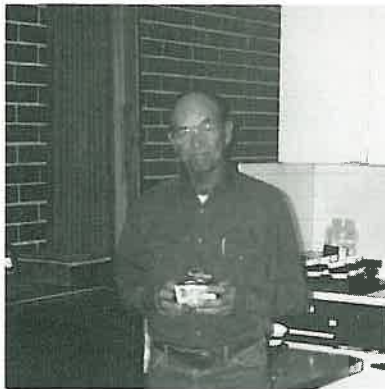


Cara Denise Cunningham is a 1996 graduate of Paris High School and the daughter of Lead Person Bobby Joe Cunningham.

DISTRICT FIVE



Marilyn Coffman, District Office Manager, retired June 27 with 34+ years service. She is shown with District Construction Engineer James House and her husband James.



Kirby Johnson, Maintenance Job Superintendent, retired May 14 with 31 years service.



Loyal Montgomery, Bridge Repairer for the District bridge crew, receives a 5-year service award.



Service awards, L-R: David Bailey, Motor Patrol Operator, 5 years; David Butler, Motor Patrol Operator, 5 years; Donald Osmon, Lead Person, 10 years; Mary Morgan, Single Axle Truck Driver, 5 years; Ann McLaughlin, Construction Aide II, 10 years; Dennis St. John, Station Attendant, 10 years; Kenny Bowren, Adv. Construction Field Engineer, 10 years; Robert Skelton, Crane Operator, 10 years; James Dix, Lead Person, 10 years; Donald Harwood, Single Axle Truck Driver, 10 years; Gary Tackett, Multi-Axle Truck Driver, 10 years; Bobby Wilkerson, Bridge Repairer II, 10 years



Susan Waits, daughter of District Engineer Lyndal Waits, was the catcher for the McDonald's girls softball team which won the league tournament.



Service awards, L-R: Jessie Hubbard, Senior Body Repairer and Painter, 25 years; Dennis Williams, Crew Leader, 25 years; Rodney Sutherland, Motor Patrol Operator, 20 years; Doyle Shrable, Multi-Axle Truck Driver, 25 years; Gary Smith, Inspector, 30 years; Steve Anselmi, Senior Inspector, 25 years; Raymond Covey, Inspector, 25 years; Melvin Yates, Senior Inspector, 20 years



Aaron Cantu, son of Angie Cantu, Construction Aide I at the Searcy Residency, was the catcher for the Landis Glass team and was chosen for the second All-Star team.

DISTRICT SIX

Leslie Taggart, District Receptionist was promoted to Fuel Clerk replacing Judith Orrick who transferred to Equipment and Procurement.



Molly Cantu, daughter of Angie Cantu, Construction Aide I at the Searcy Residency, is six years old and played T-Ball for Birdwell's Exxon.



Derek Glover is the nine-year old son of Stan Glover, Assistant Resident Engineer for the Searcy Residency. Derek played second base for Kentucky Fried Chicken.



Ivory Ryan Stegall is the son of Patty Jackson, Field Clerk II in the Searcy Residency. He is nine years old and plays first base for Kentucky Fried Chicken.



Service awards: Carolyn Wise, Resident Engineer Office Technician, 35 years and B.J. Bagley, Hydraulic Excavator Operator/Finish, 30 years



Fifteen-year service awards: Scott Stevenson, Crew Leader; Thomas Jones, Crew Leader; Charles Fowler, Motor Patrol Operator/Finish; Billy Dunlap, Lead Person and Steve Peeples, Assistant Resident Engineer



Twenty-year service awards: E.F. Inman, Lead Person; Rex Spurlock, Resident Engineer; Larieth Ann Patterson, Resident Office Technician; J.D. Harvey, Inspector; Harry Jobe, Single Axle Truck Driver; Ferrill McNeil, Multi-Axle Truck Driver and Jerry Stovall, Area Maintenance Supervisor



Donna McGehee, Resident Office Technician in Jim Pound's Little Rock Residency, was promoted to Office Manager for District Eight at Russellville July 4.



Whitney Kay Corbin, daughter of Construction Helper II David and Paul Corbin, was born February 28. David works for Jim Pound's Little Rock Residency.



Steve Moore, far right, is a third year summer intern working in the Little Rock Residency. Steve donates part of his summer vacation to attend USA Camp Quality, a camp for children with cancer. He is shown with another counselor, Clint Crabtree, and two campers Joseph and Casey. Steve is a civil engineering major at the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville.

Jim Pound's Little Rock Residency also had two other summer interns, Jason Dupree and Jeremiah Burke. Jason lives in Bryant and Jeremiah in North Little Rock. Both attend the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville majoring in civil engineering.



Mark Voyles, Construction Aide III in Jim Pound's Residency, and Nikki, a two-year old AKC registered boxer.



Marion Franklin Shepherd, III, son of Frank and Jan Shepherd, was born May 9. Frank is Single Axle Truck Driver for the North Pulaski Area maintenance crew.



Priscilla Pohnka, center, is shown with her stepfather, Frank Shepherd, left, and Girl Scout Leader Cyndy Lemons. Priscilla received a Junior Service Leadership Pin on June 8 from the Ouachita Girl Scout Council. Frank is a Single Axle Truck Driver for the North Pulaski County maintenance crew.



DeConnie DeShay Denham is the great-granddaughter of Jimmy Leath, Lead Person for the South Pulaski County maintenance crew.



Bethany Hope Farmer, born January 31, is the granddaughter of Freddie and Grace Hall. Freddie is a Motor Patrol Operator/Finish and Grace is a Vegetation Controller for the North Pulaski County maintenance crew.

DISTRICT SEVEN

District Seven welcomes Cathie Zachry as our new District Receptionist.

Janda Launius, daughter of District Office Manager Dannie Launius, and his wife, Jane, is a 1996 graduate of Camden Fairview High School. She was awarded the Camden Kiwanis Club's annual scholarship to Southern Arkansas University Tech.



Thomas Lee Lindsey, Maintenance Job Superintendent, retired June 28 with 36+ years service.



Doug Dickens, Bridge Inspector, escorts his daughter, Sheila, as she was married to Don Guthrie June 15.



James Henry Steed is the son of Richard Steed, Multi-Axle Truck Driver for the District bridge crew. He was born May 17.



James T. Bridges, left, Multi-Axle Truck Driver for the sealing crew, receives a 20-year service award from District Engineer Lawrence Fletcher.



Kenneth Crow, left, Yell County Area Maintenance Supervisor, receives a 25-year service award from District Engineer Lawrence Fletcher.



Danny R. Duvall, left, Motor Patrol Operator/Finish for the Pope County maintenance crew, receives a 20-year service award from District Engineer Lawrence Fletcher.



Boyd S. Bonds, left, Van Buren County Area Maintenance Supervisor, receives a 30-year service award from District Engineer Lawrence Fletcher.

DISTRICT EIGHT



Dawn Biggs, left, Yell County Area Headquarters Attendant, receives a 10-year service award from District Engineer Lawrence Fletcher.



Richard R. Keaster, left, Backhoe/Front End Loader Operator for the sealing crew, receives a 20-year service award from District Engineer Lawrence Fletcher.



Dick Williamson, left, Multi-Axle Truck Driver for the sealing crew, receives a 30-year service award from District Engineer Lawrence Fletcher.



Ron Williams, left, Senior Mechanic in the District shop, receives a 10-year service award from District Engineer Lawrence Fletcher.



Joe Phillips, left, Perry County Area Maintenance Supervisor, receives a 20-year service award from District Engineer Lawrence Fletcher.

DISTRICT NINE



Gaylord Dart, Motor Patrol Operator/Finish for the Benton County/Garfield maintenance crew, retired June 27 with 25+ years of service.



Howard Harper, Bridge Inspector, retired June 27 with 31+ years service.



District Engineer Ralph Fulton, left, presents J.T. Richardson, Boone County Area Maintenance Supervisor, with a plaque from his co-workers at a retirement reception. J.T. retired June 26 with 37 years service.



District Engineer Ralph Fulton, left, presents Bill Harbison, Gentry Area Maintenance Supervisor, with a plaque from co-workers at a retirement reception. He retired June 27 with 30+ years service.



Receiving service awards in the Yellville Residency are Doug Mears, Construction Aide II, 10 years and Diane Tomlinson, Resident Office Technician, 15 years.



Hunter Dalton Casto, son of Shawn and Stacy Casto, was born December 13, 1995. Stacy is a Single Axle Truck Driver with the Searcy County maintenance crew.



Heather Hilton, daughter of Receptionist Karen and Joe Cotton, achieved honor roll as a fifth grader for the 95-96 school year. She also received awards for outstanding achievement in reading and citizenship.



Crystal Cotton received the Presidential Academic Achievement Award for a 4.0 GPA for the 95-96 school year at Harrison High School. She is the daughter of District Receptionist Karen and Joe Cotton and Ann Hudson. She is the granddaughter of Wanda Hudson who is retired from the Boone County maintenance crew.

DISTRICT TEN



Don LeMay, Construction Project Supervisor in the Jonesboro Residency, retired June 12 with 35 years service.



District 10 Service Awards, (L-R Front Row): Jimmy Adams, Backhoe/Front End Loader Operator, 20 years; Corkey Wilson, Resident Office Technician, 20 years; Donald Upshaw, Area Headquarters Attendant, 20 years. **(Back Row)** David Haynes, Rest Area Attendant, 5 years; Stanley Parker, Distributor Roller Operator, 10 years; Randy Cooper, Assistant Stockroom Supervisor, 15 years



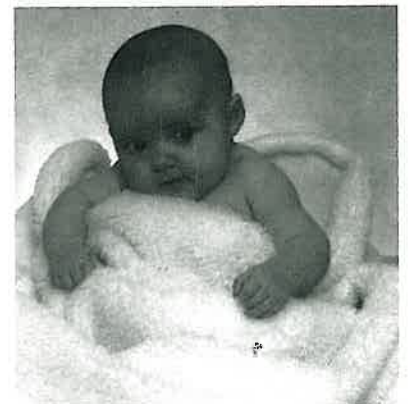
The Craighead County maintenance crew had a farewell reception for two of its employees. Curtis Stockes, right, Area Maintenance Supervisor retired with 27+ years service and Rick Carmack, Area Headquarters Attendant is leaving with 11 years service.



District Ten Equipment Operators' Rodeo Winners

(L-R) Backhoe Category: Dale Tribble, Multi-Axle Truck Driver; **Tractor/Mower Category:** Shalane Swafford, Single Axle Truck Driver; **Single Axle Dump Truck Category:** Todd Clifford, Vegetation Controller; **Motor Patrol Category:** Gerald Ellis, Senior Mechanic; **Tractor/Lowboy Category:** Darrell Campbell, Single Axle Truck Driver; **Tandem-Axle Dump Truck Category:** Brad Fultz, Sign Erector II and Lorraine Winstead, Parts Runner

Robbie and Dana Forkum have a new daughter, Tori Marie Forkum, born June 8. Dana is a Roller Operator for the District maintenance crew.



Gattlin Jade Hale, daughter of Mississippi County Area Headquarters Attendant Samatha and Ricky Hale, was born March 14.



Kody Daniel Friar, son of District Caretaker Kim and Jerry Friar, was born March 14.



**ARKANSAS STATE HIGHWAY
& TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT**

**POST OFFICE BOX 2261
LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS 72203-2261
RETURN POSTAGE GUARANTEED**

**BULK RATE
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Little Rock, AR 72203
Permit No. 2556**

