

Arkansas Highways

WINTER 1998

Director's Message

Change

If there's one thing we can count on, it's change. I'm not sure who said that originally, but it's true. For instance, there will be some changes in your *Arkansas Highways* magazine and the *Centerline* newsletter.

The magazine will be published two times a year rather than four beginning in 1999. Issues will be distributed in the Spring and the Fall. The magazine will focus on being a historical record for significant events such as hearings, groundbreaking, dedications and meetings.

In order to provide information to employees in a more timely manner, the newsletter will be expanded to include more employee-oriented coverage. Much of what is now found in the "Around the Department" section of the magazine will be in the newsletter in 1999. The newsletter will continue to be distributed with the last paycheck of each month.

Change can be good, and I believe change can be positive for our Department.

One thing that I know won't change is the good work of our employees. Year in and year out, I am continually impressed with the efforts of our employees. The "Letters" section of the magazine is an accurate testament of those actions. We will continue to print those letters in upcoming publications.

Thank you for another productive year, and Happy Holidays to all employees and their families.



Dan Howers
DIRECTOR OF HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION

ARKANSAS HIGHWAYS

WINTER 1998

ARKANSAS STATE HIGHWAY COMMISSION



HERBY BRANSCUM, JR.
CHAIRMAN



JOHN "M" LIPTON
VICE CHAIRMAN



BOBBY HOPPER
MEMBER



J.W. "BUDDY"
BENAFIELD
MEMBER



PRISSY
HICKERSON
MEMBER

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COVER PHOTO: State Highway 178 in Marion County. Photo by John Jackson.
BACK COVER PHOTO: State Highway 69 in Izard County. Photo by John Jackson.

Branscum, Lipton Elected Chairman, Vice Chairman of Highway Commission

Commission Vice Chairman Herby Branscum, Jr. of Perryville assumed the Chairmanship of the five-member Arkansas State Highway Commission at its September 22 meeting in Little Rock. Branscum had been serving as Vice Chairman.

He replaces Bobby Hopper who stepped down from the Chairman's position at the same meeting. Hopper remains on the Commission until his term expires in January 1999. Hopper said the upcoming legislative session was a big factor in his decision to step down. "We need someone in this position who will still be on the Commission when the Legislature convenes in early 1999," Hopper said.

Branscum, a native of Timbo in Stone County, was appointed to a ten-year term on the Commission January 23, 1991 by former Governor Bill Clinton. His term on the commission expires in the

year 2001. He is a graduate of the University of Central Arkansas and the University of Arkansas at Little Rock School

of Law. Branscum has practiced law in Perryville and Little Rock since admission to the Arkansas State Bar in 1967.

John "M" Lipton of Warren will replace Branscum as Vice Chairman of the Commission. Former Governor Jim Guy Tucker appointed Lipton to a ten-year term on the Commission January 14, 1993.

Lipton is a graduate of the University of Arkansas at Monticello. He served 12 consecutive terms in the House of Representatives and served as Speaker of the House for the 78th Arkansas General Assembly in 1991-1992. His term on the Commission expires in January 2003.



Herby Branscum, Jr.
Commission Chairman



John "M" Lipton
Commission Vice Chairman

AHTD Director Dan Flowers Elected President of AASHTO

Dan Flowers, Director of the Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department (AHTD), has been elected President of the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO). The announcement of Flowers' election was made Tuesday, November 10 at AASHTO's 84th Annual Meeting in Boston.

Flowers became the 89th President in the history of the organization. Flowers, who has served as Vice President for the past year, succeeds David Winstead of Maryland as President.

"This is an exciting time to be in the transportation industry, and I look forward to the challenges and opportunities that lie



Dan Flowers, left, accepts the gavel as the 1999 President of the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials from outgoing President David Winstead, Secretary of the Maryland Department of Transportation.

ahead," Flowers said. "AASHTO has a great tradition of addressing issues from a national perspective while attempting to

keep the best interest of each member state in mind. It is truly an honor to be selected to lead this organization at this time."

AASHTO Executive Director Francis Francois said, "Dan Flowers has many

years experience dealing with the transportation issues addressed by AASHTO. He served this past year as our Vice President and as Chairman of the Reauthorization Steering Committee. We look forward to great accomplishments for the nation's transportation system during his administration."

Arkansas Highway Commission Chairman Herby Branscum, Jr., of Perryville, believes Flowers is deserving of the job. "This is a distinctive honor for the State of Arkansas and a personal tribute to Dan Flowers for his outstanding leadership as Director of the Arkansas Highway and Transportation Department, and to the transportation industry."



(L-R): Dan Flowers, AASHTO President; Thomas Warne, AASHTO Vice President; Francis Francois, AASHTO Executive Director.



Dan Flowers, front left center, and his wife Sara, front left right; at an AASHTO banquet.

Flowers, formerly of Batesville, began his career with the AHTD in June 1969 following graduation from the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville with a degree in Civil Engineering. While attending college, he worked for the AHTD as a summer employee for four years in Batesville.

After completing the engineering intern program, Flowers served in many capacities with the Department. He became Director January 3, 1994 after serving as Assistant Director for nearly six years. At the time he was appointed Director, he was the youngest person to be named to that position since the adoption of the Mack-Blackwell Amendment in 1953.

On the national and regional levels, Flowers has been active in AASHTO and the Southeastern Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials

(SASHTO), having just completed a term as President of SASHTO. He has served on numerous committees including the Transportation Research Board, the AASHTO Standing Committee on Administration,

Chairman of the AASHTO Subcommittee on Design, and Chairman of the AASHTO Standing Committee on Highways.

In Arkansas, Flowers is a Registered Professional Engineer and a member of the Little Rock Engineer's Club, the University of Arkansas College of Engineering Academy of Civil Engineers, and is a past President of the Arkansas State Board of Registration for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors. He also serves on the Mack-Blackwell Transportation Center's Professional Advisory Board at the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville.

Two other AHTD Directors have served as President of AASHTO. A.E. Johnson, Sr. held the office in 1954, and Henry Gray in 1983.



In attendance at the AASHTO Opening Session were left to right: Dale Loe, Assistant Chief Engineer for Design; Melba Shepard, Human Resources Division Head; Larry Dickerson, Chief Fiscal Officer; and Jane Wilson, Chief of Administration and Public Affairs.

In Memory:

W. Maurice Smith, Jr.

Maurice Smith of Birdeye in Cross County passed away Thursday, December 3, 1998 in a Little Rock hospital after a lengthy illness. He was 77.

Smith served as a member of the Arkansas State Highway Commission from 1965 to 1975 and was later named Director of the Highway and Transportation Department in 1987. Smith and former Governor Orval Faubus are the only two people in Arkansas history to serve as both Commissioner and Director.

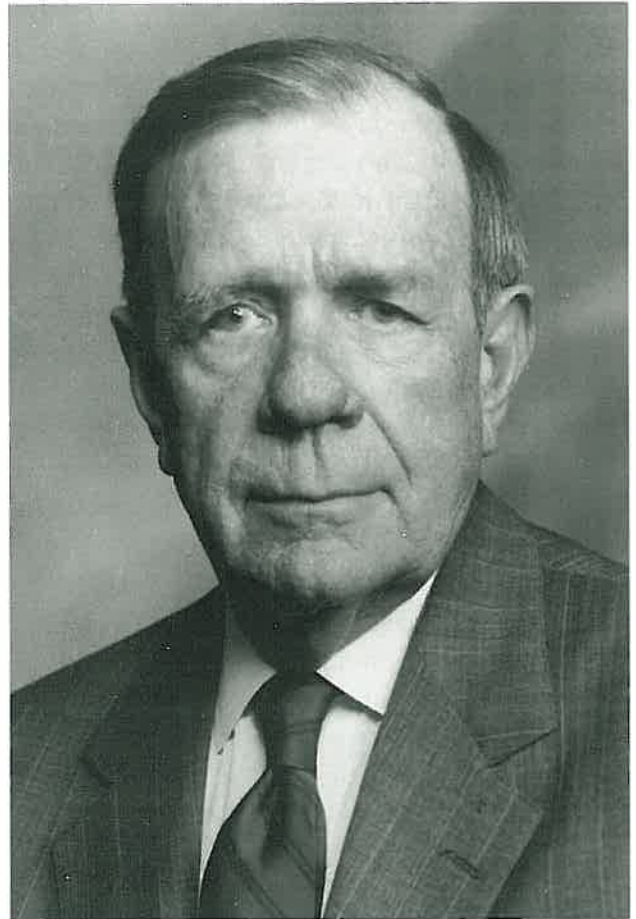
Smith had a long and distinguished career in public life. He was a 1942 graduate of the University of Arkansas with a degree in Science and Agriculture, and served in the U. S. Army from 1943 to 1946. He was a past President of the Arkansas State Fair and Livestock Show; past President of the St. Francis Levee District Board of Directors; member of the Lower Mississippi Valley Flood Control Association Executive Committee; an Advisory Council member of the Commission on Arkansas' Future; and a member of the Arkansas Scenic Resources Preservation Coordinating Committee. He also served as President of the Bank of Cherry Valley for 35 years.

In 1983, Smith was named Chief of Staff for Governor Bill Clinton. Clinton later appointed Smith to the University of Arkansas Board of Trustees, and in 1987 the Highway Commission selected Smith to serve as Director of the AHTD. He held that position until his retirement in 1993.

"As Director for six years and a Commissioner for 10 years before that, he had an enormous impact on our state highway system," noted current AHTD Director Dan Flowers. "He made many good things happen."

President Clinton and Secretary of Transportation Rodney Slater, a former Arkansas State Highway Commission member, joined other Arkansans in paying tribute to Smith at memorial services in Wynne December 5. "He was a very kind, people-oriented person, very down to earth. He didn't say a lot, but when did, people listened," Slater said. "The key is that he was there – not just in presence, but in influence."

Clinton closed his eulogy with the words Smith offered him in consolation several years earlier. "I say to you what you said to me so many years ago," Clinton repeated. "It'll be all right. You done good. We'll be together again before you know it."



Maurice Smith
1921-1998

Department Recognized for Concrete Pavement Work

The Arkansas/Oklahoma Chapter of the American Concrete Pavement Association (ACPA) has begun an annual quality awards program. The first awards ceremony was held October 14 at the Riverfront Hilton in North Little Rock, and several AHTD projects were recognized for their design and workmanship.

The awards ceremony was highlighted by remarks from Secretary of Transportation Rodney Slater and AHTD Director Dan Flowers. Slater commended the concrete industry for continually seeking technological advances in pavement design. "You have stayed on the cutting edge in research and development," Slater said. "And with states like Arkansas putting that

research to good use, the citizens of our country will benefit from your efforts."

"We are pleased that you have selected to recognize these projects," noted Flowers. "It seems we hear complaints quite often, but a good road sometimes gets taken for granted. Thank you for recognizing a job well done."

The projects were judged for overall project quality and appearance, smoothness, pavement quality, complexity, and innovation.

The Pine Bluff Bypass project from Highway 65 to Highway 79 (Job R20055) was named the Overall Winner in addition to being selected first in the Urban Divided Highway category. The Frog Bayou to



U.S. Secretary of Transportation and former State Highway Commissioner Rodney Slater was a speaker at the awards ceremony.

Mountainburg segment of the Highway 71 relocation project in Crawford County won top honors in the Rural Divided Highway category.



Overall Winner and First Place Winner for Urban Divided Highway Pine Bluff Bypass - Highway 65 to Highway 79 in Jefferson County
(L-R) Harold Woodward, Weaver-Bailey; Valentin Riva, American Concrete Pavement Association; Roger Weaver, Charles Weaver, Weaver-Bailey; Michael Benson, Bill Fine, Jim Briley, Bob Walters, AHTD; Don Brown, Crafton-Tull; Gordon Denton, Holnam Cement Co.



First Place Winner for Rural Divided Highway Highway 71 - Frog Bayou to Mountainburg in Crawford County
(L-R) Valentin Riva, American Concrete Pavement Association; Roger Weaver, Don Weaver, Jim Jolley, Weaver-Bailey; Harold Beaver, Phil McConnell, David Burnett, John Sharum, AHTD; Gordon Denton, Holnam Cement Co.

Other AHTD projects receiving special recognition at the awards luncheon included the Ozark Rest Area drives and parking reconstruction (Job 040196); the I-30/U.S. 270 interchange westbound at Malvern (Job 060826); the U.S. 63/Highway 226 interchange in

Jonesboro (Job R00089); the Eastbound Lehi Weigh Station deceleration lane on I-40 in Crittenden County (Job 110294); and the median wall reconstruction project on I-40/I-55 in West Memphis (Job 110302).

According to M.C. Ollar, Executive Director of the Arkan-

sas/Oklahoma Chapter of the ACPA, "The AHTD has been very progressive in recent years in providing high quality, long lasting concrete pavements for the motorists of Arkansas. The quality of this construction will be evident for years to come."

Partnership Summit Brings Occupant Protection Advocates Together

The Arkansas Buckle Up America Partnership Summit was held in Little Rock Tuesday, September 29. More than 100 law enforcement, safety advocates, business people and concerned citizens attended the meeting.

Dan Flowers, AHTD Director and Governor's Highway Safety Representative kicked off the event by welcoming those in attendance. Other speakers included Arkansas State Police Director Col. John Bailey, Pulaski County Sheriff Randy Johnson, Little Rock Mayor Jim Dailey, Little Rock Police Chief Lou Caudell, and North Little Rock Police Chief William Nolan. Georgia Chakiris, Regional Administrator of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) also addressed the crowd.

Flowers keyed in on Arkansas' 48% seat belt usage rate, one of the lowest in the nation. "If Arkansas' seat belt usage rate increased by just 15 percentage points to 63%, it is estimated that 54 lives



AHTD Director Dan Flowers, at podium, Little Rock Mayor Jim Dailey and Georgia Chakiris, Regional Administrator of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

could be saved each year," Flowers noted. "Not only would hundreds of Arkansans be spared pain and suffering, the dollar savings to society would be enormous as well."

National Hot Rod Association top fuel dragster driver Doug Foxworth made a special appearance before the group to give a personal testimony of the importance of seat belts. After his presentation, Foxworth donned full racing attire and invited several law enforcement officers

to appear with him in an "on the spot" filming of a public service announcement (PSA) for television. The soon to be released PSA features footage of a crash Foxworth survived because he was wearing his seat belt.

In closing, Flowers said, "We all know that seat belts work, but only if you use them. Your attendance at this conference says you are concerned about safety in Arkansas. I hope that by working together, we can make travel safer."

“There Is Life After A Career, And It Is Good!”

One event that appears each year on the AHTD staff calendar is the Retiree's Association Annual Meeting. The event, like the Association itself, seems to get bigger and better each year.

This year's meeting, held October 29 at the Hospitality House at North Little Rock's Burns Park, was attended by over 100 retirees from around the state.

AHTD Director Dan Flowers, Chief Engineer Bob Walters, Chief

of Administration and Public Affairs Jane Wilson and other staff members joined the retirees at the event. Even the musical entertainment was kept “in house” as Staff Construction Engineers Jim Barton and Mike Sebren entertained the audience with song, mandolin, banjo, and guitar.

Association President Calvin Peevy presided over the meeting and introduced all guests. Again this year, the Kitchen Crew

(which also seems to be growing in numbers) did an outstanding job of providing lunch. New officers for the coming year were also elected.

The Association provides an excellent opportunity for members to stay in touch with acquaintances made while working at the AHTD. And it gives the rest of us hope that there is something to look forward to after our careers are over.



AHTD Director Dan Flowers, right, with retirees David Moore and Jim Chaney



AHTD Chief Engineer Bob Walters visits with Association President Calvin Peevy and David Moore



AHTD Chief of Administration and Public Affairs Jane Wilson with retiree John Hall



Chief Fiscal Officer Larry Dickerson, left, and Insurance Representative Diann Gwatney with District Five retirees



The 1999 Retiree's Association Officers:
(L-R): Sibyl Maddox, Secretary/Treasurer; Jim Chaney, Retirement Board Representative; Max Bagwell, Senior Vice President; Calvin Peevy, past President; and Max Koehler, President. Not pictured: Bob Parker, Vice President.



Department's Equipment Auction One of the Largest In History

In one of the largest equipment auctions in the Department's history, several hundred bidders waved, yelled and nodded their way through the annual event. Used equipment from around the state was on the auction block October 20 at the Central Shops.

Over 500 lots of equipment were auctioned off to the highest bidder. Outdated surveying equipment, mowers, tractors, trucks, cars and trailers were just some of the items that went to the highest bidder in the one-day event.

The auction brought in a net profit of over \$920,000. That was up from almost \$627,000 from a year ago – the third straight year that the net revenue has increased.

The larger than normal number of bidders and the cool fall weather helped with the bidding, according to Doug Nielsen, Equipment and Procurement Division Head. "This is probably the best quality of used equipment we have had in recent memory," Nielsen said.



This year's auction drew over 300 persons looking for good buys on vehicles and equipment.

"I talked with the auctioneer and he was amazed with the amount of money the equipment brought," he said. "We just had more people than usual," Nielsen added.

One bidder, Bill Simpkins, said this was his first time at the AHTD auction and he liked what he saw. "I'm looking for pickups

that I can rebuild and sell. There are some good buys here," he said. One unique piece of equipment that caught the eye of bidder Mark Watts was the changeable message board. "I sell construction equipment and I could use this to advertise specials in front of my business," he explained.



● *Razorback Basketball Team Dedicates Season:*

Wishes Really Do Come True; Just Ask Mary Wood

Webster's Dictionary defines "wish" as something desired or longed for. Growing up, we learned to "wish upon a star," or "make a wish before blowing out the candles." We would do those things with the faintest hope that, just maybe, our wish might somehow come true.

Well, wishes really do come true. Just ask Mary Wood of Ola. Mary is the wife of James Wood, a recent retiree from Heavy Bridge Maintenance.

Mary has a terminal lung disease and heart problems. Earlier this year, Mary had the good fortune of having one of her wishes overheard. "If I got to make a wish, it would be to meet Razorback Basketball Coach Nolan Richardson," she commented in front of friends. On August 26 of this year, Mary's wish became a reality.

With help from her pastor, Rick Balentine; her doctor, Art Ishley M.D.; and friend Kathy Webb, the meeting was arranged. Accompanied by her husband James, Reverend Balentine, and Ms. Webb, Mary traveled to Fayetteville for the momentous occasion.

When the moment arrived, Mary "looked up, and there

stood Nolan!" She spent about an hour and a half visiting with Nolan, members of his coaching staff, and Nolan's secretary, Terri. Mary was given flowers, a T-shirt, a signed basketball, and an autographed picture of the coach. She said it was the most incredible day of her life.

Mary said the best part of the day was when Coach Richardson asked her why, of all people, she wanted to meet him? Her reply was, "Coach, everyone wants to play for you, or to play against you just so they can say they have. You have so much respect and admiration from not only your team and staff, but from your fans as well. There was never anyone that came close to you!" The Coach responded, saying "Bless your heart, Mary. You know, it's fans like you that keep us going." Mary



Mary Wood with Coach Nolan Richardson

replied with tears rolling down her face, "No Coach, you're what keeps me going."

Mary was present for the Razorbacks' opening game November 9 at Walton Arena in Fayetteville. At a pregame ceremony Richardson presented Mary a Razorback game jersey and the team dedicated its season to her. Woods' jersey has the number 8, signifying the number of letters in "I Love You."

DEDICATIONS

Progress Continues on Pine Bluff Bypass

Motorists in Pine Bluff now have the use of one more mile of the Pine Bluff Bypass as the section from Highway 79 eastward to Old Warren Road opened to traffic Tuesday, October 27, 1998.

Highway Commission Vice Chairman John "M" Lipton and Director Dan Flowers were on hand to move barricades to open the new section of highway. Even though no ceremony was held, many local and state officials came out to witness the event.

"This is another milestone toward the completion of the entire bypass," Lipton noted. "Even this one-mile stretch will make a big difference for people in this area. We look forward to opening the road over to Highway

15 by the middle of next year. The entire bypass is to be completed by the middle of the year 2000, Lipton added.

Work began on the 11-mile bypass project in late 1988, according to Lipton. Steady progress has been made since that time, highlighted by the opening of the first 4.2 miles from Highway 65 to Highway 79 in 1996. Twelve contracts totaling nearly \$90 million have been awarded to date.



AHTD Director Dan Flowers, left, and Highway Commission Vice Chairman John Lipton remove construction barrels to allow traffic movement on the new section of highway.

All the work is now underway, and no more contracts will be needed before completion.

"What makes this project even more exciting is the fact that, upon completion in the year 2000, this route will be designated Interstate 530," Lipton said. "The I-530 designation will begin in Little Rock at the I-30/I-440/U.S. Highway 65 interchange and continue south along U.S. Highway 65 to Pine Bluff, including the Pine Bluff Bypass."



Present for the highway opening were, left to right: State Senator Jean Edwards, Jefferson County Judge Jack Jones, District 2 Engineer Jim Briley, AHTD Director Dan Flowers, and Commission Vice Chairman John Lipton.

Highway 412 Bypass Opens To Traffic in Mountain Home



Former AHTD Director Henry Gray, former State Senator Vada Sheid, Highway Commissioner Bobby Hopper, and AHTD Director Dan Flowers cut the ribbon to officially open the Mountain Home Bypass to traffic.

With great fanfare, the Mountain Home Bypass opened to motorists on October 30, 1998 at the Bypass' interchange at Highway 5.

The \$11.9 million 5.5-mile divided four-lane project started in July 1987 and will help ease east-west traffic around Mountain Home.

On hand for the dedication ceremony were Commissioners

Bobby Hopper and Mary P. "Prissy" Hickerson along with AHTD Director Dan Flowers. Former AHTD Director Henry Gray was also honored at the dedication ceremony for his work on the bypass.

The bypass was formerly renamed the Sheid-Hopper Bypass by Mountain Home Mayor Joe Dillard in honor of former State Representative

Vada Sheid and Commissioner Hopper at the dedication.

Hopper said he was thankful to the city for naming the highway after him and Representative Sheid. "I know I speak for Vada when I say thank you from both of us for the honor the city has given us. Naming the new roadway after Vada and me makes this day that much more special," Hopper added.

Flowers said the opening of the bypass was a momentous occasion for northern Arkansas. "I want to thank you for inviting us to be a part of this," he said.

Also attending the dedication ceremony was Chief of Administration and Public Affairs Jane Wilson, District 9 Engineer Ralph Fulton, and District 9 Construction Engineer Gerald Teague.



A steady stream of antique cars led the procession on the new bypass.

Walnut Ridge/Hoxie Bypass Officially Opens to Public

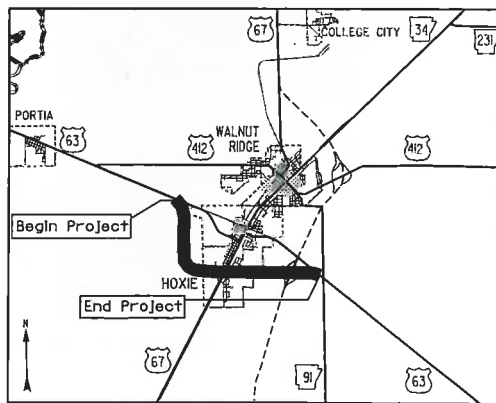
A large crowd of over 150 people was on hand Wednesday, September 16, 1998 for a ceremony to officially dedicate the Highway 63 Walnut Ridge/Hoxie Bypass in Northeast Arkansas.

Highway Commissioner J.W. "Buddy" Benafield of Hickory Plains and

AHTD Director Dan Flowers were two of the guest speakers at the ribbon-cutting ceremony.

"This is a great day for these two cities and a great day for Northeast Arkansas," he said. Rain forced the event to be moved to an overpass at Front Street. Highway Commissioners John "M"

Walnut Ridge/Hoxie Bypass



Highway Commissioner J.W. "Buddy" Benafield



Highway Commissioner J.W. "Buddy" Benafield, center with scissors, cuts the ribbon to officially open the new highway at Walnut Ridge. Left to right are State Representative Tim Woolridge, Commissioners Prissy Hickerson and John Lipton, Lawrence County Judge Alex Latham, State Representative Jerry Allison, Benafield, AHTD Director Dan Flowers, Hoxie Mayor Jim Johnson, Walnut Ridge Mayor J.R. Rogers, State Senator Mike Todd, State Representative Tom Baker, and State Senator Gene Roebuck.

Lipton and Mary P. "Prissy" Hickerson were also on hand for the celebration.

Benafield assured those in attendance that the Commission is doing everything in its power to address the state's present and future highway needs. "There's only one thing holding us back and that's money," Benafield said. "In the coming years, I feel confident we will be able to address our most pressing needs, but the availability of funds will dictate how quickly we are able to act," he added.

The 5.4-mile, \$11.8 million project began in April 1994. The next portion of the project will extend from the east end of the new bypass northward to Highway 412.



Highway Commissioner John Lipton



Holding the ribbon for the Highway 8 Dedication are State Senator Jim Scott, Warren Mayor Greg Reep, AHTD Director Dan Flowers and Commission Vice Chairman John Lipton.

Highway 8 Extension Completed in Warren

Even overcast skies and a light drizzle couldn't dampen the enthusiasm from local officials on the opening of the Highway 15 Bypass in Warren. The ribbon-cutting ceremony for the new road was held September 11, 1998.

The \$6.3 million project provides an extension of Highway 8 to Highway 15 south of Warren. Arkansas Highway Commission Vice Chairman John "M" Lipton told the crowd that the City of Warren had a need. "Through a cooperative effort, we have addressed that need," Lipton said.

"We're celebrating the widening of an existing road-

way to accommodate the traffic we have just a few blocks north of here," he added. The 2.5-mile project was completed in three separate contracts over a three-year period. Lipton also noted that over \$47 million in projects have been completed in the area over the past 10 years. "We also have \$12 million in projects currently under construction," Lipton noted.

AHTD Director Dan Flowers noted the importance of the project and the work by Lipton. "John Lipton has done equally as fine a job as Highway Commissioner as he was a State Representative," Flowers said.



AHTD Director Dan Flowers

Partnership Achieves Mutual Goal As Springhill Drive Opens To Traffic

It is said that friendships last a lifetime. Partnerships last — well, at least long enough to achieve a mutual goal.

Striving for a mutual goal was what brought officials from Baptist Medical Systems and the AHTD together a few years ago. The Department had known for a number of years that a full interchange at Springhill Drive on Interstate 40 in North Little Rock would be a beneficial addition to the highway system, but funding simply wasn't available.

Baptist wanted to build a new hospital near the intersection of Springhill Drive and I-40, but it needed better access via an interchange to make the project feasible.

The common need of an interchange brought the two parties together, and completion of the interchange project brought them back together Friday, November 13, 1998. A ceremony was held at the new interchange at 12:00 noon, and traffic began using the facility a short time later.

"In this day and age, it is easy to identify problems or needs," commented AHTD Director Dan Flowers during the ceremony. "The challenge comes in trying to address those needs in a manner that is beneficial to all the parties involved."

The effort grew to include others besides Baptist Medical Systems and the Department. The Federal Highway Administration and the City of North Little Rock also played a part in the partnership.

"The results of that partnership lie before us today," Flowers added. "We mutually celebrate the opening of a beautiful new highway facility that will open up access for a whole new area and provide additional relief for the congested McCain and Prothro interchange areas. It will also provide easy access for the new Baptist Hospital facility once it is completed."

Negotiations for construction of the interchange between the Baptist administration and the Department staff went smoothly. Baptist agreed to acquire the necessary right of way for the

interchange, with the Department taking on the responsibility for the associated acceleration and deceleration lanes and the Highway 67/167 flyover ramp.

Following a public hearing in December 1995, bids were opened April 25, 1996. The Hardaway Company of Columbus, Georgia was awarded a \$16,181,228.60 contract for the work. Based on the partnering agreement, the Department was responsible for approximately \$10 million, with Baptist handling approximately \$6 million.

Flowers concluded his remarks by commending the partnership on behalf of the members of the Highway Commission. "I want to tell you how pleased we are to have been a part of this true public-private partnership."



AHTD Director Dan Flowers, left, is interviewed by a Channel 22 reporter at the dedication site.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Residents Review Proposed Widening Of Springdale's West Huntsville Avenue

The proposed widening of West Huntsville Avenue in Springdale was the subject of a public hearing held August 18, 1998 at Wesley United Methodist Church. Over 60 residents and business owners viewed displays of the project over a three-hour period.

Approximately one mile of the road will be widened from two lanes to four lanes with selected left turn lanes. Sidewalks will be added to both sides of the roadway. The project is expected to cost about \$2.5 million and take two years to complete.



Right of Way Division Head Jim Gaither, right, reviews plans with an area resident.

Springdale Mayor Charles McKinney said completion of the project would help alleviate

some of the heavy traffic on U.S. Highway 71B.

Public Hearing Held For Forrest City Bypass Project

The location of a proposed bypass around the western side of Forrest City was the topic of a public hearing on September 29,

1998. Over 60 people were on hand at the St. Francis County Courthouse to look at plans for the new roadway.

When completed, the new bypass will ease traffic congestion along Highway 1 in Forrest City. Presently, traffic counts are 19,900 vehicles per day. That number is expected to increase to 30,200 vehicles by the year 2017.

Comments from citizens at the meeting mostly surrounded the affect of the bypass to their farmland. The 8.4-mile proposed bypass would provide a less-congested route around Forrest City, and better access to the federal prison.

Proposed improvements consist of constructing a divided roadway with four 12-foot travel lanes with eight-foot shoulders.



District One Engineer Ray Woodruff, left, reviews the bypass plans with local residents.

Highway 16 Improvements Displayed At Searcy

In response to safety concerns from area residents, the Department held a public hearing on proposed improvements to Highway 16 in Searcy. Improving sight distance along Highway

16 between Foster Chapel Road and Oak Forest Road will be the main objective.

The hearing was held at Faith Assembly of God Church in Searcy on October 27, 1998.

The length of the proposed project is 1.2 miles. Improvements include widening the existing roadway to two 12-foot travel lanes with eight-foot shoulders. The existing roadway consists of two 11-foot travel lanes and three-foot gravel shoulders.

Held to ensure that highway locations and designs are consistent with the highest possible goals and objectives, the hearing was attended by about 35 interested citizens. Projected traffic counts for the project area is 11,950 vehicles per day by the year 2018 – up from a present count of 6,250 vehicles per day.

It is estimated that four residential owners, 10 residential tenants and one business will be relocated.



Roadway Design Division Head Phil McConnell, center, reviews plans with Searcy residents.

Public Hearing Held On Jacksonville Cutoff Project

Local residents in the Jacksonville Cutoff and Bayou Meto areas were on hand for a public hearing Tuesday, October 6, 1998 at the Gravel Ridge Volunteer Fire Department.

Pulaski County is widening 1.2 miles of the Jacksonville Cutoff Road between Highway 107 to west of the bridge over Bayou Meto. The existing roadway consists of two 11.5-foot lanes with little or no shoulders. The proposed improvement includes two 12-foot travel lanes with six-foot shoulders. Drainage will also be improved and upgraded to accommodate the

wider roadway.

Approximately 20 people were on hand for the hearing and most of their concerns surrounded driveways and drainage work along the route. The majority of those attending were in favor of the project.



Local residents view the proposed widening of the Jacksonville Cutoff Road at the public hearing.



Letters to the Department



The Honorable Sharon Priest
Arkansas Secretary of State

To: Dan Flowers
Director of Highways and Transportation

Once again, you and the Highway Department have gone above and beyond the call of duty. We can always count on you to provide signs to fit our needs. I appreciate the new visitor parking sign and the intricate details that went into making it. I'm so proud of the sign, I thought it only fitting to have a photograph made with it and the state seal, two of my favorite symbols around this magnificent building.

Again, thank you for all of your help over the years.

Sharon Priest
Arkansas Secretary of State

To: The members of the Arkansas Highway Commission
Especially Herby Branscum, Jr.

I was quite surprised that you took the time to notice my recent promotion and write to me. I was thrilled to receive your letter, so overwhelmed in fact that I thought I should frame it. Then I thought I would rather have shared this moment with my dad who passed away May 31. My dad retired from the New York State Highway and Transportation Department. I am very proud to have been his daughter and have the job that I do. I tried for five years to attain a job with AHTD. That is why this job means so much to me. I hope that I have other promotions in my future and I will continue to try hard, learn a lot, and give 100 percent. Thank you for taking notice.

Roselie Conley
Construction Helper II
Russellville Residency



Roselie Conley
District 8 Construction Helper II

To: Dan Flowers, Director

Thank you for your support of the 1998 Great Arkansas Cleanup. Your agency's generous contribution of time is greatly appreciated by all who worked to make the Great Arkansas Cleanup a success in our battle against litter and illegal dumps in our state.

We had a successful event in spite of rain over most of the state on September 12. Many thousands of tons of litter were collected by thousands of volunteers. We owe our success to volunteers like you and the cooperative spirit of many state agencies and organizations.

It was a pleasure working with you on the Cleanup. We are glad to have you as part of our Keep Arkansas Beautiful family and hope we can continue to count on your support in the future.

Mary Story, State Coordinator
1998 Great Arkansas Cleanup

To: Dan Flowers, Director

The Planning and Research personnel of AHTD held a public meeting for local input and questions concerning the proposed Sheridan bypass on U.S. Highway 167. The meeting was last Thursday evening, September 10.

I've heard many good comments on how this was done. Perhaps you know, but in case you don't, the hearing was a come and go, one on one, for a period of three hours.

Paul Simms, Lori Tudor, and John Isom manned individual information stations, while Mary Day Wilson registered attendees and distributed input forms. These employees did an outstanding job, as well as being very patient and tactful with each citizen.

We appreciate the opportunity for the public to be informed and to have input on these important decisions.

This approach has helped overcome any resistance to the Sheridan bypass.

Jim Lancaster
State Representative, District 48



Seated: Lori Tudor, Mary Day Wilson
Standing: Paul Simms, John Isom

To: Dan Flowers, Director

I cannot express adequately my appreciation for what you have done in Northwest Arkansas and the new four-lane Highway 71.

Our oldest son is a fourth-year student at the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville and our youngest hopes to attend in 1999. This highway is truly an answer to the prayers of many people in our state. Keep up the good work.

Brenda Gullett
State Representative-Elect, District 75

To: Dan Flowers, Director
and
Governor's Highway Safety Representative

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your personal contribution, particularly as the Governor's Highway Safety Representative, to the success of the "Buckle Up America (BUA) Partnership Summit" held in Little Rock September 29. I am excited that you have taken such an active and visible role in traffic safety and, specifically, seat belt and child safety seat issues. The message you delivered proves that highway safety advocates from all walks of life do work well together.

Your continued support to the cause of increased seat belt and child safety seat use is vital to the success of the BUA campaign and our collective goal of reducing the number of senseless deaths, injuries, and economic costs resulting from motor vehicle crashes in Arkansas. I personally applaud your endeavor to implement a statewide seat belt and child safety seat public information and education campaign.

Again, thank you for partnering with us and taking the time from your busy schedule to participate in the summit. If I can be of any assistance to you, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Georgia S. Chakiris, Regional Administrator
U.S. Department of Transportation
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

To: Dan Flowers, Director

The purpose of this letter is to advise you regarding the "work" being done on State Highway 5 South by Ralph Burge, the Saline County Area Maintenance Supervisor.

Mr. Burge is energetically enthusiastic about the good care and maintenance of this old historic highway. It is a pleasure to pay tribute to him. He is to be commended for his personal integrity and hard work.

I want you to know that the folks out here value his work highly and I hope that Mr. Burge will continue to find satisfaction in his job.

Hurlon Ray
Highway 5 South



Ralph Burge
Saline County Area Maintenance Supervisor

To: State Highway Department

On July 27, around 10:00 a.m., my van had a tire blow out. I lost the tread on the tire and almost lost control of the vehicle. I managed to get to the shoulder of the highway. Then a very nice man stopped to help me and my children. He said he worked for the Highway Department. He changed my tire and

would not accept any money. He then followed us to the Hope exit on Interstate 30. He was an angel to me and my children. I want to thank him for being so helpful. He was driving a dark brown car and I was driving a brown/beige Ford van.

I just wanted to say what a lifesaver your employee was. I am ever so grateful he helped me. It is very scary to be on the shoulder of the interstate with traffic flying by in 95-degree weather.

Thanks again for your great employee!

Joanne Vogel
St. Louis, Missouri

To: Robert Wilson
AHTD Chief Legal Counsel

I had the opportunity to personally witness the work of one of your staff attorneys today in Cleburne County Chancery Court. I have been in touch with the AHTD Beautification Section for some months, attempting to have the junkyard owned by [the defendant] brought into compliance. Mr. William L. Wharton of your staff represented the Highway Department this morning in a Contempt Petition against [the defendant] who has, to this point, refused to clean up the junkyard. Mr. Wharton was successful in obtaining an Order of Contempt, and [the defendant] was remanded immediately into the sheriff's custody and taken to the Cleburne County jail until such time as [the defendant] complies with the court's order.

I was most impressed with Mr. Wharton and his performance in this case. Although having [the defendant] in jail does not attain our goal of having the junkyard cleaned up, it does impress the residents of this area that the Highway Department means business when it works to protect the beauty and integrity of our scenic highways.

Once again, I am happy to report to you of Mr. Wharton's diligence and thoroughness, and look forward to working with him and your department in protecting our scenic highways.

Becky Lynn
State Representative, District 42

To: Arkansas Highway and Transportation Department

I want to give you good people a really "big" vote of thanks for your excellent safety markings for night driving on Highway 425 just north of Star City. On the evening of August 17, I was very tired and driving through the area. There were several "S" curves created to bypass construction in progress, but because of the hard work of your good, safety-conscious people, I was able to keep on the road and safe. Thank you.

Larry Lobitz
Monticello



William Wharton
Staff Attorney

To: Dan Flowers, Director

Thank you for your agency's quick response in granting the City of Batesville an easement for the emergency streambank protection project just downstream of the U.S. Highway 167 bridge over the White River. The Little Rock Corps of Engineers is constructing the project in partnership with the City of Batesville. We were preparing to issue the pre-solicitation notice when we found out that the project extended approximately 30 feet onto the Highway Department's right of way.

Within hours, Mr. Lyndal Waits, District 5 Engineer; Mr. Ed Fain, Bridge Division Head; Mr. Brooks Booher, Staff Hydraulic Engineer; and Mr. Ed Hoppe, Programs and Contracts Assistant Division Head had the project work approved. This has allowed the project to proceed on schedule.

We appreciate the Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department's help.

Col. Thomas A. Holden, Jr.
Little Rock District, Corps of Engineers

To: Dan Flowers, Director

On behalf of the Oklahoma/Arkansas Chapter of the American Concrete Pavement Association (ACPA), thank you for speaking to our chapter during our first awards recognition luncheon - *Excellence In Concrete Pavement* - last Wednesday in Little Rock.

Especially given the demands placed upon your schedule as the incoming President of AASHTO and Director of AHTD, we greatly appreciate your willingness to come to our awards recognition luncheon. Your presence and remarks heightened the importance of our gathering to award excellence in concrete pavement.

Such events as the recognition of quality construction through awards can only improve construction quality. We appreciate the opportunity to reward hard work and produced results.

We look forward to working with you and your employees to provide to the Arkansas road users infrastructure improvement worthy of being called "excellent."

M.C. Ollar, Executive Director
Oklahoma/Arkansas Chapter
American Concrete Pavement Association



Dan Flowers
AHTD Director of Highways and Transportation

To: Tommy Littleton
District 8 Construction Engineer

On behalf of the Dardanelle City Council and the citizens of our area, we wish to express our appreciation to the Arkansas Highway Department for the highway improvements made in our city.

The highway intersections at North Second Street and Highway 22, and Old Highway 7 South and Highway 7 South have been problem areas for some time. The new design and paving of these areas are an

asset to our area and should alleviate the traffic problems we have experienced on Second Street.

Also, the completion of the traffic signal at the intersection of Highways 7 and 28 has been a valuable asset to the flow of traffic at Dardanelle schools. This, along with the widening of the traffic lanes and the added turn lanes, have all been a great improvement in our traffic pattern.

All in all, the highway improvements made in Dardanelle have greatly improved the traffic flow on our streets and highways and have greatly improved the appearance of our city. Please express our appreciation to all employees who worked on the construction projects.

Carolyn McGee
Mayor, City of Dardanelle

To: Dan Flowers, Director

I would be happy to have Mr. Ken Wilson, Assistant Resident Engineer for the Mountainburg Resident Engineer's Office, return to my career orientation classes. He has graciously consented to come for the past four semesters. He has taught more than 1,000 eighth-grade students the skills and knowledge that is needed to work for your department in all capacities.

I believe that your program entitled "Career Development Program" is one of the most successful that I have seen in all of my twelve years of teaching.

Thank you for your service to the future of so many.

Kenneth D. Connelly, Career Orientation Teacher
Fort Smith Chaffin Junior High School

IN MEMORY

ACTIVE

Thomas H. McMurray
District 3
died August 12

Benny O. Malone
District 8
died August 21

Worthy Morgan
District 2
died September 27

RETIREES
Bobby R. Rosenbaum
District 3
died June 4

Mildred F. Houston
Programs and Contracts
died August 11

Hassell W. Glover - District 5
died August 12

Owen R. Evans - District 1
died August 13

Jimmie R. Condrey - District 5
died August 21

James W. Robinson - District 7
died August 21

Joe H. Floyd - District 6
died August 22

James M. Holt
Equipment and Procurement
died August 24

Nancy F. Sipe
Director's Office
died August 25

Gerald E. Williams
Roadway Design
died August 29

Lee G. Jones - Highway Police
died September 3

James R. Willison - District 5
died September 10

Around the Department

COMPUTER SERVICES



June Larkyn, born August 24, is the grandson of Barbara Smith, Data Processing Manager.

LEGAL



Kim Jewell, Legal Aide, daughter Breanna and husband Tony on their family vacation to Walt Disney World in April



Breanna Jewell, daughter of Legal Aide Kim Jewell, with Cinderella

CONSTRUCTION

The Construction Division congratulates Terry Wildbur who was promoted to Administrative Assistant III in Computer Services and welcomes Bonnie Harvill who transferred from the District 2 Office to replace Terry as Administrative Aide V.



Allan Holmes, right, State Construction Engineer, presents 15-year service certificates to Allen Phillips, left, and Tina McLain, Advanced Estimates Technicians.

MAINTENANCE



W.G. Jones, Jr., right, Striping Crew Supervisor, receives a 30-year service pin from Charles Latture, left, Traffic Services Specialist.



Tommy Kirkpatrick, left, Crew Leader, receives a 15-year service certificate from Rex Spurlock, Staff Maintenance Engineer.



Frank Dobbins, center, Striping Crew Supervisor, receives a 15-year service certificate from Charles Latture, left, Traffic Services Specialist and Tony Sullivan, right, Staff Traffic Engineer.



Thomas Ramsey, left, Sign Layout Supervisor, receives a 10-year service certificate from Allan Loring, Sign Shop Supervisor.



Allan Loring, left, Sign Shop Supervisor, presents a 10-year service certificate to Lee Greene, Sign Maker II.



Donald Parker, left, Crew Leader, presents a 10-year service certificate to Kelly Harper, Bridge Painter II.



Garland Land, left, Heavy Bridge Maintenance Engineer, presents a 5-year service certificate to John McIntare, Bridge Repairer I.



Garland Land, left, Heavy Bridge Maintenance Engineer, presents a 5-year service certificate to Ed Smith, Bridge Repairer II.



Garland Land, left, Heavy Bridge Maintenance Engineer, presents a 5-year service certificate to Troy Charles, Bridge Repairer I.



Zack Dickson, son of Senior Traffic Investigator Danny and Cindy Moore, was selected to the 1998 Bryant 15-year-old All-Star baseball team. Zack and his teammates, which included Michael McClellan, son of Dana McClellan of the Human Resources Division, also participated in the 1998 Babe Ruth World Series, hosted by the city of Pine Bluff. Zack had a successful outing on the mound in Bryant's first game of the state tournament. He pitched a seven-inning, two-hit, shut-out with 14 strikeouts against Sylvan Hills. During the course of the tournament Zack hit four homeruns as the Bryant team went undefeated for the tournament. In World Series play the team was defeated by Oakland, California and Tallahassee, Florida and eliminated from the series. This team is Bryant's first baseball team to reach the World Series level of play. Zack now devotes his time and efforts to the games of football, basketball, and track. Zack lettered in all three sports as an eighth-grade player and was a starter on the ninth-grade team. He also set an eighth-grade record in the shotput event for the Bryant Junior High School team.

MATERIALS



Amanda Raines, daughter of District Materials Supervisor Earl Raines, was married June 27 to Chad Jennings.

The Materials Division welcome two new employees: Brian Singleton, Geotechnical Aide, who transferred from District 6, and Vicki Sumler, Materials Technician I, who transferred from Mail and Supply.

Congratulations to Donnie Thornton, Geotechnical Drill Operator, on the birth of his daughter, Bailey Diane, on September 15.

PLANNING AND RESEARCH

This Division welcomes Ed Hoppe from Programs and Contracts as the new Assistant Division Head and Jack Gazin, Civil Engineer I, in the Research Section.

Office Administrative Assistant III Sheila and Howard Neighbors are new parents of Myles Colton born October 3.

PROGRAMS AND CONTRACTS

This Division welcomes Sco Bennett from Planning and Research as the new Assistant Division Head.

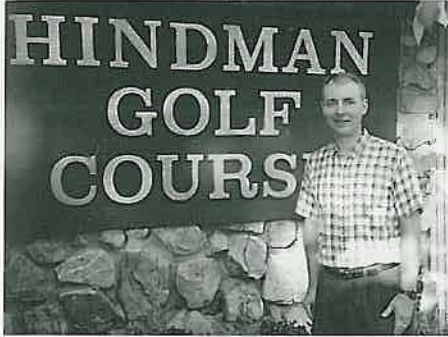
We were saddened by the death of retiree Millie Houston who died August 11. She retired in 1997 and had worked in Programs and Contracts most of her 35 years with the Department.



Roy Walden, left, Reproduction Section Head, receives a 25-year service pin from Frank Vozel, Programs and Contracts Division Head.

ROADWAY DESIGN

Congratulations to Gary English who was promoted to Roadway Designer and to Jennifer Williams who was promoted to Advanced Design Engineer.



Mark Woods, Senior Design Engineer, was elected president of the Hindman Men's Golf Association.



David Freyaldenhoven, son of Brian Freyaldenhoven, Senior Surveys Office Technician, graduated from Army basic training at Ft. Sill, Oklahoma.



Catasha and Derrick McDaniel both recently graduated from college; Derrick from Henderson State University and Catasha from Ouachita Baptist. Derrick is the son of Taylor McDaniel, Jr., Maintenance Aide II on the St. Francis County maintenance crew.

SURVEYS



Mark Glenn, left, Senior Surveys Aide, receives a 10-year service certificate from George West, Staff Senior Land Surveyor.



Kit Carson, left, Surveys Division Head, presents a 10-year service award to Tony Delph, Surveys Office Technician.

DISTRICT ONE



Bill Hamilton, seated, Motor Patrol Operator/Finish, retired with 24+ years service. He was treated to a fish fry by the Phillips County maintenance crew and presented an air wrench by his co-workers.



Margaret Rae, daughter of District Engineer Ray and Carol Woodruff, was born September 17. Margaret has two older sisters, Laura and Mery Beth.



Taylor McDaniel, III, is a 1998 graduate of Lee Senior High School in Marianna. He also worked as an AHTD summer employee. He is the son of Taylor McDaniel, Jr., Maintenance Aide II on the St. Francis County maintenance crew.

DISTRICT TWO

Debbie Shook is the new District Receptionist. She and husband Jerry have two sons, one daughter, two granddaughters and one grandson. They reside in Lincoln County.



Worthy Morgan, Lead Person for the Ashley County maintenance crew, died September 27 of an illness.



Paul Griffith, Grant County Area Maintenance Supervisor, achieved 40 years of service in September. He has been the Grant County Area Maintenance Supervisor for 33 years.



Ernie Westfall, left, District Maintenance Engineer, presents a 20-year service certificate to Bill Plunkett, Lincoln County Area Maintenance Supervisor.



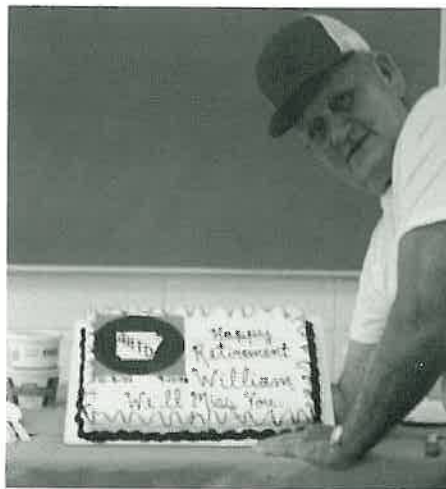
District Engineer Jim Briley, left, presents a 20-year service certificate to Robert Kendall, Maintenance Job Superintendent.



Lois Turner, left, Construction Materials Inspector, receives a 10-year service certificate from Michael Benson, Resident Engineer.



District Engineer Jim Briley, left, with Bonnie Harvill, Office Administrative Assistant V, who transferred to the Construction Division in Little Rock



William Kendall, Jefferson County maintenance crew Lead Person, retired with 24+ years service.



Ray Spears is the new Sign Crew Supervisor.



Mallory Paige McGeorge, born July 30, is the granddaughter of Bettye Carter-Johnson, District Permit Officer.

DISTRICT THREE



William Tyler, left, District Engineer, presents a 10-year service certificate to Jim Cramer, Hope Resident Engineer.



William Tyler, left, District Engineer, presents a 30-year service certificate to Kenneth Harris, Nashville Resident Engineer.



William Tyler, left, District Engineer, presents a 20-year service certificate to Bobby Bailey, Sevier County Area Maintenance Supervisor.



Jason Efird, left, Assistant Resident Engineer, receives a 10-year service certificate from Kenny Bennett, Texarkana Resident Engineer.



Lucas Rex, left, born February 1, and Matthew Bradley, born September 22, are the sons of Advanced Construction Field Engineer Rex and Kim Vines of Texarkana.



Andrew McClendon, born August 5, is the son of Little River Area Headquarters Attendant Joe and Robin Daniels.



Chase Arehart is the son of Kelly Turk-Arehart, Single Axle Truck Driver for the Little River County maintenance crew.

DISTRICT FOUR



Larry Thornburg, left, Washington County Area Maintenance Supervisor, receives a 30-year service pin from District Engineer Harold Beaver.



Cornelius Peters, left, Sebastian County Area Maintenance Supervisor, receives a 30-year pin from David Becker, District Maintenance Superintendent.



Larry Neff, left, Crew Leader, receives a 25-year service pin from David Becker, District Maintenance Superintendent.



Bashar Qedan, left, Resident Engineer, presents a 20-year service certificate to Gary Greene, Resident Office Technician.



Clinton Isaacs, left, Crawford County Area Maintenance Supervisor, receives a 20-year service certificate from David Becker, District Maintenance Superintendent.



Ray Jett, left, Scott County Area Maintenance Supervisor, receives a 20-year service certificate from David Becker, District Maintenance Superintendent.



Steve Neff, left, Sign Crew Supervisor, receives a 15-year service certificate from David Becker, District Maintenance Superintendent.



Bill Campbell, left, Logan County Area Maintenance Supervisor, presents a 15-year service certificate to Nicky Mings, Maintenance Aide II.



Anita Jordan, left, Area Headquarters Attendant, receives a 10-year service certificate from Clinton Isaacs, Crawford County Area Maintenance Supervisor.



Frankie and Jodie Nunley were married August 16 on White Rock Mountain in Franklin County. Jodie is the daughter of Area Headquarters Attendant Anita and Phillip Jordan.



Megan Yamamoto, sister of Shilo Key, Vegetation Controller, participated in the Crawford County Princess Contest at the Crawford County Fair.



Logan Michael Bain, born August 21, is the grandson of Sebastian County Area Headquarters Attendant James and Katie Didiuk.

DISTRICT FIVE



District 5 Service Awards (L-R): Leroy Swink, Resident Engineer, 40 years; Ron Hedges, Assistant Maintenance Superintendent, 35 years; Fred Heyde, District Bridge Inspector, 30 years



25-Year Service Awards (L-R): Ron Satterwhite, Assistant Resident Engineer; Kermit Gay, Single Axle Truck Driver; Mike Lackey, Crew Leader; Billy Wallace, Single Axle Truck Driver; Terry Sipes, Senior Construction Materials Inspector



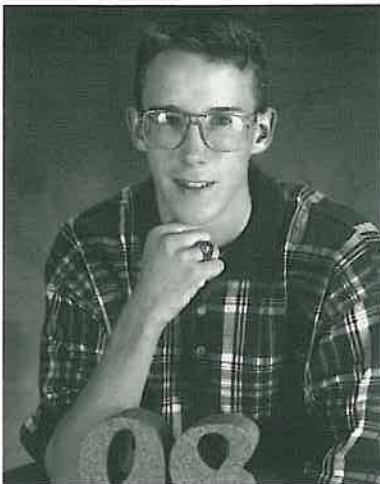
20-Year Service Awards (L-R): Billy Clemons, Backhoe/Front End Loader Operator; Barry Hutson, Area Headquarters Attendant; Pat Jackson, Field Clerk II; Mike Lassiter, Paver Operator; Bob White, Motor Patrol Operator; Tommy Harper, Rest Area Attendant



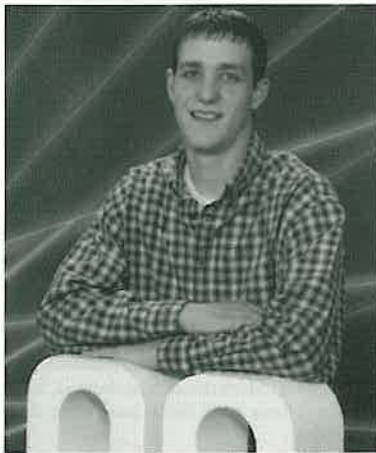
District 5 Service Awards (L-R): Stan Glover, Assistant Resident Engineer, 15 years; Leon Sanders, Motor Patrol Operator, 20 years; Greg Hellman, Construction Aide III, 20 years; Richard Earnheart, Distributor/Roller Operator, 15 years; Randy Rector, Maintenance Aide I, 20 years

DISTRICT SIX

District Six welcomes Patricia Fletcher, District Receptionist, who transferred from Right of Way Engineering and Stacey Powell, District Fuel Clerk.



Tony Patterson, son of Ann Patterson, North Little Rock Resident Office Technician, is a 1998 graduate of Cabot High School.



Jon Burnett, son of Dan Burnett, North Little Rock Advanced Design Engineer, is a 1998 graduate of Oak Grove High School.



Eric Paulus, right, Garland County Crew Leader, and his brother Gordon attended the Food City 500 NASCAR race at the Bristol Motor Speedway on March 29.

DISTRICT SEVEN



Nicholas Archer, age 4, with baby sister Lauren Elizabeth, born June 30, are the children of District Maint. Engineer David and Kim Archer.



Amy Howell, shown with Baby Girl, won Grand Champion Angus Heifer at the 1998 Ouachita County Fair. Amy is the daughter of Equipment Maintenance Supervisor Glen Howell.



Emily Howell, daughter of Equipment Maintenance Supervisor Glen Howell, is shown with one of her racing homer pigeons. Emily won four first place ribbons for her pigeons at the 1998 Ouachita County Fair.

Congratulations to Joyce Howell, wife of Equipment Maintenance Supervisor Glen Howell, for being named Arkansas Career Orientation Teacher of the Year. She is the career orientation teacher at Fairview Junior High School.



Simone Ragine Martin is the granddaughter of Columbia County Crew Leader Simon McGraw.

DISTRICT EIGHT



Front to back: Laura Riley with the U.S. Army stationed at Fort Sam Houston; Specialist Jeremy Duvall and Sgt. First Class Donnie Duvall, both with the National Guard 224 Maintenance. Laura and Jeremy are the children of Donnie who is a Senior Mechanic in the District Shop. Donnie received an AHTD 25-year service award in July.



Sarah Conley is shown with her Grand Champion Commercial Heifer at the Pope County Fair. Sarah is the daughter of Roselie Conley, Construction Helper II at the Russellville Residency.

DISTRICT NINE



District 9 Service Awards
 (L-R): Karen Wasson, Personnel Clerk, 5 years; Billy Joe Roberts, Storeroom Assistant I, 10 years; Edie Korcheck, Office Admin. Assistant V, 10 years; Glenda Goats, Permit Officer, 20 years; Debbie Meyer, Office Manager, 25 years



Marcia Roberts, District Bookkeeper, retired in June with 28+ years service.



Wayne Trammell, left, Senior Inspector, receives a 20-year service certificate from Resident Engineer Greg Harding.



Jeffrey Wheeler, left, Adv. Construction Field Engineer, receives a 10-year service certificate from Resident Engineer Greg Harding.



Janie Marshall, left, Inspector, receives a 10-year service certificate from Resident Engineer Greg Harding.



Derek Blake, born May 11, is the grandson of Glen and Debra Akins. Glen is a Multi-Axle Truck Driver for the District sealing crew.



Anne Carter, daughter of Louis Carter, Jr., received her black belt in July. Junior is the Area Maintenance Supervisor at the Garfield Headquarters in Benton County.



Wacey Watts, son of Eddie Watts, Maintenance Aide II for the Searcy County maintenance crew, is a 1998 graduate of Leslie High School.

DISTRICT TEN



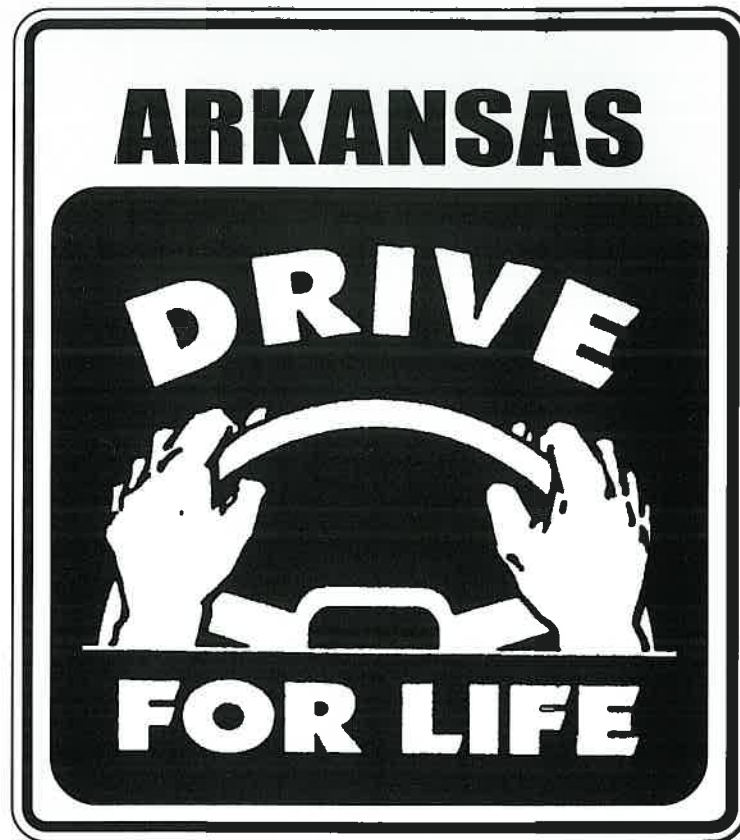
District 10 Service Awards
 (L-R) James Adams, Bridge Inspector Helper, 10 years; L.D. Brown, Crew Leader, 20 years; Richard Rice, Welder, 10 years; David Pratt, Lead Person, 15 years; John Allison, Crew Leader, 20 years; Billy Mitchell, Maintenance Aide II, 10 years; Michael Tarry, Const. Materials Inspector, 10 years; Kenneth Stapler, Multi-Axle Truck Driver, 5 years; Rick Smelser, Bridge Repairer II, 20 years; Jimmy McKnight, Area Headquarters Attendant, 15 years



Randy Cooper, Storeroom Assistant II, is shown with wife Alissa and their new son, Andrew Vaughn.



Chasity Lashae Moore is the granddaughter of Gene Dunn, Poinsett County Area Maintenance Supervisor.



**BUCKLED, SOBER
AND SAFE**

Remember!
It is Arkansas Law
and AHTD Policy
To Buckle Your Seatbelt!



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