



# CENTERLINE

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## Arkansas Represented On White House Christmas Tree

When First Lady Laura Bush debuts the official White House Christmas tree this year in Washington D.C., the state of Arkansas will be represented with a handcrafted ornament created by Sharlotte Mixon, an artist and member of the Arkansas Highway Police.

Mixon was contacted early in 2002 by the Governor's Office, at which time she was one of two people invited to create an ornament representing Arkansas for the national tree. The only requirement was that the ornament feature a bird indigenous to Arkansas.

The result is a hand-carved Arkansas cardinal that Mixon

created from cypress driftwood she found floating in Lake Chicot in southeast Arkansas.

Along with the carved cypress wood, which is painted a bright red, Mixon used glass to create the bird's eyes and metal for the legs.

The First Lady announced the White House holiday theme the first week of December. Mixon and her twelve-year-old granddaughter traveled to Washington D.C. to attend a reception at the White House for all artists participating in the Christmas tree project.

In addition to her work for the White House, Mixon has also been nominated for an Arkansas Heritage Award from the Department of Arkansas Heritage.



Sharlotte Mixon displays her handmade ornament for the White House tree.

### What's Inside

Inclement Weather Policy..	2
Star EAP To Hold Classes..	2
Road Condition Directory.....	3
2003 Bid Letting Schedule..	3
AHTD People .....	3-4

*The Arkansas State Highway Commission and Director wish you a safe and happy holiday season!*

*J.W. "BUDDY" BENAFIELD, CHAIRMAN; MARY P. "PRISSY" HICKERSON, VICE CHAIRMAN;  
JONATHAN BARNETT; CARL S. ROSENBAUM;  
AND JOHN "M" LIPTON*

DAN FLOWERS  
DIRECTOR OF HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION

### Holiday Reminder

Tuesday, December 24 and Wednesday, December 25, 2002, are state holidays for Highway and Transportation Department employees in observance of Christmas Eve and Christmas Day.

Wednesday, January 1, 2003, is a state holiday in observance of New Year's Day.

Monday, January 20, 2003, is a state holiday in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.

All work will be suspended except for cases of emergency.

With the Legislative Session beginning on January 13, 2003, appropriate personnel designated by the Division Head or District Engineer will remain on duty this day.

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# Inclement Weather Policy

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Winter weather is on the way. In the event Department employees are excused by official action due to inclement weather, the following policy will be in effect.

An official media notice to state agencies will apply to employees except designated essential personnel. The Inclement Weather Policy excuses all other employees

from work until 10:00 a.m. unless otherwise specified by official media notice. Employees who report after the excused time will be charged leave calculated between the excused time and their arrival time. Employees who do not report to work at all will be charged a full day's leave.

Sick leave or annual leave may be utilized for inclement weather. Leave without pay will be utilized for employees who are temporary, part time or in an exhausted leave status.

Employees on flex time must adjust their time accordingly.

## Star EAP To Hold Classes In January

Star EAP (Employee Assistance Program) is offering classes beginning in mid January. To reserve a place, call 501-218-1541 or 1-866-378-1645. Classes will be held at the CORPHEALTH office at 1701 Centerview Dr., Suite 101, Little Rock, AR 72211

### Communication R Us

Monday Nights 6:00-7:00 p.m.

**Facilitator: Dan Fleming, LPC**

*Dan is an experienced couple's therapist and offers couples the opportunity to build their relationship toolbox.*

### Coping with Attention Problems

Tuesday Nights 6:00 – 7:00 p.m.

**Facilitator: Samara Duckworth, LPC**

*Sam has many years of experience in treating children with ADD/ADHD and offers parents tools for positive behavior management and motivation.*

### Anger Management

Wednesday Nights 6:00 – 7:00 p.m.

**Facilitator: Stefany Knight, LCSW**

*Stefany has a number of years experience in helping others to*

*change negative thoughts into positive actions and offers participants a healthy view of anger and how to cope with this powerful emotion.*

### Evening Relapse Prevention / Recovery Skills Group

Thursday Nights 6:00 – 7:00 p.m.

**Facilitator: Brian Armstrong, LADAC.**

*In addition to being a licensed alcohol and drug abuse counselor, Brian has many years working in the field of addiction counseling.*



# Road Condition Directory

The following is a list of 24-hour service phone numbers that may be useful during adverse weather.

Arkansas road conditions.....501-569-2374  
www.arkansashighways.com

## Road conditions for surrounding states

KANSAS.....800-585-7623	MISSOURI.....800-222-6400
KENTUCKY.....866-737-3767	OKLAHOMA....405-425-2385
LOUISIANA.....800-259-4929	TENNESSEE.....800-858-6349
MISSISSIPPI....601-987-1212	TEXAS.....800-452-9292

## Commission Letting Schedule

The following 2003 dates have been scheduled for Commission Bid Lettings. Lettings are held in the Central Office Auditorium.

January 8  
February 19  
April 2  
May 14  
July 9  
August 20  
October 1  
November 19



# AHTD PEOPLE

November 2002

## NEW EMPLOYEES

**Arkansas Highway Police**  
Leah Mumaw, Data Entry Operator

**Environmental**  
Bart Dudley, Env. Field Tech II

**Human Resources**  
Johanna Thomas, Office Admin. Asst. II

**Materials**  
Josh Higginbottom, Geotechnical Aide I  
Nick Holt, District Lab Technician

**Right of Way**  
Connie Stayton, Right of Way Negotiator

### Construction

**District 2**  
Hence Herd, Construction Helper I  
Eric Lucas, Single Axle Truck Driver

**District 3**  
Eddie Nailon, General Laborer

Rodney Stone, Single Axle Truck Driver  
Jeremy Taylor, General Laborer

**District 4**  
Bobby Allred, Single Axle Truck Driver  
Amanda Bentley, General Laborer  
David Berry, General Laborer  
Rebecca Hennessey, General Laborer

**District 5**  
Jeffery Gillihan, General Laborer  
Carolyn Maxwell, Single Axle Truck Dr.  
Timothy Smith, Single Axle Truck Dr.

**District 6**  
Jaymie Dillard, Single Axle Truck Driver  
John McTieran, III, Single Axle Truck Dr.

**District 8**  
Rickey Garrett, Sr., General Laborer  
Gregory Konkol, Single Axle Truck Dr.  
Raymond McCoy, General Laborer

**District 9**  
Robert Moore, Civil Engineer

**District 10**  
Larry Burdette, Single Axle Truck Driver

## PROMOTIONS

**Arkansas Highway Police**  
James Moore, Second Lieutenant  
James Speer, First Lieutenant

**Equipment and Procurement**  
Dave Stevens, Senior Mechanic

**Human Resources**  
Natasha Halbert, Office Admin. Asst. III

**Maintenance**  
Alfred Hemmerich, HBM Crew Leader  
Ronnie Johnson, Sign Layout Supervisor

**Materials**  
Richard Adams, Geotechnical Aide II  
Mack Scott, Materials Technician III

**Planning and Research**  
Tim Mahan, Cartographer III

**Surveys**  
Jeffrey Lenard, Surveys Office Technician

# AHTD PEOPLE

## Promotions Continued

### District 1

**Ricky Benson**, Construction Helper II  
**Elmer Calahan**, Maintenance Aide II  
**Jason Moore**, Construction Helper II

### District 2

**Charles Gant**, Single Axle Truck Driver  
**Tommy Gilliam**, Single Axle Truck Driver  
**Walter Jenkins**, Single Axle Truck Driver  
**Victor Jordan**, Single Axle Truck Driver  
**Ben Novak**, Construction Proj. Coordinator

### District 3

**Gregory Allen**, Motor Patrol Oper. Finish  
**Kenny Fincher**, Construction Aide III  
**Carl Jensen**, Bridge Repairer II  
**William Ryan**, Inspector  
**Jeffrey Taylor**, Single Axle Truck Driver

### District 4

**Osea Holloway**, Maintenance Aide I  
**Donald Mizell**, Backhoe/Front end Loader Opr.

### District 5

**Brian Arford**, Maintenance Aide I  
**Christopher James**, Single Axle Truck Dr.

### District 6

**Jerry Atchley**, Construction Materials Insp.  
**Edgar Burch**, Backhoe/Front end Loader Opr.  
**Edward Erick**, Construction Aide II  
**Jerry Rapier**, Fuel Clerk  
**Dennis Robertson**, Senior Inspector  
**Mark Voyles**, Senior Inspector  
**Edwin Ware**, Maintenance Aide I

### District 7

**Carley Bledsoe, Jr.**, Maintenance Aide II

### District 8

**Helen Allred**, Single Axle Truck Driver  
**Bruce Bryan**, Mechanic  
**Paola Castellanos**, Civil Engineer I  
**Tim Flory**, Mechanic  
**Michael Stovall**, Single Axle Truck Driver

### District 9

**Keith Carpenter**, Mechanic

### District 10

**James Toney**, Advanced Const. Field Eng.

## SERVICE

### 35 YEARS

**Barbara Mize**, D-6 Field Clerk II

### 30 YEARS

**Bettye Carter-Johnson**, D-2 District Permit Officer  
**Larry Richard**, D-9 Sr. Body Rep. and Painter  
**Dennald Stroud**, Sr. Roadway Designer

### 25 YEARS

**Carl Bramlett**, D-3 Crew Leader  
**Karen Colclasure**, D-6 Office Admn. Asst. V  
**William Cox**, D-9 Dist./Roller Operator  
**Edward Fisher**, D-4 Area HQ Attendant  
**Travis Greer, Jr.**, D-7 Crew Leader  
**Robin Linn**, D-4 Construction Aide III  
**Floyd Rippond, Jr.**, Right of Way Plans Designer II  
**Dennis Robertson**, D-6 Inspector  
**Mike Webb**, Environ. Sect. Hd. Assesments

### 20 YEARS

**Nancy Jumper**, D-1 Fuel Clerk  
**Phyllis Leonard**, D-9 Resid. Office Tech.  
**Danny Simmons**, Surveys Crew Chief

### 15 YEARS

**David Archer**, D-7 Dist. Construction Engineer  
**Calvin Foster**, D-10 Storeroom Assistant II  
**David Hendrix**, D-10 Maintenance Aide II  
**Matt Hooper**, AR. Hwy Police Corporal  
**Jeffrey Jones**, D-4 Construction Project Coord.  
**Jim Kaufman**, P&C Traffic Accid. Analyst II  
**Darrel Munnerylyn**, D-5 Motor Patrol Opr.  
**James McClendon**, D-6 Hydraulic Excvtr. Oper. Finish  
**Aronda Newman**, D-2 Motor Patrol Oper.  
**Kenny Smith**, D-1 Maintenance Aide II  
**Ronnie Stout**, D-4 Motor Patrol Opr./Finish  
**Michael Trussell**, D-1 Area HQ Attendant  
**James Thompson**, D-3 Crew Leader

### 10 YEARS

**Marvin Brown**, D-3 Dist./Roller Operator  
**Crystal Cole**, Human Resources Officer  
**Joey Fierro**, D-9 Multi-Axle Truck Driver

**Shawn Foust**, AR. Highway Police Sergeant  
**Brenda Grubbs**, D-1 Area HQ Attendant  
**Steven Hamilton**, D-2 Senior Mechanic  
**Brenda Harris**, D-7 Dist./Roller Operator  
**Johnny O'Neal**, D-7 Bridge Repairer I  
**Christopher Penny**, D-2 Maintenance Aide II  
**Carole Stafford**, Fiscal Serv. Acct. Analyst  
**Marcus Watson**, D-5 Motor Patrol Operator

### 5 YEARS

**Lynn Alexander, Jr.**, D-10 Maint. Aide I  
**Steve Carter**, D-4 Motor Patrol Opr./Finish  
**Eva Luster**, D-5 Receptionist  
**Larry Tate**, D-8 Area HQ Attendant  
**Rebecca Wynn**, D-2 Resident Office Tech.

## RETIREMENTS

**Harold Smith**, D-2 Motor Patrol Operator/Finish retired November 11, 2002 with 35+ years

## The AHTD CENTERLINE

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### ARKANSAS STATE HIGHWAY COMMISSION

J.W. "BUDDY" BENAFIELD, CHAIRMAN  
MARY P. "PRISSY" HICKERSON, VICE CHAIRMAN  
JONATHAN BARNETT  
CARL S. ROSENBAUM  
JOHN LIPTON

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## TRAVEL CARD NEWS...

The Office of State Purchasing and American Express have agreed to discontinue the travel card program effective December 31, 2002. American Express will de-activate all American Express Corporate Cards on this date. Persons with American Express cards need to cut the card and throw it away. Do not return the card to American Express. A final bill should be received sometime in January.