

Hurricane Remnants Flood Arkansas Highways

As Hurricane Gustav came roaring towards the gulf coast of Louisiana, thousands of evacuees from the area made their way to Arkansas to escape the dangerous storm. Unfortunately, Gustav made its way into Arkansas as well, leaving numerous state highways underwater for the second time this year.

The storm moved into our state the first week of September leaving record rainfall amounts in its path. Nearly a foot of rain fell in parts of Hot Spring, Garland, Grant, Calhoun and Bradley counties. Sections of twelve state highways and dozens more county and rural roads were closed due to the storm.

Among the highways that experienced flooding were 67/167 near Jacksonville, 52 in Chicot County, 8 and 133 in Ashley County, 46 in Grant County, 160 and 63 in Bradley County, 51 in Clark County, 7 in Dallas, Pope and Ouachita Counties, and 95 and 287 in Conway County.

A section of Highway 7 near Pelsor, in Pope County, was closed to through traffic on September 4th due to slope damage. The same location suffered slope damage in March of this year when flooding left damaged highways in 32 counties. Crouse Construction Company of Harrison, Arkansas, was awarded a \$492,948.72 contract in August to make repairs to Highway 7. *(See FLOOD, Page 6)*



The northbound lane of Highway 71 at Mansfield is overtaken by rising water.



Employee: Gail Davis

Job position: District 8 Permit Officer

Job Duties: I issue permits for anything having to do with highway right-of-way including driveways, utility work, special mowing permits, seismic exploration, house moving and banners over state highways.

Length of Service: I have been with the AHTD for 27 years. I started working at the Clarksville Resident Engineer's Office as a Field Clerk in 1981. After a few years, I was promoted to Office Tech, then in 2002, I came to the District as the Permit Officer.

Favorite part of the job: I worked inside at the R.E. Office for 21 years, so, I'd have to say that my favorite part of the job is getting out of the office as well as meeting and working with so many nice people. I still have a lot of in-house paperwork to do, but I really enjoy being out.

Background: I grew up in Waldron, and moved to the Russellville area to attend Arkansas Tech, where I received a Bachelor of Science degree in commercial art. I lived in Clarksville after college and now live on the lake at Piney Bay, which is about half way between Russellville and Clarksville.

Family: I have two sons, two daughters-in-law and five grandchildren.

Hobbies/Interests: I'd have to say that my favorite things are the grandkids and being on the water. I have a boat and get out on the lake and river as often as possible. I've successfully turned the grandkids into waterdogs, and they like it as much as I do. We go swimming and tubing, and a couple of them are learning to ski. I also like working in the yard and just being outside.

CONSTRUCTION CORNER



Construction is currently underway in Jefferson County to construct the Interstate 530/Future Interstate 69 Connector Interchange. The work on the interchange and the future Interstate 69 connector is located on the southern side of Pine Bluff, just to the east of Highway 63. This project involves constructing the ramp embankments and bridges for the interchange. The contract was awarded to Jensen Construction Company of Des Moines, Iowa, in July of 2007 for \$25,090,709.49. When completed, the Interstate 69 Connector will extend Interstate 530 southward beyond Pine Bluff and serve as the new four lane connector between Pine Bluff and Wilmar. Several projects are already underway in Jefferson and Lincoln counties to build two lanes of the connector. Work on the interchange in Pine Bluff should be completed in mid-2010.

DISTRICT TWO

2009 Active Insurance Enrollment Meetings

The enrollment period for health insurance for AHTD active employees is October 1st - 31st. The following meetings have been scheduled around the state for employees who would like more information or who have questions.

Monday, September 29

8:30 a.m. - District 9/AHP-D3, District Office, 4590 Highway 65, Harrison

2:00 p.m. - Rogers National Guard Armory, 1408 S. First Street, Rogers

Tuesday, September 30

9:00 a.m. & 1:00 p.m. - District 4/AHP-D2, District Office, 4019 Towson Avenue, Ft. Smith

Wednesday, October 1

9:00 a.m. & 1:00 p.m. - District 8/AHP-D2, District Office, 370 Aspen Lane, Russellville

Monday, October 6

8:30 a.m. & 1:00 p.m. - District 6/AHP-D10, Central Office Auditorium, 10324 I-30, Little Rock

Tuesday, October 7

8:30 a.m. - District 2/AHP-D1, Southeast Arkansas College, 1900 Hazel Street, Pine Bluff

1:15 p.m. - C & L Electric CO-OP Corporation, 900 Church Street, Star City

State Fair Reminder

There is still time to sign up to volunteer at the AHTD booth at the State Fair this year.

The 2008 Arkansas State Fair will be held October 10th - 19th at the State Fairgrounds in Little Rock. If you would like to volunteer to work a few hours at our booth, contact the Public Affairs Office at 501-569-2227.



Wednesday, October 8

9:00 a.m. & 1:00 p.m. - District 7/AHP-D4, District Office, 2245 California Avenue, Camden

Thursday, October 9

9:00 a.m. & 1:00 p.m. - District 3/AHP-D4, Fair Park Community Center, Hope (Park Drive and S. Mockingbird Lane)

Monday, October 13

8:30 a.m. & 1:00 p.m. - Central Office Auditorium, 10324 I-30, Little Rock

Tuesday, October 14

9:00 a.m. & 1:00 p.m. - District 5/AHP-D2, District Office, 1673 Batesville Boulevard, Batesville

Wednesday, October 15

9:00 a.m. & 1:00 p.m. - District 1/AHP-D1, District Office, 2701 U.S. Highway 64, Wynne

Thursday, October 16

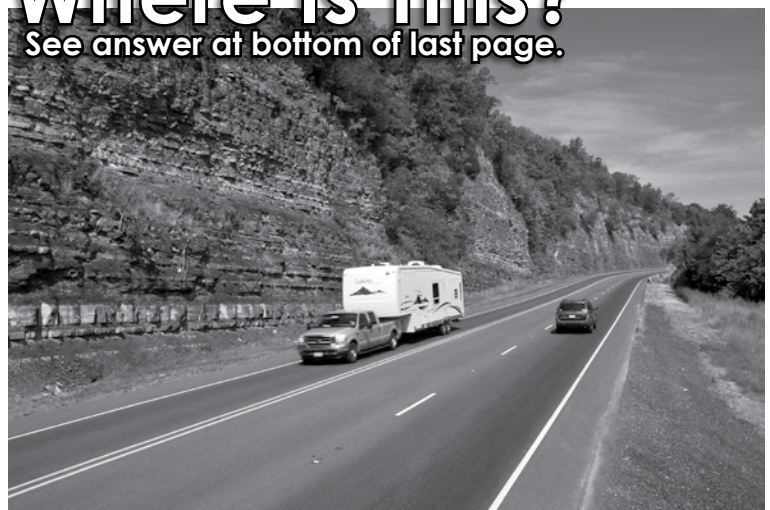
9:00 a.m. & 1:00 p.m. - District 10/AHP-D5, District Office, 2510 Kingshighway, Paragould

Tuesday, October 21

8:30 a.m. & 1:00 p.m. - Central Office Auditorium, 10324 I-30, Little Rock

Where Is This?

See answer at bottom of last page.





District 3: Three-year-old Ally Blue won 1st place in the Hope Watermelon Festival Beautiful Baby Contest for her age group with this photo taken by her mom. Ally is the daughter of Hope Resident Engineer Rochelle Blue and Tim Blue.



District 3: (l. to r.) Kenny Bennett, District Maintenance Engineer, presents Connie Pate, Distributor Roller Operator, her 25-year service award from Don Donaldson, District Engineer.



District 3: (l. to r.) Kathy Barham, Sealing Job Superintendent, receives her 25-year service award from Don Donaldson, District Engineer.



District 3: (l. to r.) Jason Efrid, Resident Engineer, receives his 20-year service award from Don Donaldson, District Engineer.



District 3: Eighteen-month-old Michael Searcy, grandson of Susan Smith, Office Tech, won 3rd place in the Hope Watermelon Festival Beautiful Baby Contest in his age group.



District 4: (l. to r.) Shannen Ray, Area Maintenance Supervisor, presents David Nelson, Motor Patrol Operator-Finish, with his 10-year service award.



District 5: Juliann, age 3, showing off the 4-pound bass she caught with her Barbie fishing pole. She is the daughter of Coleen Stevens, Office Administrative Assistant V.



District 6: Summer Lee Parks, granddaughter of William Stivers, Multi-Axle Truck Driver, was born March 28th, weighing 7 pounds and measuring 18 inches long.



District 7: (l. to r.) Nathan Edwards, District Bridge Inspector, presents Ricky Steed, Assistant District Bridge Inspector, with his 20-year service award.



District 7: (l. to r.) William "Hicky" Hickman, Area Maintenance Supervisor, presents Thomas Ezell, Motor Patrol Operator, with his 5-year service award.



District 7: (l. to r.) Cameron Forbush, Finish Carpenter, receives his 15-year service award from Joel Todd, Maintenance Crew Supervisor.



District 10: Receiving their 5-year service awards were (l. to r.) James Baney, Multi-Axle Truck Driver; Kim Harmon, Maintenance Aide I; and Mike Cooper, Senior Mechanic.



District 10: (l. to r.) Jordan Wicker, Backhoe/Front End Loader Operator, receives his 5-year service award from Joe Barnett, District Engineer.



District 10: (l. to r.) Jason Stigall, Backhoe/Front End Loader Operator, receives his 10-year service award from Joe Barnett, District Engineer.



District 10: (l. to r.) Ronnie Richardson, Bridge Repairer I, receives his 10-year service award from Joe Barnett, District Engineer.



District 10: Larry Henson, Motor Patrol Operator, received his 10-year service award.



District 10: Keith "PaPaw" Smith, District Bridge Inspector, holds his new granddaughter, Rylee Lynn Smith, born on August 18th.



District 10: AlexSandra Wright, age 8, was named Most Photogenic and won the Petite Miss Warrior Pageant at East Pointsett Co. School. She is the daughter of Teresa Wright, Resident Engineer.



Equipment and Procurement: Receiving their service awards were (l. to r.) Larry Golden, Senior Mechanic, 25 years; Ray McFee, Station Attendant, 5 years; Shelly Morrow, Office Administrative Assistant I, 5 years; Mike Dudoich, Division Office Manager, 30 years; and Ken Parker, Equipment Specialist, 30 years.



Legal: (l. to r.) Robert L. Wilson, Chief Legal Counsel, presents Michelle Davenport, Staff Attorney, with her 5-year service award.



Legal: (l. to r.) Robert L. Wilson, Chief Legal Counsel, presents David Long, Staff Attorney, with his 5-year service award.



Maintenance: (l. to r.) Robert Tankersley, Bridge Repairer II, receives his 5-year service award from Mike Hill, Staff Heavy Bridge Maintenance Engineer.



Maintenance: (l. to r.) Brad Hall, Paint Transport Truck Driver, receives his 5-year service award from Ed Marlin, Striper Superintendent.



Maintenance: (l. to r.) Glenn Cheatham, Heavy Bridge Maintenance Engineer, presents Eugene Farrell, Bridge Repairer II, with his 5-year service award.

FLOOD *(Continued)*

“Work crews at this location on Highway 7 had traffic restricted to one lane and were beginning repair work from the damage suffered earlier this year when the recent rain caused some cracking to the lane we had open,” stated Scott Mullis, AHTD District Eight Engineer. “Because of the potential instability of the roadway, we decided to close the highway to through traffic.”

One lane of traffic has recently reopened at this location, making through travel on Highway 7 possible once again in northern Arkansas.

Overall, 18 counties were declared eligible for federal assistance, mostly in southern Arkansas. A total of 47 shelters were set up in community centers and churches across the state. Many schools and businesses were closed during the storm due to loss of electricity. Over 100,000 Arkansans lost power during the peak of the bad weather. Several rivers were sent flooding out of their banks including the Petit Jean River at Danville, the Saline River at Benton and the Ouachita River at Arkadelphia.

Receding waters have allowed AHTD workers to assess any damage there may have been to roadways, culverts and



Slope damage to Highway 7 near Pelsor, where seven inches of rain associated with Hurricane Gustav fell.

bridges around the state during this second round of flooding.

As if Gustav wasn't enough to deal with, Hurricane Ike followed in its footsteps just one week later. Ike entered the state as a tropical storm and deteriorated to a tropical depression just hours later. Though the storm cut power to over 275,000 Arkansans and spawned a few tornadoes, there were fewer reports of flooded highways with Ike. Flooding would have been worse had Ike not moved through the state so quickly.



Work underway to repair Highway 7, south of Pelsor.

ARKANSAS STATE HIGHWAY
EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM
JUNE 30, 2008

TO: ALL MEMBERS OF THE ARKANSAS STATE HIGHWAY EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM

THE COMPARATIVE INFORMATION BELOW WILL GIVE YOU AN IDEA OF THE GROWTH AND FINANCIAL POSITION OF YOUR RETIREMENT SYSTEM.

	<u>2007</u>	<u>2008</u>	<u>INCREASE</u>
NUMBER OF ACTIVE MEMBERS (EMPLOYEES)	3,428	3,351	(77)
NUMBER OF RETIRED MEMBERS	2,667	2,722	55
NUMBER OF DROP PLAN MEMBERS	424	446	22
ANNUITIES (BENEFITS) PAID	61,631,027	64,666,482	3,035,455
CASH AND SHORT TERM INVESTMENTS	128,697,901	163,435,520	34,737,619
INVESTMENTS (COST)	927,483,196	970,352,552	42,869,356
TOTAL ASSETS (MARKET)	1,186,245,867	1,242,395,996	56,150,129
INTEREST & DIVIDENDS FROM INVESTMENTS	23,591,938	26,626,760	3,034,822
GAIN ON SALE OF SECURITIES	72,373,578	94,031,224	21,657,646
*RATE OF INVESTMENT RETURN (MARKET)	12.1%	8.63%	(3.47%)

*EXCLUDES CAPITAL GAINS ON SALES FOR 2007 AND 2008 OF \$72.4 MILLION AND \$94.0 MILLION, RESPECTIVELY.

AS SHOWN ABOVE, YOUR RETIREMENT SYSTEM HAS INVESTMENTS IN STOCK AND FIXED INCOME SECURITIES OF \$970,352,552 FROM WHICH WE RECEIVED EARNINGS OF \$26,626,760. THESE INVESTMENTS ARE COMPOSED OF THE FOLLOWING SECURITIES AT COST:

	<u>AVERAGE RATE EARNED ON COST</u>	<u>COST</u>	<u>PORTFOLIO</u>
CORPORATE BONDS:			26%
AEROSPACE	8.20%	499,832	
AUTOMOTIVE & MACHINERY	6.06%	9,981,356	
BANKS & FINANCIAL	4.95%	65,697,821	
DRUGS, MEDICAL, & CHEMICAL	5.63%	31,724,038	
EDUCATION SERVICES	5.41%	1,825,842	
ELECTRONICS & OFFICE EQUIPMENT	5.23%	18,239,469	
INSURANCE	5.33%	504,299	
PAPER	5.31%	1,072,867	
PETROLEUM PRODUCTS & EQUIPMENT	5.46%	65,306,465	
RETAIL & RESTAURANTS	5.17%	33,031,549	
TRANSPORTATION	5.95%	8,694,121	
UTILITIES	6.95%	16,360,182	
U.S. GOVERNMENT AGENCIES		158,968,016	16%
COMMON STOCK:			58%
AEROSPACE		386,357	
AUTOMOTIVE & MACHINERY		44,692,206	
BANKS & FINANCIAL		35,534,831	
DRUGS, MEDICAL, & CHEMICAL		59,291,363	
EDUCATION SERVICES		243,975	
ELECTRONICS & OFFICE EQUIPMENT		188,643,276	
HOUSING & BUILDING MATERIALS		13,476,432	
INSURANCE		12,047,612	
PAPER		287,093	
PETROLEUM PRODUCTS & EQUIPMENT		146,067,013	
RETAIL & RESTAURANTS		50,316,111	
TRANSPORTATION		3,577,904	
UTILITIES		3,882,522	

OVERALL, THE TOTAL ASSETS AT COST OF THE RETIREMENT SYSTEM INCREASED FROM \$1,062,614,605 TO \$1,140,084,347, A GAIN OF \$77,469,742.

new employees

ARKANSAS HIGHWAY POLICE - David Fort, Permit Technician

CONSTRUCTION - Chancie Acosta, Construction Helper I, RE 05

HUMAN RESOURCES - Charlie Beck, Gen. Laborer

MAINTENANCE - Sharae Black, Telecomm. Op.

MATERIALS - John Parks, Geotechnical Aide I

PLANNING & RESEARCH - Tymli Frierson, Adm. Aide IV • John Spears, Adm. Aide IV

PROGRAMS & CONTRACTS - Jesse White, Administrative Aide I

DISTRICT 1 - Rodney Mooney, Single Ax. Truck Driver • Sylvester Reed, Single Ax. Truck Driver

DISTRICT 3 - Tammy Muldrow, General Laborer • Carla Walls, General Laborer

DISTRICT 4 - Joe Mora, Single Ax. Truck Driver • D. Summers, Single Ax. Truck Driver

DISTRICT 7 - Matthew Childers, General Laborer • Patrice Nichols, General Laborer

DISTRICT 8 - Justin Green, Single Ax. Truck Driver • Dennis Loven, General Laborer

DISTRICT 10 - John Thomas, Single Ax. Tr. Dr.

promotions

HUMAN RESOURCES - Shannon Peeples, Pers. Auditing Clk. • Bethany Swindell, Adm. Asst. II

MATERIALS - Jon Annable, Asst. Div. Head • Michael Benson, Division Head

PLANNING & RESEARCH - Sheila Neighbors, Plan. Contract Spec. • Steve Weston, RR Crossing Coord.

PROGRAMS & CONTRACTS - Dwan Moore, Sr. Repr. Op.

RIGHT OF WAY - Marybelle Jackson, Realty Appraiser III • Charles Phillips, Realty Appraiser III • Robert Pooler, Property Manager

STATE AID - Jonathan Clements, Adv. Design Eng.

DISTRICT 1 - Stephen Frisbee, District Construction Eng. • Larry Thomas, Maintenance Aide II

DISTRICT 2 - Sharetha Buckner, Sgl. Ax. Tr. Dr., Chicot • Lawrence Crift, Sgl. Ax. Tr. Dr., Desha • Allen Rice, Sgl. Ax. Tr. Dr., Ashley • Jerry Thompson, Sgl. Ax. Tr. Dr., Chicot • Bobby Trotter, Sgl. Ax. Tr. Dr., Desha • Brandon Webster, Motor Patrol Op., Arkansas

DISTRICT 3 - William Cheatham, Resident Eng., RE 34 • Clinton Pinson, Senior Mechanic • Aaron Ratcliff, Sr. Mech. • Jimmy Rosenbaum, Mnt. Aide II, Nevada

DISTRICT 4 - Jack Stradtman, Senior Mechanic

DISTRICT 7 - Roberto Hernandez, Brg. Rep. II • Richard Steed, Dist. Brg. Insp.

DISTRICT 8 - Lisa Lewis, Fuel Clerk • Joann McNeill, Single Ax. Tr. Dr., Johnson

DISTRICT 9 - Willard Crow, Area Hq. Att., Searcy

DISTRICT 10 - Timothy Eaker, Construction Project Coordinator, RE 06

service

ARKANSAS HIGHWAY POLICE - Fred Ware, Patrol Officer First Class, 25 yrs.

CONSTRUCTION - Bazzel Bates, Insp., RE 86, 15 yrs. • Gary Greene, Senior Insp., RE 42, 30 yrs. • Gregory Hellmann, Insp., RE 55, 30 yrs. • Joseph Knight, Adv. Con. Field Eng., RE 86, 10 yrs. • Dean Nichols, Resident Eng., RE 41, 30 yrs. • Byron Price, Senior Construction Mat. Insp., RE 52, 20 yrs. • Denice Stitt, Resident Office Tech., RE 24, 15 yrs.

HEAVY BRIDGE - Eugene Farrell, Brg. Rep. II, 5 yrs.

LEGAL - Michelle Davenport, Staff Attorney, 5 yrs.

MAINTENANCE - Mark Lyons, Staff Traffic Eng., 20 yrs. • Edward Marlin, Striping Supt., 35 yrs.

PLANNING & RESEARCH - Jack Gazin, Adm. Ofcr. III, 10 yrs. • Lakela Jackson, Adv. Resch. Asst., 5 yrs.

RIGHT OF WAY - Mona Stitt, Ofc. Adm. Ast. III, 20 yrs.

SURVEYS - Virgil Butler III, Surveys Crew Chief, 20 yrs. • Tony Delph, Photogram. Tech. II, 20 yrs. • Donnie Sanderson, Surveys Tech. II, 20 yrs.

DISTRICT 1 - Morrison Baker, Mnt. Aide II, 10 yrs. • Albert Brady, Area Hq. Att., 15 yrs. • Joey Dunigan, Distrib./Roller Op., 5 yrs. • Deborah Harris, Sgl. Ax. Tr. Dr., 5 yrs. • Rommie Harris, Motor Pat. Op.-Fin., 25 yrs. • Willester Jackson, Backh./Fr. End Load. Op., 5 yrs. • Gregory Mosley, Maintenance Aide II, 10 yrs.

DISTRICT 2 - Jimmy Brooks, Motor Patrol Operator-Finish, 15 yrs.

DISTRICT 3 - Bobby Bailey, Area Mnt. Supv., 30 yrs. • Donald Langston, Distrib./Roller Op., 5 yrs.

DISTRICT 4 - Timothy Combs, Brg. Rep. I, 5 yrs. • Leo Turner, Dist. Brg. Insp., 35 yrs.

DISTRICT 5 - Roosevelt Brandon, Multi-Ax. Tr. Dr., 5 yrs. • Billy Clemons, Backh./Fr. End Load. Op., 30 yrs. • Ryan Herndon, Sgl. Ax. Tr. Dr., 5 yrs. • Barry Hutson, Area Hq. Att., 30 yrs. • Michael Lassiter, Mnt. Job Supt., 30 yrs.

DISTRICT 6 - David Orr, Mnt. Aide II, 15 yrs. • William Richmond, Mnt. Aide II, 20 yrs.

DISTRICT 7 - Kenneth Butler, Elec. Pl. & Mech. Rep., 20 yrs. • Janice Doss, Mnt. Aide I, 10 yrs. • Thomas Ezell, Motor Pat. Op., 5 yrs. • Cameron Forbush, Fin. Carp., 15 yrs. • Ronald Gorman, Crew Leader, 20 yrs. • Richard Steed, Asst. Dist. Brg. Insp., 20 yrs. • Lonnie Teague, Motor Patrol Op.-Fin., 20 yrs.

DISTRICT 9 - Lawrence Drewry, Station Att., 30 yrs. • Ashley Hale, Ferry Boat Pilot, 15 yrs.

DISTRICT 10 - James Adams, Asst. Dist. Brg. Insp., 20 yrs. • Angie Fender, Sgl. Ax. Tr. Dr., 5 yrs. • Billy Mitchell, Area Mnt. Supv., 20 yrs. • Reginald Pickney, Multi-Ax. Tr. Dr., 10 yrs.

retirement

DISTRICT 5 - Dennis Nixon, Area Maintenance Supv., 28+ yrs. • Leslie Shane, Sr. Mechanic, 37+ yrs.

DISTRICT 8 - William Tramel, Maintenance Aide I, 34+ yrs.

MATERIALS - Jerry Westerman, Div. Head, 35+ yrs.

memorials

MAINTENANCE - James H. Tucker, 8/29/08, Retired

ROADWAY DESIGN - Richard E. Siegler, 8/31/08, Retired

DISTRICT 2 - Dorothy J. Austin, 8/16/08, Retired • Tommie L. Boyd, 8/19/08, Retired

DISTRICT 3 - Hoyitt Archer, 8/20/08, Retired • Bobby Joe Flaherty, 9/7/08, Retired

DISTRICT 5 - Benny Winn, 8/12/08, Retired

DISTRICT 6 - Monte E. Deakins, 7/16/08, Retired

DISTRICT 8 - Von Z. Sturdevant, 9/5/08, Retired

DISTRICT 9 - Isaac J. Carter, 8/9/08, Retired

DISTRICT 10 - Sherman F. Johnson, 8/18/08, Retired

active duty

As of 9/19/08, the AHTD had 19 employees serving active duty in the United States military. Dates denote the deployment date.

ARKANSAS HIGHWAY POLICE - Shawn Foust, Sergeant, 8/4/07

MATERIALS - David Kraft, Geotechnical Drill Party Chief, 1/2/08

DISTRICT 1 - James Barte, Senior Insp., 2/19/08

DISTRICT 4 - Nathan Reed, Multi-Ax. Truck Driver, 10/3/05 • Kevin Tucker, Brg. Repairer I, 10/1/07

DISTRICT 5 - Greg Hellmann, Insp., 10/1/07 • David Smith, Inspector, 10/1/07

DISTRICT 6 - Shirley Hammett, Area Headquarters Attendant, 7/20/04

DISTRICT 8 - Michael Bunton, Asphalt Tank Tr. Dr., 10/1/07 • James Harris, Motor Patrol Op., 10/1/07 • Cornell Newsome, Single Axle Truck Driver, 05/07/08

DISTRICT 9 - Ashley Hale, Ferry Boat Pilot, 9/5/07 • Douglas Henry, Single Axle Truck Driver, 10/1/07 • Joseph Ragland, Maintenance Aide I, 10/1/07 • Cameron Whitney, Sign Erector, 10/9/07 • Randall Williams, Ferry Boat Pilot, 9/10/07

DISTRICT 10 - Donald Evance, Con. Aide I, 10/1/07 • Rufus Mitchell, Rest Area Att., 10/1/07 • Elvis Richmond, Sr. Construction Materials Insp., 10/1/07

"Where Is This?"

Highway 65 near Marshall, in Searcy County.

