



the Career Counselor

A publication of the Arkansas Department of Career Education
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Professional Organizations hold National, Regional, & State Conferences in Arkansas

National Association of Multicultural Rehabilitation Concerns

“Creating Cultural Harmony for Rehabilitation Success”

The National Association of Multicultural Rehabilitation Concerns (NAMRC) held its annual conference this year in Little Rock July 26-28 at the Peabody Hotel, co-sponsored by the organization’s Arkansas chapter (AAMRC). Opening ceremonies began with a luncheon at the Governor’s Mansion, attended by 135 registrants, with a welcome address by Arkansas Attorney General Dustin McDaniel and a keynote speech by state Sen. Linda Chesterfield.

Other highlights included a president’s reception, a keynote address by Dr. Glenn Anderson, professor at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock and tours for out-of-state attendees of the Clinton Presidential Library, Little Rock Central High School’s Historic Museum and the statues of the Little Rock Nine on the Capitol Grounds.

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Southwest Region/Arkansas Rehabilitation Association

“Back to the Future: Cherishing our Past, Embracing our Destiny”

submitted by
ARA President
Dr. Penny Willmering

The ARA/SWNRA Conference was held May 23-25 at the Arlington Hotel in Hot Springs. The conference theme was *“Back to the Future: Cherishing Our Past, Embracing Our Destiny!”* The conference was well attended by 178 participants from Arkansas, Texas, Louisiana and Oklahoma. Many attendees were employees of Arkansas Rehabilitation Services (ARS), and they shared that the learning opportunities provided during the conference were useful and informative. Many ARS employees provided high-quality presentations, and several worked registration, the silent auction and booths. Highlights of the conference were keynote addresses by state Sen. Linda Chesterfield; Dr. Keith Vire, CEO of the Arkansas Support Net-

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Arkansas Association for Career and Technical Education

“Common Core State Standards”

The Arkansas Association of Career and Technical Education (ACTE) and the Department of Career Education’s Career and Technical Education (CTE) Division presented the 82nd Annual Summer Conference July 22-24 at the Hot Springs Convention Center. The conference theme was “CTE and Common Core State Standards.”

Conference attendance was 507, up 121 from last year’s attendance of 386. ACTE Executive Director Debbie Anselmi said she attributed the increase to the Department of Career Education taking such an active role in the conference.

Dr. Robert Gunter, deputy director for career and technical education, kicked off the opening session with his vision for career and technical education.

ACE’s CTE program staff conducted professional development sessions to provide CTE teachers from across the state with the latest

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Director's Update

William L. "Bill" Walker, Jr.

Director

Arkansas Department of Career Education

Our agency and staff organize and host several state conferences every year, but this summer has been busier than usual as we hosted national, regional and state conferences.

On top of their regular duties, many members of our rehabilitation division worked diligently for months preparing to host the national conference of the **National Association for Multicultural Rehabilitation Concerns (NAMRC)** in Little Rock in July. The conference was attended by rehabilitation professionals from around the nation and was well executed by the planning committee. I want to congratulate committee chair Judy Smith and the entire committee on representing our agency and our state so well. A recap of the conference begins on page 1.

The **Arkansas Rehabilitation Association**, to which many of our staff belong, hosted its annual conference and the **Southwest Regional Rehabilitation Association Conference** of the American Rehabilitation Association in Hot Springs in May. A highlight of the annual meeting is the presentation of scholarships to undergraduate and graduate students pursuing degrees in rehabilitation-related fields. Exceptional rehabilitation counselors are also recognized. I am proud that several from our agency were honored; see the article beginning on page 1 for details.

Our career and technical education staff members hosted two conferences in June and July. The first was the annual **Arkansas Career Development Association** Conference held in mid-June in Little Rock. The conference featured nationally recognized career development ex-

pert Dr. John Krumboltz of Stanford University, as well as several members of our staff. July brought the annual **Arkansas Career and Technical Education (ACTE) Summer Conference** to Hot Springs. ACTE was hosted by our agency and the **Arkansas Career and Technical Education Association**. The conference focused on integrating the national common core standards into the curriculum so our state's students will be better prepared for their futures.

Also this summer, the Governor's Workforce Cabinet announced the launch of the **Microsoft IT Academy** program that will be funded by our agency, the Department of Workforce Services and the Department of Education. I am proud that Arkansas will be the first state in the nation to pilot Microsoft IT academies in adult education and workforce centers in addition to high schools.

These academies offer industry-recognized certifications such as Microsoft Office Specialist, Microsoft Technology Associate and Microsoft Certified Professional that will make individuals more employable. In fact, according to the Microsoft Certified Professional (MCP) Satisfaction Survey, 91 percent of hiring managers consider employee certification as a criterion for hiring.

Whether guiding those who need physical, mental or educational rehabilitation to achieve their career goals or equipping the state's guidance counselors and teachers to prepare the next generation of Arkansans for their careers, our agency and staff are focused every day on what it takes to make the future better for those we serve.

Arkansas Department
ACE
of Career Education



A public information pamphlet of the Arkansas Department of Career Education and the Arkansas Rehabilitation Services Division.

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Arkansas Baptist College to Offer Adult Education at New CALL Center

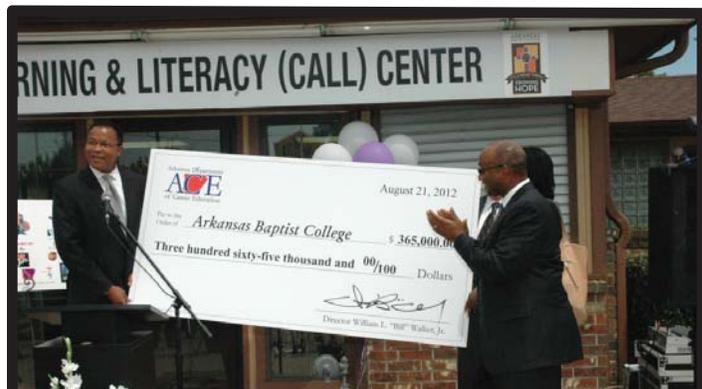
The adult education program that was formerly aligned with Shorter College has been re-established at Arkansas Baptist College, which will now serve as the local education agency (LEA). Lloyd Huskey will continue as director of the program, now located at the intersection of Martin Luther King, Jr., and Daisy Gaston Bates streets. The official name is the Central Arkansas Literacy and Learning Center but the common name will be the "CALL Center."

A ribbon-cutting ceremony August 21 was well attended by supporters, educators and the media. Dr. Fitz Hill, president of Arkansas Baptist College, said his institution was at one time both a high school and a college. He said he's proud to have the CALL center as a part of ABC now because it is consistent with their mission to help Arkansans achieve their educational goals.

With the addition of an adult learning center, Arkansas Baptist will offer individuals the opportunity to earn a GED® credential as a pathway to entering college or pursuing a new career path. In addition to GED preparation and testing, the CALL Center will offer the usual spectrum of education for adults including literacy improvement and English as a second language classes.

Students who earn their GED credential through the CALL Center will be eligible for one semester of tuition-free education at Arkansas Baptist College, said Hill.

At the ceremony, William "Bill" Walker, Jr., director of the Arkansas Department of Career Education (ACE), presented Hill with a check symbolizing \$365,000 in state and federal adult education grants that make the center's programs and staff possible. Arkansas Baptist has purchased and renovated the building.



Director Walker, left, presents a "big check" to Dr. Hill, right, at the CALL Center ribbon cutting ceremony. Partially obscured by Dr. Hill are other representatives from ACE: Jim Smith, deputy director for adult education; Dr. Trenia Miles, associate director for adult education; and Bridget Bullard, education and instructional manager.

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work and ARS Commissioner Robert Treviño. Ed Buckner, chief meteorologist for KTHV in Little Rock, spoke on the topic of “Living with Tourette Syndrome.”

The conference included opportunities to earn continuing education units/certified rehabilitation counselor (CEU/CRC) credits. Participants also had an opportunity to attend exhibitors’ booths that highlighted rehabilitation services and products. A successful silent auction was held with proceeds earmarked for student scholarships.

A highlight of the conference was the awards banquet. Entertainment was provided by Debbie Wooten, who served as master of ceremonies; Dale Turrentine, who played Marilyn Monroe, and Lisa Murphy, who played Charlie Chaplin.

Scholarships were awarded to undergraduate or graduate students pursuing degrees in rehabilitation-related fields. This year, the following scholars were awarded scholarships:

- **Erica Hill**, a senior majoring in rehabilitation services at Arkansas Tech University
- **Ada Floyd**, who is pursuing a master’s in vocational rehabilitation at the University of Arkansas

- **Tekesea Williams**, who is pursuing a master’s in rehabilitation counseling at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock
- **Tasha Quentella Flennaugh**, a junior majoring in rehabilitation science at the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff
- **Ardelia “Dee” Rodgers**, who is pursuing a master’s in rehabilitation counseling at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock
- **Pam Johnson**, a vocational rehabilitation student at the University of Arkansas

Other award recipients included

Cathy Thomas, counselor, Fayetteville field office, Counselor of the Year

Kathy Mansker, administrative specialist, Hot Springs field office, Support Staff of the Year

Laura Allen, administrative specialist, Little Rock/Corporate Hill field office, Cheryl O’Dell Scholarship

Marco Palafox, Arkansas Career Training Institute student in construction technology, AARTS/Ken Musteen Scholarship.

Kathy Mansker, administrative specialist, Hot Springs field office, ARA President’s Award.

Debbie Wooten, retired counselor, ARA Life Time Achievement

Award, as well as the SWNRA President’s Award

Cheryl O’Dell, purchasing specialist, Arkansas Career Training Institute, SWNRA Voyle C. Scurlock Award

Rick Fleetwood, CEO of Snell Prosthetics, SWNRA Meritorious Award

During the awards banquet the following individuals were honored for their contributions and hard work: **Keith Vire**, **Debbie Wooten**, **Chet Stuart**, **Felix Eason**, **Wayne Marsac**, **Carrie Woodall**, **Kathy Mansker**, **Jo Ann Martz**, **Carolyn Turner**, **Becky Hartley**, **William Garner** and **Jim Spragins**.



ARA President Dr. Penney Willmering with Wayne Marsac, ARS retiree and regional SWNRA president.



Dale “Marilyn” Turrentine (left) and Lisa “Charlie” Murphy (right) pose with Counselor of the Year Cathy Thomas



(l-r) ARA President-elect Dr. Keith Vire; “Marilyn”; counselor Felix Eason, who received an Above and Beyond award and “Charlie” gather after the awards banquet.

Available Upon Request

If you would like additional copies of the

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CORNER

“Assistive Technology 4 Life”

A

One Touch Jar and Can Opener

Many people see this item in the store and do not give it another thought, but for people who have limited use of their hands or people who are elderly, it is a necessary item. Using the One Touch Jar and Can Opener, individuals can now open their favorite can of corn or jar of jelly without having to ask someone else to open it, wait for someone to come to their house or just go without eating.

The can opener runs on 2 “AA” batteries. **It will open any regular and vacuum-style glass jar with 1.2” to 4” screw-top lids.** The opener starts by making contact with the lid and with the steady-grip jaws, grabs the side of the jar and twists a half turn, opening the jar so the individual can open it the rest of the way. It takes about one minute to make the entire cycle and return to its original position. A few recommendations: keep the jar on a level surface and, if necessary, use a hand to steady the jar.



The One Touch Jar and Can

Opener works basically like a regular can opener. The opener is set on the can and the start button pressed. The opener will twist around the top of the can opening without leaving a sharp edge. Once it cycles, it will turn off.



One story shared with ICAN is that a lady saw one at a store and bought it for her relatives for Christmas. None of the family seemed too happy about it. But when they got together again in March, they were asking her where she got it because they knew of other family members who needed it.

This item can be purchased online or locally; ICAN staff has purchased it at Walgreens, Bed Bath and Beyond and USA Drug Stores, but it is not exclusive to these stores.

Philanthropist Inspires Philanthropy

The June auction of the estate of Arkansas philanthropist Jennings Osborne attracted a lot of attention and bidders. Among them were **Stephen and Nancy Rea**, who bought hospital beds and accessories at the auction with the sole purpose of donating them to the Increasing Capabilities Access Network (ICAN), the assistive technology equipment loan and distribution arm of the Arkansas Rehabilitation Services (ARS) Division of the Arkansas Department of Career Education.

Dr. Adrienne Robinson, ARS deputy director for field services, met Rea at the Osborne warehouse, where the beds had been stored since the auction. ARS employees loaded the beds into vehicles and delivered them to ICAN at the ARS Cor-



Stephen Salley, Tavman Givens, Denzel Harris and Jeff Jackson, Jr. (pictured left to right) load the beds into ARS vehicles and delivered them to ICAN at the ARS Corporate Hill office in West Little Rock.

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National Park Technology Center Earns Platinum High Achievement Award

National Park Technology Center (NPTC) in Hot Springs was recognized by the Southern Region Education Board (SREB) as a **Platinum High Achievement Center** during the High Schools That Work (HSTW) Summer Conference in New Orleans July 11-14.

“We are thrilled to receive this honor from the SREB,” stated NPTC Director David Hughes. “This is the third consecutive year our center has been recognized on a national stage. It’s a testament to the hard work and efforts our teachers put forth for our kids. It’s also proof positive that our students are coming away from their programs with a solid foundation for their futures.”



Pictured left to right are NPTC staff who attended the conference: James Montgomery, Shelly Tankersley, Richard Beason, Pam Herrington, Jason Hudnell, Jennifer Seward, Don Foshee, David Hughes, Lezley Cochran, Paula Ford and Relda Steelman.

NPTC was one of only 19 schools nationwide to be honored with the Platinum High Achievement Award this year and one of only three technology centers. NPTC was the only school in Arkansas to receive this honor. 2012 marks the sixth year NPTC has been involved in voluntary school improvement through the SREB’s Technology Centers That Work (TCTW) initiative.

To be eligible for the Platinum High Achievement nod, NPTC students had to meet the following criteria:

- ★ **85 percent or more of NPTC students met at least one of the HSTW readiness goals**
- ★ **85 percent or more of the students completed one or more parts of the HSTW recommended curriculum (English/language arts, mathematics or science)**
- ★ **achievement of “high implementation” status**
- ★ **50 percent or more of NPTC students indicated they experienced an intensive emphasis on quality career and technical studies**
- ★ **45 percent or more NPTC students indicated they experienced an intensive emphasis on guidance and advisement**
- ★ **45 or more NPTC students experienced a rigorous career/technical curriculum.**

Because of the recognition and NPTC’s record of success, Hughes and NPTC Assistant Director Jason Hudnell were asked to present the center’s best practices during a session at the conference.

“I could not be more proud of our staff,” said Hudnell. “We decided as a group about six years ago to step into this initiative. Our teachers bought into it and it has made all the difference in the world in how we train our kids and the skills they take away from NPTC.”

DONATION *continued from page 5*

porate Hill office in West Little Rock.

Robinson said, “We initially thought we were picking up about 10 beds and some tables, so I was very surprised and humbled when we arrived to about 20 beds, along with some mattresses, tables and dividers. It makes me proud of the ICAN program and my staff to see such a gracious return on our work.”

Agency photographer **Carl Enna** was also at the warehouse to document the donation and provided the accompanying photos. He chatted with Rea, an unemployed computer programmer, who said he and his wife have been foster parents and have used ICAN’s services in the past. When they saw the beds and equipment weren’t getting any bidders at the auction, they decided to purchase them and donate to ICAN so they could be distributed to those who needed them.

More information about ICAN can be found under the Rehabilitation Services section of the agency’s website: <http://ace.arkansas.gov/>

Arkansas Works Career Coaches Take Time for Training

Career coaches and presenters met in Hot Springs the last week of August for the Arkansas Works Fall Training Conference.

A highlight of the conference was a special lunch session featuring remarks from Dr. Bob Gunter, deputy director for career and technical education and ACE Director Bill Walker, who brought greetings from the Governor's Workforce Cabinet and also introduced the luncheon keynote speaker Keith Jackson, former National Football League (NFL) star and president and founder of Positive Atmosphere Reaches Kids (P.A.R.K.), an organization that reaches out to at-risk youth. Jackson shared several humorous stories and delivered an inspirational message about the importance of providing at-risk youth a positive atmosphere built on love, nurturing

and discipline.

Sonja Wright-McMurray, associate director for Arkansas Works, honored coaches whose schools excelled in meeting or exceeding various indicators of the program's success. The winner of the College-Going Rate Award was Britta Halliday-Clark from the University of Arkansas Community College at Hope (UACCH). The winner of the Smart Core Enrollment Award was Hope High School. Brittany Holleman (career coach) and Dr. Bobby James (career coach supervisor), both of UACCH, accepted

the award on behalf of Hope High School.

Breakout sessions were offered on a variety of topics to aid career coaches in guiding their students, including Serving Students with Special Needs, Working with Rural Students and Financial Aid. Several staff members from Department of Career Education (ACE) led such sessions, including:

- * **Workforce Alliance for Growth in the Economy (WAGE)** by **Ralph Edds**, WAGE program advisor
- * **Data Collection and Record Keeping** by **Wright-McMurray**
- * **Career Guidance for Middle and High School Students** by **Ray Henson**, program manager for Career Guidance, Preparation and Exploration. Henson also presented a session on **Programs of Study and Career Path-**

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(Above) Speaker Keith Jackson (left) receives a plaque of appreciation from Director Bill Walker and Sonja Wright-McMurray. (Below, left) Josh Hayes (left) visits with Jackson before the luncheon. (Below, center) Accepting the College-Going Rate Award is Britta Halliday-Clark (second from left). (Below, right) Accepting the Smart-Core Enrollment Award on behalf of Hope High School are Dr. Bobby James (second from left) and Brittany Holleman (center). Director Walker (far left in both award photos), Wright McMurray (second from right in both award photos) and Dr. Robert Gunter (far right in both award photos) presented the awards.



Recognizing Our ACE Staff

Young Receives National Award

Arlis Young, counselor in the Fayetteville field office, received the **Rehabilitation Counselors and Educators Association Counselor of the Year Award from the National Rehabilitation Association** during the association's conference in Chicago August 24-26. Young was nominated by Dr. Keith Vire, Dr. Penny Willmering and Dr. Tresvil Pack from the Arkansas Rehabilitation Association.

This award is presented to a rehabilitation counselor who meets the following criteria:

- ✓ Practicing rehabilitation counselor
- ✓ Current member of RCEA
- ✓ Certified rehabilitation counselor (CRC) or licensed professional counselor (LPC)
- ✓ Must have served as an officer, board member or committee chair at the state, regional or national level.



Young with his RCEA plaque following his win during the NRA Conference Awards Banquet.

"Mr. Young reflects the true professionalism and heart of a rehabilitation counselor," says District I Manager Carol Ethridge. "It was great to see one of our own recognized!"

of Microsoft on the rollout of Arkansas's Microsoft IT Academy; Kim Freeman of Kuder® on the Arkansas College and Career Planning System, Arkansas Works; and Lesia Edwards of ACE's Assessment and Curriculum Office on the 2012-13 end-of-course assessment.

Also at the opening session, three state legislators were honored as Policy Maker 2012 for their support of career and technical education. Legislators receiving this honor included Rep. Andy Mayberry, Rep. David Branscum and Sen. Jeremy Hutchinson. Sen. Gene Jeffress was recognized as Policy Maker 2011.

Sue Burris, director of online learning for National Park Community College, received the Jean McEntire Outstanding Service Award, named after the late Jean McEntire, who devoted her life to the advancement of career and technical education in Arkansas.

Tom Woodruff, Marketing Division, was named 2012 Outstanding Teacher of the Year.

Jason Hudnell, assistant director of National Park Technology Center in Hot Springs, received the 2012 Educator of the Year Award.

Patricia Carroll, Family and Consumer Sciences Division, Weiner High School, was named 2012 New Teacher of the Year.

Vinson Carter, clinical instructor of technology education at the University of Arkansas, received the Maggie McGriff Award.

Service project awards benefitting the Arkansas Rice Depot were as follows:

1st Place - Crossett Middle School Family, Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA), Sue Gibson, advisor

2nd Place-Manila FCCLA, Mary Smith, advisor. Divisional scholarship winners were as follows:

- **Ashley Steenberger**, Health Sciences; Gravette High School; Angela Scott, sponsor
- **Ellissa Shepard**, Special Populations; Bald Knob High School; Cheryl Burns, sponsor
- **Ashley Roden**, Agriculture; Smackover High School; Jimmie Tucker, sponsor
- **Teighler Fabian**, Business; Bald Knob High School; Ann Ware, sponsor
- **Lacy Patterson** Marketing; Alma High School; Sherry Siler, sponsor
- **Emily Taylor Hill**, Family and Consumer Science; Pottsville High School, Cecilia Gray, sponsor

The ACTE conference program cover was designed by Bald Knob High School student **Teighler Fabian**; Ann Ware, sponsor.

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updates on a variety of topics to prepare them for the new school year.

Special guest speakers included Dr. Susan Gendron, who is recognized nationally as an expert on Common Core State Standards; motivational speaker Elliott Brown; Dr. Travis Park, director of the Cornell Teacher Education Program; and Margaret Herrick of the Arkansas Department of Education (ADE), who discussed ADE's partnership with ACE in the implementation of Common Core.

Other sessions were presented by Amy Merrill

Governor Praises “Jobs for Arkansas’s Graduates” Program

In his August 10 radio address, Gov. Mike Beebe shared with his listeners the value and success of the national program **Jobs for America’s Graduates (JAG)** and its Arkansas affiliate. The program is under the Department of Career Education, and Marylene Tate is the state’s JAG program manager. Information about the Arkansas program is available at <http://ace.arkansas.gov> under Special Programs.

We appreciate the governor’s support of the program and his involvement in shaping the future of our state’s students. The following is the transcript of the governor’s remarks:

In Arkansas, we work constantly to give all of our students the best possible opportunities to succeed in school and to find fulfilling careers. Over the years, we have shared that effort with a national group called “JAG,” which stands for Jobs for America’s Graduates. JAG’s focus is on cutting dropout rates and boosting employment for high-risk youth in Arkansas and 33 other states.

As Vice Chair of JAG’s national Board of Directors, I am pleased that JAG has recently been recognized for its effectiveness as a school-to-work transition program. Over the years, we have expanded the program in Arkansas because of the successes we’ve seen it bring to the lives of young people. This year, Jobs for Arkansas’s Graduates received JAG’s National Performance Award, the highest accolade the organization gives.

More than 90 percent of the students involved with Jobs for Arkansas’s Graduates go on to complete high school. This is particularly notable, as we’ve made graduation requirements more demanding in recent years to strengthen our core curriculum. However, these students are seeing their hard work payoff beyond just diplomas. A year after graduation, more than 80 percent of these students are either working, taking college classes or both.

Unemployment among teenagers is the highest it has been in American history. Across the nation, only 26 percent of teenagers are working. But a year after graduation, more than two-thirds of Arkansas’s JAG students are working full time.

This is a testament to the drive of these students,



Governor Beebe with state JAG Program Manager Marylene Tate

the dedication of their teachers, the strength of our state’s economy, and the effectiveness of JAG’s programs. The success that JAG achieves in schools demonstrates that employers can and will hire enthusiastic and well-prepared young people.

Today, Jobs for Arkansas’s Graduates operates in nearly 80 schools and communities across the State. Our students are exceeding the highest JAG national performance standards. The program gets these results whether in Little Rock or in the poorest parts of the Delta region.

You can’t help but be inspired by the stories you hear from young people involved in the program. Many have overcome almost insurmountable odds with the help of JAG Specialists and their communities.

I am proud of Arkansas’s ability to bring the JAG program to ever-higher levels, even when a slow national recovery has stunted educational efforts in other states. Jobs for Arkansas’s Graduates has proven that it works for our young people, our schools, and our employers of all sizes. Nationally, JAG has delivered consistent, compelling results for more than three decades now. It proves that when you provide our students with opportunity, they can succeed for themselves and our State, even when the chances for that success seem the slimmest. I look forward to JAG’s continued success in Arkansas and across America.





What You Should Know

RAVE (Retaining a Valued Employee)

Jim Moreland, Director/Special Programs

Employers are frequently unsure of how to “accommodate” an employee with a disability as outlined by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). This uncertainty has been magnified by the passing of Americans with Disabilities Act as Amended (ADAAA) of 2008. *The focus of the Retaining a Valued Employee, or RAVE program, is to provide support to both the employer and employee throughout the accommodation process.*

Program staff function as “accommodation specialists” by helping determine new or different ways of successfully performing work tasks either by adjusting how specific tasks are performed or introducing the use of different technologies or equipment to assist in task completion.

The RAVE program is a different way of providing vocational rehabilitation services, as there are dual customers: the employee and the employer. The program was developed to take advantage of the expertise of **certified rehabilitation counselors** within the ARS Field Program, **occupational therapists** with the Assistive Technology @ Work program and **business relations representatives** within the Business Relations Section.

Services offered fall into

two primary categories: *employee counseling/case management* and *employee consultation*. Counseling/case management services focus on assisting an employee in remaining productive at work at his/her current job or returning to work at that job as quickly and safely as possible. RAVE activities directed toward the employee can include

1. providing vocational counseling to address return-to-work/stay-at-work efforts
2. jobsite assessment to determine how an employee’s presenting disability interferes with successful task performance with identification of potential modifications to the work environment
3. job analysis to determine the specific functions that define an employee’s job and the physical and mental demands for successful performance
4. development of a stay-at-work/

return-to-work plan that, if required, addresses the need for accommodation in the workplace

5. with employer assistance, an investigation of potential assignments for transitional employment
6. training related to the use of any new technology or equipment introduced to assist in work performance.

AT @ Work staff act as a resource to the vocational rehabilitation (VR) counselor, employee and employer in any or all of the activities identified above. Consultation services are designed to assist the employer in addressing accommodation questions related to the ADA. RAVE staff can also assist employers in the development, implementation and evaluation of an early return-to-work (RTW) program.

The number of RAVE referrals has increased significantly during recent months.

Trainings and presentations by AT @ Work occupational therapy staff on ergonomics and the application of assistive technology in the workplace at employer-sponsored events in central and northwest Arkansas have contributed to

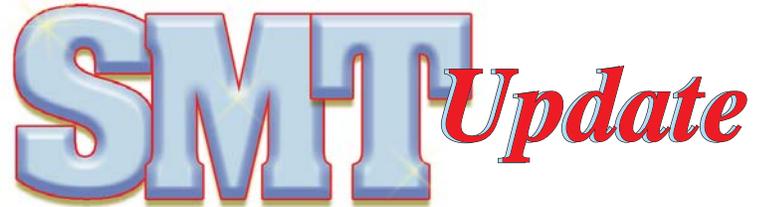
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Trenia Miles
Associate Director
for Adult Education
Arkansas Department
of Career Education

Senior Management Team



GED® Offers Better Life, Options

submitted by Janice Hanlon, ACE Program Coordinator

The GED® testing program has been a cornerstone of adult education since the program's beginning in 1942. The program continues to be a reliable and valuable pathway to a better life for the millions of adults without a high school diploma.

Today, a high school diploma remains the primary ticket to many entry-level jobs. In many cases, it's also the prerequisite for advancement in employment, occupational training and postsecondary education. Because change is indeed sweeping education and the workplace, the GED® test must change also.

To date, there have been four generations of the GED® test: the original, released in 1942; the 1978 series; the 1988 series and the current series, released in 2002. While the academic content areas in which candidates are assessed—English language arts (reading/writing), social studies, science and mathematics—have not changed, the priorities and assumptions by which proficiency in these areas is assessed have evolved. Since the GED® test assesses academic skills and knowledge typically developed in a four-year high school education program, it is of utmost importance that the GED® test continues to evolve as secondary education evolves.

In 2014, the GED Testing Service will unveil a new assessment that ensures the GED® testing program is no longer an endpoint for adults, but a springboard for more education and training and better-paying jobs. Content standards developed at the national and jurisdictional level form the basis for the changes. With the test being

updated to reflect the common core educational standards required of today's high school graduates, test standards will include problem solving, computer skills and more advanced math skills. When a student earns a GED® diploma, he or she is expected to have knowledge and skills equivalent to current-day graduating high school seniors.

In addition to the content itself, the test-taking method will change. The new test battery will be administered solely by computer instead of pencil and paper beginning in January 2014.

In Arkansas the GED® program is under the authority of the Arkansas Department of Career Education, Adult Education Division. Arkansas's program serves citizens who are age 16 years or older and not enrolled in or graduated from high school and who meet other state requirements regarding residency and testing eligibility.

Arkansas is one of only a few states offering the GED® test at no cost to students, but that may also soon change. Our adult education centers across the state will be equipped with the proper computer-based testing environment in order to comply with the new requirements, but that's not where the cost comes into play. The new test battery is managed and produced by the GED Testing Service as in the past, but the GED Testing Service has formed a new partnership with Pearson, a global leader in education and testing. The GED® program being developed will not only reflect



YOUR FUTURE IS CALLING

Finish your GED® test by the end of 2013 and get started on the life you deserve. With a high school diploma, more doors open – to a better job, college, and the respect you deserve. The current version of the GED® test is expiring at the end of 2013. Answer the call today.

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A Summer of Training...Education...

National Association of Multicultural



Rehabilitation Concerns * SW/NRA &

...Fellowship... Professional Development



Association of Career & Technical Education

Spotlight on "Mr. Elmer"



Phones from TAP Program Foster Independence for El Dorado Man

The Telecommunications Access Program (TAP)

provides free telephone equipment to eligible Arkansans who are deaf, hard of hearing, deafblind, or who have a speech, visual, mobility or cognitive impairment that prevents them from using a standard telephone. TAP is a program within Arkansas Rehabilitation Services that enables individuals to lead more independent lives by providing specialized equipment for communication. It is funded by a surcharge on landline and mobile telephone bills.

"Mr. Elmer," as he's called by **Bette Abrams**, TAP program coordinator, was the youngest of six children, born in 1920 to a Nebraska farming family. Upon high school graduation he landed a clerk's job at the railroad and later enlisted in the military. After the service he used the GI Bill to fund a chemical engineering degree at Iowa State. He worked for DOW Chemical and other companies from California to Arkansas before his retirement.

Mr. Elmer lives in the same house he and his now-deceased wife bought in El Dorado in 1969. He's fiercely independent and sharp as a tack. Unfortunately, his vision began deteriorating in 1998, and hearing loss began soon after. Fortunately, he became aware of ARS's TAP program – but it was



TAP Program Coordinator Betty Abrams instructs Mr. Elmer on how to use his new cordless phone.

and was connected to Abrams, whose office in Little Rock.

"The first thing he asked for was an amplified handset," recalls Abrams. "We don't carry just amplified handsets because not all handsets work with all phones – but we do have whole phones with amplification available and that's what we provided to Mr. Elmer."

The phone also featured large buttons with high-contrast lettering, which was helpful because of his reduced vision.

"Our goal is to match the telephone equipment with the specific needs of our clients, and this particular phone worked well for him," Abrams said.

Eligibility

Specialized phones and related equipment are available to Arkansas residents who have a home or mobile telephone service in place and who have a disability certified by a qualified professional that prohibits the use of a standard telephone. For most applicants, the equipment is free; for others a cost-sharing option is available.

Persons interested in this program should contact the TAP office Monday through Friday, 8:00 am – 4:30 pm.

Toll-free Voice/TTY: 1-800-981-4463, Voice/TTY: 501-686-9693, VP: 501-246-8219 and Fax: 501-683-3011.



Phone with large buttons and amplified handset

quite by happenstance.

"I used to visit a local hobby shop a lot," said Mr. Elmer. "One day I was in there and noticed a brochure about the TAP program on the counter. Turns out the local ARS office was right across the street from the hobby shop and someone had brought over the brochures."

Mr. Elmer called the number

SMT continued from page 11

the common core standards, but also will indicate college and career readiness. The new test will cost more money than Arkansas has traditionally been able to absorb; therefore, some of the test's costs may be borne by the student in the future.

Exactly how much a GED® diploma will cost Arkansans remains to be seen. Requests to the legislature for additional funding are planned, along with grant applications and exploration of other sources of financial assistance for the program.

The new assessment is a stepping-stone to a brighter future. The new assessment will continue to provide adults the opportunity to earn a high school credential, but it goes further by measuring career- and college-readiness skills that are the focus of today's curriculum and tomorrow's success.

Four content areas—literacy, mathematics, science and social studies—will measure a foundational core of knowledge and skills that are essential for career and college readiness.

A GED® test graduate must remain competitive with students who complete their high school credentials in a traditional manner. Evidence suggests that test-takers who demonstrate fluency with the skills measured in the new assessment will be better prepared for what they plan to do with their lives. A graduate will no longer hold just a high school equivalency credential, but a roadmap for life's success. It's a stepping-stone toward

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Phone Number Two

Mr. Elmer now has two phones from the TAP program, the second a cordless phone system with amplification and big buttons.

"He keeps the cordless phone in his shirt pocket at all times," Abrams said. She personally installed both the corded and cordless phones at his home and trained him on their use. Abrams spends most days delivering, servicing and training TAP clients in all sections of the state.

"Having the TAP phones has allowed Mr. Elmer to remain independent and in his own home longer than he might have without them," said Abrams. "He has his neighbors and friends' numbers programmed on one-button speed dial, which is good if he needs them but also when he just wants to chat."

"Betty and the TAP program have been such a blessing," Mr. Elmer said. "I'm so glad I found that brochure in the hobby shop that day."

a college classroom or a better career and a family-sustaining wage

The GED® test is the only high school equivalency program recognized by all 50 states, the District of Columbia, U.S. insular areas and Canadian provinces and territories. Since 1942 more than 18 million adults have earned their GED® test credential. GED® alumni contribute to every sector of the workforce. They are teachers, nurses, mechanics, lawyers and have even included college presidents, governors, entrepreneurs, congressmen and a U.S. surgeon general.

Nearly 800,000 GED® tests are taken nationwide each year. In 2011, 8,375 individuals took the test in Arkansas and 7,129 passed, reflecting an 85 percent pass rate for the state. The national rate stands at about 70 percent. The 25 highest scorers on the GED® test in Arkansas were honored May 8 at a ceremony in the old Supreme Court Chambers at the Arkansas State Capitol.

The awards ceremony was a very special event for adult education in Arkansas because the top 25 GED scorers in Arkansas for 2011 were recognized for their outstanding accomplishments. One of the contributing factors in the success of test-takers in Arkansas is that our adult education centers do an excellent job preparing students for the tests.

As adult education centers prepare students for the introduction of the new assessment, we must be mindful of the current test series ending its run in December 2013. When the current series ends, all incomplete tests will become invalid. Test-takers who didn't pass all five content areas will have to retake all the content areas on the new GED® assessment. We want test-takers to complete the 2002 Series GED® test before their results expire. We expect many test-takers to squeeze in to test the closer we get to 2014; we strongly encourage test-takers with partially completed tests or non-passing scores to finish their GED® test well before this anticipated rush. Remember, until January 2014, preparation for the GED® and taking the test are free for Arkansans through the adult education centers around the state. And, until 2014, the test will not be administered by computer. After that, changes are coming.

There are 61 adult education centers in Arkansas where GED® classes and testing are provided free of charge. A directory of centers is available under the "Adult Education" tab on the website of the Arkansas Department of Career Education (<http://ace.arkansas.gov>) or by calling (501) 682-1980.

Career Development Conference Features National Expert and Local Leaders

“Luck is No Accident: Making the Most of Happenstance in Your Life and Career” was the theme of the second annual **Arkansas Career Development Association Conference** held June 14-15 at the Airport Holiday Inn in Little Rock. Nearly 180 career development facilitators (CDFs) and career counselors from around the state attended the two-day conference, where session topics ranged from “Motivating Unmotivated Students” to “Developing an Employment Portfolio.”

The conference featured a keynote address by Dr. John Krumbolz, a nationally recognized expert in the career development field and a professor at Stanford University. Melanie Reinersman, editor of the National Career Development Association (NCDA) website and magazine, highlighted the resources available to career development professionals through the organization’s website.

Department of Career Education (ACE) staff led sessions, and many staff members who were recently certified as CDFs attended the conference. Ray Henson, program manager for the Office of Career Guidance, Exploration and Preparation, is president of the Arkansas association and facilitated the event.

Dr. Robert Gunter, deputy director for career and technical education, discussed the importance of connecting with business and industry advisory councils in helping students plan their careers and in developing curriculum. Bruce Lazarus, program manager for the Office of School Improvement, led a breakout session on the importance of STEM-focused education (science, technology, engineering and math). Henson shared information about the KeyTrain curriculum and the WorkKeys work skills program.

Two panel discussions ended the conference, one on aerospace industry careers available in Arkansas, and another on encouraging students to become engineers.



Dr. John Krumbolz involves ACE’s Barbara Lensing in his presentation.



Prior to the panel discussion on careers in engineering, Ray Henson (center) chats with Angela Kuli (left) and Bill Harrison (right) of Harrison Energy Partners.



Their Success: Our Mission

(left) ARS Chief of Field Services Carl Daughtery (on right) greets Frank Knight, who dropped by the office to thank those involved for helping him navigate his recent employment with PLD Transport trucking com-



pany. (Right) Bill Dedner (on right), ACE program coordinator for the State Approving Agency for Veterans Training and Education (SAA), greets Maurice Smith, who is currently working in conjunction with SAA and the Veterans Affairs to assist both offices with compliance survey preparation.

In Her Own Words: GED® Graduate Valorie Fitzgerald

“My success story began six months ago, when I started the Career Pathways Program through Lataschya Harris at National Park Community College (NPCC) in Hot Springs. I was tutored for two hours every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday for six months. Then I went to the Adult Education Center on Grand Avenue where their wonderful staff and tutors gave me the knowledge and support I needed to feel confident enough to take the GED® test. I passed my GED® test the first time I took it! After not going to school for over eight and a half years, this made me very proud. Thank you to Sharron Bennett and Douglas Jones and to all of the other staff at the NPCC Adult Education Center. I will most definitely use this diploma in furthering my education. Many doors have opened for me, and I will never regret a single second it took to get my Arkansas High School Diploma.”



Valorie Fitzgerald

Scholarship Recipients Honored at Governor’s Mansion

The Governor’s Commission on People with Disabilities, led by Executive Director Leonard Boyle, Jr., presented 27 college scholarships at a June reception at the Arkansas Governor’s Mansion Grand Hall.

The scholarships are awarded annually to qualifying students with disabilities from across Arkansas who are pursuing postsecondary education. The \$1,000 stipends are funded through the Commission’s 30-percent share of fines levied against people who illegally use parking spaces reserved for drivers with a disability.

The master of ceremonies was Lieutenant Johnny Gilbert, Jr. of the Little Rock Police Department, and the keynote speaker was Dr. Dan Bakke, recently retired president of Pulaski Technical College.



Above, the 2012 scholarship recipients surround Boyle, center front.

Those receiving scholarships, along with their hometown and college, are as follows:

- ✦ **Jacqueline Bettis**, Little Rock, University of Central Arkansas
- ✦ **Anmol Bhatia**, Fayetteville, University of Arkansas at Fayetteville
- ✦ **Holly Brewer**, Jonesboro, Arkansas State University
- ✦ **Mallory Burke**, Little Rock, Pulaski Technical College
- ✦ **Trilby Gibson**, Pea Ridge, Austin College or Hendrix College
- ✦ **Shenita Gully**, Jacksonville, Pulaski Technical College
- ✦ **Hillary Hagarman**, North Little Rock, University of Central Arkansas
- ✦ **Megan Harrison**, Lowell, Northwest Arkansas Community College
- ✦ **Katelyn Haynes**, Charleston, University of Arkansas at Fort Smith
- ✦ **Justin Hollingsworth**, Warren, South Arkansas Community College
- ✦ **Connor Howe, Helena**, University of Arkansas at Fayetteville
- ✦ **Karie Hudson, Sherwood**, Pulaski Technical College
- ✦ **Forrest Jones, Marion**, University of Central Arkansas

Youth Leadership Forum

Annual Camp Offers Leadership & Transition Skills, Disability Education

This June, at the University of Central Arkansas (UCA) in Conway, 13 high school students with disabilities participated in the weeklong Youth Leadership Forum (YLF) summer camp. **This year was the 14th year Arkansas Rehabilitation Services (ARS) has hosted the event, which is free to participants.**

Carl Enna, YLF program manager, said of the 2012 camp, "I felt YLF-14 was the best camp we've had to date." The theme was "[Welcome to the Real World](#)," so our goal was to portray a realistic view of what the students could expect as they move into the next phase of their lives, whether that be going to postsecondary school, joining the workforce or living more independently."

Many members of the ACE and ARS staff and a few outside volunteers met with the students throughout the week.

Monday, Wednesday and Friday were spent on campus at UCA, where guest lecturers covered topics such as transition, job interviewing, resume preparation and job responsibilities. **Pam Harris**, human resource

administrator, reviewed the basics of resume preparation, job interviewing techniques and skills that are important for keeping a job. Students met representatives from UCA's disability rights department who reviewed the services most educational institutions offer. **Eddie Schmeckenbecher** from ARS's ICAN office offered a valuable "show and tell" of assistive technology devices. Campers also met **Carolyn Thomas**, ARS field counselor from the Conway office, who told them what services were available to them throughout the state.

Campers spent all day Tuesday at the Arkansas Career Training Institute (ACTI) in Hot Springs where they were greeted by Assistant Administrator **Tony Hoenig**. **Carri George** from the University of Arkansas CURRENTS program spent the morning introducing campers to "Seven Habits of Effective People for Teens."

ACTI Admissions Director **Cornelius Hollinshed** talked to the students about ACTI's educational opportunities and led them on a facility tour. **Jane Campbell**, head of dietary services, taught campers about nutrition, medication interactions and self-advoca-

cy. **Jean Ellen White** and **Courtney Abron** from S.A.I.L.S. (Spa Area Independent Living Services) engaged campers in a hands-on activity to teach budgeting and grocery shopping skills.

Enna planned fun activities for the students each evening such as watching a movie, going bowling and having a dance party.

On Thursday the students toured the Arkansas State Capitol and had their photo made in the Governor's Conference Room with **Lamar Davis**, deputy chief of staff for Governor Beebe. They were honored at a mentor's luncheon at the Little Rock Hilton where **Director Walker** and **Commissioner Treviño** congratulated the students on being chosen to attend the camp.

The luncheon's keynote address was given by Davis, who encouraged the students to "focus on your destination, not your (current) location."

Davis told of the challenges he had faced and overcome because of being blind in one eye. He concluded by telling the students, "Don't let fear rob you of your progress. And as you go toward your future, remember that agencies like ARS, ACE and the Governor's Office are here to help you."

Following the luncheon, the students were treated to a tour of the Governor's Mansion guided by certified docent **Leonard Boyle**, who is the executive director of the Arkansas Governor's Commission on People with Disabilities.

The camp staff included Enna; Boyle; **Shelia Johnson**, ARS counselor from Pine Bluff; **Joann Totton**, LPN from ACTI and **Jason Moore**, ARS counselor from Jonesboro. A friend of the program, **Tasha Terry**, came back for her second year of volunteering as a camp counselor. She's a friend of Boyle's who took a week's vacation from Kohl's to help with the event.

SCHOLARSHIP *continued from page 17*

- ✦ **Jonathan Marks**, Siloam Springs, John Brown University
- ✦ **Jackson Matteri**, Springdale, John Brown University
- ✦ **Michael Melcher**, Elkins, University of Arkansas at Little Rock
- ✦ **Hannah Montgomery**, Bella Vista, Ouachita Baptist University
- ✦ **Simeon Prather**, Warren, Henderson State University
- ✦ **David "Kyle" Robinson**, Little Rock, University of Arkansas at Fayetteville
- ✦ **Laura Shaver**, Hamburg, Arkansas State University at Beebe
- ✦ **Laney Staggs**, Mena, University of Arkansas at Fort Smith
- ✦ **Brandon Tabor**, Russellville, Arkansas Tech University
- ✦ **Zachary Traylor**, Jacksonville, Arkansas State University at Jonesboro
- ✦ **Lindsey Upshaw**, Sheridan, Ouachita Baptist University
- ✦ **Corey Warford**, Clarksville, University of the Ozarks
- ✦ **Whitney Watts**, Benton, University of Arkansas at Little Rock
- ✦ **Lacey West, Sherwood**, University of Central Arkansas



Andrew Watson
Peer Counselor



Christine Woods
Peer Counselor



Kelly Hamilton



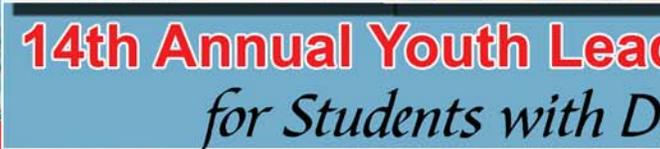
Brandon Baker



Raven Batemon



Angelica Martin



Courtney Carroll



Jacob Smith

14th Annual Youth Leadership Forum for Students with Disabilities



Matthew Beck



Haylie Wells



Chandler Crews



DeAsia Romes



David McKee



Julie Venable



Curtis Dibrell, Jr.

FFA Students Gather for 85th State Convention in Hot Springs

Representing chapters from all across the state, 1,300 high school FFA students gathered in June at Camp Couchdale on Lake Catherine for the organization's 85th state convention. The 2012 conference was dedicated to Dr. Freddie Lewis Scott, a recently retired agriculture educator who was recognized by the organization for being "an invaluable contributor to the success of the Arkansas FFA Association."

Also in attendance and bringing greetings from the National FFA organization was Dr. Dwight Armstrong, the national body's chief executive officer. Armstrong reinforced FFA's focus on hunger relief.



Above, FFA CEO Dr. Dwight Armstrong congratulates campers and staff on their 85th Arkansas convention in Hot Springs. The theme of the annual gathering was, "I believe."

Those who attend the national FFA convention in October, and many will from Arkansas, will work together in continuous shifts to fill bags to provide one million meals to hungry Americans.

Marion Fletcher, ACE agricultural science and technology program manager, along with the 2011-12 state FFA officers surprised the ACE agriculture staff members, Karie Smith, Samantha McCullah and Bart Draper, with plaques expressing appreciation for their work in planning, organizing and conducting the 85th convention.



Pictured above with his wife, Julie, Dr. Freddie Scott was honored at the convention for his lifetime of contributions to agriculture education in Arkansas.



FFA Receives Donated Gator from John Deere Dealers

The John Deere dealers of Arkansas have donated a John Deere Gator Utility Vehicle (see picture) to the Arkansas FFA Alumni Association to be used as a fundraiser. The Gator will be given away through a drawing that will be held during the Arkansas State Fair in October. Arkansas FFA state officers, national officer candidate and chapter members from Bismarck, Emerson and Lake Hamilton--along with FFA alumni members from around the state--gathered at a Bryant John Deere dealership for the presentation and to show their appreciation for the donation.

RAVE continued from page 10

this increase. As a result, a number of employees have become VR referrals served through the RAVE program. Employees have been presented with a variety of disabilities including hearing impairment, multiple sclerosis, musculoskeletal disorders and learning disabilities. **The majority of employees have been successfully "accommodated" on the job at an average cost of about \$500.**

For additional information contact Jim Moreland at 501-683-6052 or jim.moreland@arkansas.gov.

NAMRC continued from page 1

At the conference's awards luncheon, Arkansas was represented by:

🎵 **Deandrea Bass**, ARS counselor in the Conway field office, who received the **NAMRC Scholarship Award**. Bass is a doctoral candidate who met the criteria of a minimum 3.5 GPA, submission of a four-page response to an essay question from the NAMRC Scholarship Committee, letters of recommendation and presentation of a paper at the conference's awards luncheon.

🎵 **Felix Eason**, ARS counselor in the Little Rock field office, who received the **T.K. Bridges Practitioner Award** (a surprise to the recipient). This award's criteria include engagement in direct service delivery in rehabilitation; providing extended, dedicated and exemplary service to persons with disabilities from culturally diverse backgrounds and demonstrating a commitment to professionalism and competence in their field.

🎵 **Snell Prosthetic & Orthotic Laboratory**, recipient of NAMRC's annual **Organization Award**. Snell has a long and productive history working with ARS and in the field of rehabilitation to find the best solutions for Arkansans with various disabilities.

In an earlier venue, the NAMRC Board, as well as the AAMRC Board, recognized the contributions of **Sandy Hubbard**, member of the Department of Career Education's Communications Department, for her graphics and design work for the conference.

The conference was attended by approximately 200, including Arkansans from around the state and visitors from Alabama, California, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Illinois, Michigan, North Carolina,



Deandrea Bass with AAMRC President Carolyn Turner (left) and NAMRC president Cindy Mundis



Felix Eason receives his award from NAMRC board member Dr. L. Robert McConnell and Mundis.

Ohio, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania and Texas. Over 100 were first-time attendees. Also attending were Barbara Lewis, former deputy chief of field programs, and retiree Andrew Jones, who were members of the original NARU, the organization that later became NAMRC.

"All responses [following the conference] were positive," says Carolyn Turner, ARS transition counselor and AAMRC president. "Everyone seems to have had a wonderful conference experience. I want to thank all ARS/ACE employees who went out of their way to make our guests welcome, and a special shout-out to Leonard Boyle, Darrell Stephens and Cary Crawford for all their help."

Conference committee co-chair and ARS Transition Program Manager Judy Smith expressed appreciation for the hard work of

her committee over the nine months of frequent meeting and long to-do lists.

"Special thanks to the volunteers from ACTI who helped the visitors board the busses for their local tours and also to the ACTI printing department who produced program booklets on time despite many revisions and delays," said Smith. "Also thanks to Ellice Scales, Darrell Stephens, Jim Spragins and Sandy Hubbard for all they did to make sure attendees had a positive experience in Arkansas.

In an email to attendees following the conference, NAMRC conference co-chair Stacia Robertson said, "This year our hats are off to the Arkansas conference

planning committee. The luncheon, the T-shirts, the conference bags and all the wonderful conference-themed items put our conference over the top. The endless hours of planning and support was and continues to be immeasurable."

The 2013 NAMRC conference will be held in New Orleans.



Attendees pose for an end of conference photograph.



Career and Technical Student Organizations State & National Championship Results

Results continued from *The Career Counselor* June 2012

Health Occupations Students of America



State Conference March 7 - 9, 2012

Medical Spelling: 1st Place - Ashley Perrin, Conway Area Career Center; 2nd Place - Allison Farmer, ACTI; 2nd Place - Jade Gibson, River Valley Technical Center; 3rd Place - Laniece Houston, ACTI; 3rd Place - Kyndal Galyean, Gravette High School.
Medical Terminology: 1st Place - Laura Worthen, Springdale High School; 2nd Place - Shelby Mullins, National Park Community College; 3rd Place - Emma Pelton, Conway Career Center. **Dental Terminology:** 1st Place - Tori Correll, Bentonville High School; 2nd Place - Jaden Trammell, Cabot High School; 3rd Place - Shannon Tolleson, Conway Area Career Center. **Life Support Skills:** 1st Place - Damayla Cowan, Gravette High School; 2nd Place - Erin O'Brien, Gravette High School. **Medical Math:** 1st Place - Logan Hirsch, Gravette High School; 2nd Place - Roseanna Ezell, Quitman High School; 3rd Place - Chay McDaniel, Gravette High School.

Concepts of Healthcare: 1st Place - Molly Favre, Conway Area Career Center; 2nd Place - Travis Long, Conway Area Career Center; 3rd Place - Connor Houtchens, Gravette High School. **Human Growth & Development:** 1st Place - Mica Files, Conway Area Career Center; 2nd Place - Karina Zuniga, Springdale High School; 3rd Place - Lyndsee Burgess, Cabot High School. **Nutrition:** 1st Place - Klisha Poe, Gravette High School; 2nd Place - Shelby Rowley, Quitman High School; 3rd Place - Danielle Middleton, National Park Community College. **Pathophysiology:** 1st Place - Samantha Ezell, Quitman High School; 2nd Place - Saber Treat, Gravette High School; 3rd Place - Colton Holland, Gravette High School. **Pharmacology:** 1st Place - Russell Sharp, Gravette High School; 2nd Place - Rian Austin, Gravette High School; 3rd Place - Chase Campbell, Cabot High School.

Physical Therapy: 1st Place - Micah Odom, Cabot High School; 2nd Place - Andrew Cantu, Marion High School; 3rd Place - Elliot George, National Park Community College. **Emergency Medical Technician:** 1st Place - Colin Schorgl & Garrett Bryant, Conway Area Career Center; 2nd Place - Haley Turnage & Trevor Rester, Conway Area Career Center; 3rd Place - Shara Robbins & Maggie Hughes, National Park Community College. **Epidemiology:** 1st Place - Amy Smith, Gravette High School; 2nd Place - Ashton Rose, Northeast Arkansas Career & Technical Center. **CPR / 1st Aid:** 1st Place - Peyton Scott & Madison Turner, Gravette High School; 2nd Place - Jessica Bayley & Chase Brody, Gravette High School; 3rd Place - Adam Roberts & Ashley Bohannon, Gravette High School. **Medical Assisting:** 1st Place - Kate Stidham, Gravette High School; 2nd Place - Cassie Murray, Gravette High School; 3rd Place - Teoina White, Marion High School.

Nursing Assisting: 1st Place - Kennedy Bohannon, Gravette High School; 2nd Place - Jackie Ballman, Gravette High School; 3rd Place - Kayla Moix, Conway Area Career Center. **Sports Medicine:** 1st Place - Nick Webster, Rogers Heritage High School; 2nd Place - Vanessa Moore, Gravette High School; 3rd Place - Elizabeth Early, Conway Area Career Center. **CERT:** 1st Place - Deserae Fisher & Cody Nims, Gravette High School; 2nd Place - Luz Elena Arechiga & Yoko Vega, Hope High School; 3rd Place - Darrion Coffelt & Levi Franks, Gravette High School. **Veterinary Science:** 1st Place - Cortney Hudson, Northeast Arkansas Career & Technical Center; 2nd Place - Adam Overton, Gravette High School; 3rd Place - Rebecca Runion, Quitman High School. **Medical Photography:** 1st Place - Chelsea Hartman, Har - Ber High School; 2nd Place - Sanjana Venugopal, Bentonville High School; 3rd Place - Jayla Brown, Gravette High School. **Extemporaneous Health Poster:** 1st Place - Maria Martinez, Northeast Arkansas Career & Technical Center; 2nd Place - Sarah Munro, National Park Community College; 3rd Place - Abby Stottlemere, Marion High School. **Personal Care:** 1st Place - Shelby Coffey, Rogers High School. **Forensic Medicine:** 1st Place - Stephanie Dayer & Melanie DeLaughter, Conway Area Career Center; 2nd Place - Brian Smithers & Lacey Newell, Gravette High School; 3rd Place - Maria Ball & Holli McDonald, Gravette High School. **Extemporaneous Writing:** 1st Place - Jessica Dover, Cabot High School; 2nd Place - Hannah Ray, Conway Area Career Center; 3rd Place - Turner Pirani, Marion High School. **Job Seeking Skills:** 1st Place - Kayla Bartholomew, Springdale High School; 2nd Place - Katoria Jackson, ACTI; 2nd Place - Amanda White, Gravette High School; 3rd Place - Linda Soto, Conway Area Career Center.

Home Health Aide: 1st Place - Eden Morris, Gravette High School; 2nd Place - Josiah Morris, Gravette High School; 3rd Place - Asia Wilson, Northeast Arkansas Career & Technical Center. **Prepared Speaking:** 1st Place - Madison Kelly, National Park Community College; 2nd Place - A. J. Marlin, Vilonia High School; 3rd Place - Caitlin Haley, Quitman High School. **Extemporaneous Speaking:** 1st Place - Sonya Raghundham, Bentonville High School; 2nd Place - Neeraj Bajpayee, Bentonville High School; 3rd Place - Zach Rutledge, Marion High School. **Researched Persuasive Speaking:** 1st Place - Sayer Smith, Gravette High School; 2nd Place - Skylar Warren, Gravette High School; 3rd Place - Casey Word, Springdale High School. **Dental Science:** 1st Place - Dallas Banta, Gravette High School; 2nd Place - Aaron Homer, Gravette High School; 3rd Place - Kaylah Martin, Hope High School. **Career Health Display:** 1st Place - Katlyn Moix & Christian Gunter, Vilonia High School; 2nd Place - Morgan Langley & Lakyn Faulkner, SouthArk Career Center; 3rd Place - Brandi Stephens & Cheyenne Maresh, Conway Area Career Center.

Public Service Announcement: 1st Place - Austin Brennen, Hailey Kara, Samantha Pruitt & Austin Thompson, Gravette High School; 2nd Place - Ishtar Vang, Kyle Smithers, Ashley Steenberger & Holly Wells, Gravette High School; 3rd Place - Drew Fahr, Natalie Fought, & Steven McKonki, Conway Area Career Center. **Medical Reading:** 1st Place - Christina Johnson, Caitlin Straw, & Tyler Walsh, Conway Area Career Center; 2nd Place - Page Wilson, Katlin McGlawn, & Jackson Wooley, Conway Area Career Center. **Creative Problem Solving:** 1st Place - Jennifer Hernandez, Boston Pearson, - Jonathan Treat, & Amelia Vaughn, Springdale High School; 2nd Place - Candice Boozer, Kirstin Brown, Brody Clark, - & Karree Wilson, University of AR Community College at Batesville; 3rd Place - Danai Bahena, Oliva Cananda, Jose Ruiz, & Maggie Stewart, Springdale High School.

HOSA Bowl

1st Place - Shelby Cook, Sonny Huynh, Cassidy Joyner, & Pratheepa Ravikumar, Rogers Heritage High School; 2nd Place - Amy Autrey, Christian Goodnow, Nick Graham, & Seth Orr, Bentonville High School; 3rd Place - William Gambill, Riley Harty, Alice Lovelette, & Dennison Schultz, Cabot High School.



Phi Beta Lambda



National Conference June 22-25, 2012

Accounting Analysis & Decision Making: Amber Rowlett, Alex Harbuck, University of Central Arkansas, 8th place; **Accounting for Professionals:** Rebecca Ames, University of Arkansas - Fort Smith, 3rd place; **Business Communication:** Rinda Pinkley-Hall, Arkansas State University - Jonesboro, 7th place; **Business Ethics:** Ryan Bauschlicher, Mari Pinedo, Brian Robinson, Williams Baptist College, 3rd place; Teresa Bounds, Steven Kotek, North Arkansas College, 7th place; **Business Presentation:** Morgan Hatcher, Hannah Hodges, Matthew Schweri, Williams Baptist College, 5th place; Sue Yang, Kia Yang, University of Arkansas - Fort Smith, 7th place; **Community Service Project:** Brittany Christian, Syda Xaymongkhoun, University of Arkansas - Fort Smith, 5th place; **Cyber Security:** Gabriel Bogowith, Arkansas State University - Mt. Home, 4th place; Robert Freeman, South Arkansas Community College, 9th place; **Database Design & Applications:** Clint Stout, Williams Baptist College, 9th place; **Desktop Publishing:** Brett Harris, Mallory Perry, Arkansas State University - Jonesboro, 2nd place; **Digital Video Production:** Latricia Spelce, South Arkansas Com-

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munity College, 7th place; **Emerging Business Issues**, Chris Bullock, Allison James, Arkansas State University - Beebe, 9th place. **Financial Concepts**: Andrew Todd, Arkansas State University - Jonesboro, 3rd; **Free Enterprise Project**: David Tougaw, Rebecca Lowe, Rebekah Lehman, North Arkansas College, 3rd; **Future Business Teacher**: Rinda Pinkley-Hall, Arkansas State University - Jonesboro, 3rd; **Help Desk**: Matt Luttrell; University of Arkansas - Fayetteville, 9th place; **Hospitality Management**: Nick Williams, University of Central Arkansas, 4th place; **Human Resource Management**: Justin Daubert, Justin Hawkins, Jeremiah Nance, Williams Baptist College, 2nd place; Tim Clewett, Robert Thomas, North Arkansas College, 6th place.

Impromptu Speaking: Tommy Clark, Southern Arkansas University, 10th place; **Integrated Marketing Campaign**: Sue Yang, Kia Yang, University of Arkansas - Fort Smith, 5th place; **Local Annual Chapter Business Report**: Tommy Clark, Southern Arkansas University, 1st place; **Management Analysis & Decision Making**: Rebecca Lowe, Jonathan Smith, Robert Thomas, North Arkansas College, 10th place; James Calvert, Charlene Passmore, University of Central Arkansas, 5th place; Mari Pinedo, Williams Baptist College; 7th place. **Marketing Concepts**: Magaly Centeno, University of Arkansas - Fort Smith, 8th place; **Microeconomics**, Michael Hamilton, University of Arkansas - Fort Smith, 6th place; **Parliamentary Procedure**: Randy Riddle, Andrew Todd, Brett Harris, Mallory Green, Arkansas State University - Jonesboro, 9th place; **Strategic Analysis & Decision Making**: Jeremiah Nance, Williams Baptist College, 7th place; **Web Site Design**: Roderick Wells, University of Central Arkansas, 3rd place.

Southern Region Award

Membership Madness - State: Arkansas, 4th place; **Largest Local Chapter Membership**: University of Arkansas - Fort Smith, 2nd place; **Southern Region Action Council**: Tommy Clark, Southern Arkansas University.

Career & Membership Achievement Program (CMAP)

President Level - Amanda Watson, Southern Arkansas University
Director Level - Brett Harris, Arkansas State University - Jonesboro
Director Level - Randy Riddle, Arkansas State University - Jonesboro
Director Level - Mallory Green, Arkansas State University - Jonesboro
Director Level - Allison James, Arkansas State University - Beebe
Director Level - Amanda Watson, Southern Arkansas University
Director Level - Cecillie Lane, Southern Arkansas University
Director Level - Kecia Davis, University of Arkansas Community College - Morrilton
Director Level - Sandra Coble, University of Arkansas Community College - Morrilton
Director Level - Brittany Christian, University of Arkansas - Fort Smith
Director Level - Eric Barnes, University of Arkansas - Fort Smith
Director Level - Matthew Beyer, University of Arkansas - Fort Smith
Director Level - Syda Xaymongkhoun, University of Arkansas - Fort Smith
Executive Level - Brett Harris, Arkansas State University - Jonesboro
Executive Level - Amanda Watson Southern Arkansas University
Executive Level - Deana Hughes Southern Arkansas University
Executive Level - Kecia Davis, University of Arkansas Community College - Morrilton

Recognition

Who's Who in PBL - Cecillie Lane, Southern Arkansas University
Who's Who in PBL - Aaron Carroll, Arkansas State University - Jonesboro
Adviser of the Year - Cheryl Keymer, North Arkansas College
Adviser Service Award - Cheryl Keymer, North Arkansas College/30 years
Adviser Service Award - Karen Fraser, Hendrix College/10 years
Membership Madness - Brett Harris, Arkansas State University - Jonesboro
Gold Seal Chapter - Arkansas State University - Jonesboro
Gold Seal Chapter - University of Arkansas - Fort Smith
Big 10 Scoreboard Recognition - University of Arkansas - Fort Smith - 5
NLC Buzz Squad - Roderick Wells, University of Central Arkansas
National Treasurer - Brett Harris, Arkansas State University - Jonesboro

SkillsUSA

National Conference June 23-27, 2012



The following Arkansas students received both medallions and Skill Point Certificates:
Team F (Ramie Bise, Elisandra Bueno, Allie Kelley, Haley Owens), University of Arkansas at Fort Smith -- awarded the College/Postsecondary Gold medal in **Health Knowledge Bowl**. **Team F** (Kyla Hyatt, Daniel Romo, Benjamin Truong, Sarah Peary), Western Arkansas Technical Center (Fort Smith) -- awarded the High School Bronze medal in **Health Knowledge Bowl**. **Sebastian Bossarte**, University of Arkansas at Fort Smith -- awarded the college/postsecondary silver medal in **Computer Programming**. **Chyanne Hawkins**, University of Arkansas at Fort Smith -- awarded the college/postsecondary bronze medal in **Nurse Assisting**. **Josh Helms**, Arkansas Career Training Institute (Hot Springs) -- awarded the college/postsecondary bronze

medal in **Screen Printing Technology**. **Jered D Otts**, Greater Little Rock Area JAC (Little Rock) -- awarded the college/postsecondary silver medal in **Plumbing**. **Team B** (Tammy Hardin), College of the Ouachitas (Malvern) -- awarded the College/Postsecondary Gold medal in **American Spirit**.

The following students are Skill Point Certificate recipients from your area:

Sierra N Karambellas, Ashdown High School -- awarded a Skill Point Certificate in **First Aid-CPR**. **Ryan Weng**, Pulaski Technical College/Saline Co. Career Center (Bauxite) -- awarded a Skill Point Certificate in **Collision Repair Technology**. **Team E** (Dalton Madding, Ashley N Bronson, Dillon M Maxwell, Shelby E Styron), Cabot High School -- awarded a Skill Point Certificate in **Broadcast News Production**. **Jennifer Riley**, SAU Tech Career Academy (Camden) -- awarded a Skill Point Certificate in **Medical Terminology**. **Team Q** (Jimmy Wisdom, Ben Stone), Cave City School -- was awarded a Skill Point Certificate in **Television (Video) Production**. **Shane A Holoway**, Conway Area Career Center -- awarded a Skill Point Certificate in **Carpentry**. **Michael Caleb Imboden**, Conway Area Career Center -- awarded a Skill Point Certificate in **Automotive Refinishing Technology**. **Kevin Crawford**, Eureka Springs High School -- awarded a Skill Point Certificate in **Plumbing**. **Logan Reding**, Eureka Springs High School -- awarded a Skill Point Certificate in **Electrical Construction Wiring**. **Team Q** (David Havel, Brett Sutton), Western Arkansas Technical Center (Fort Smith) -- awarded a Skill Point Certificate in **3-D Visualization and Animation**.

Megan Stephenson, Western Arkansas Technical Center (Fort Smith) -- awarded a Skill Point Certificate in **Preschool Teaching Assistant**. **Markus Watkins**, North Arkansas College (Harrison) -- awarded a Skill Point Certificate in **Cabinetmaking**. **Robert Herter**, North Arkansas College (Harrison) -- awarded a Skill Point Certificate in **Collision Repair Technology**. **Dylan E Thomas**, Arkansas State University-Heber Springs -- awarded a Skill Point Certificate in **Welding**. **Freddie Wilson**, Arkansas Career Training Institute (Hot Springs) -- awarded a Skill Point Certificate in **Extemporaneous Speaking**. **Holly Hardin**, Arkansas State University at Marked Tree -- awarded a Skill Point Certificate in **Cosmetology**. **Michael W Worch**, Ozarka College (Melbourne) -- awarded a Skill Point Certificate in **Culinary Arts**. **Loretta Rester**, Pulaski Technical College (North Little Rock) -- awarded a Skill Point Certificate in **Automotive Refinishing Technology**. **Dwayne L Miner**, Arkansas Tech University - Ozark Campus -- awarded a Skill Point Certificate in **Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning and Refrigeration**. **Hunter Martin**, Quitman High School -- awarded a Skill Point Certificate in **Cabinetmaking**. **Team G** (Matt McDonald, Maddie O Poellot), Springdale High School -- awarded a Skill Point Certificate in **Video Product Development**.

Iris Y Mancia, Career Academy of Hair Design-Springdale -- awarded a Skill Point Certificate in **Cosmetology**. **Team AR** (Hayley N Reynolds, Rachel E Billingsley, Lauren M Webb), from Springdale High School (Springdale), was awarded a Skill Point Certificate in **Crime Scene Investigation**. **Sammy Townsend**, Springdale High School -- awarded a Skill Point Certificate in **Culinary Arts**. **Hayden Goodman**, SEACBEC (Warren) -- awarded a Skill Point Certificate in **Power Equipment Technology**. **Christopher L Wells**, MSCC Technical Center (West Memphis) -- awarded a Skill Point Certificate in **Aviation Maintenance Technology**.

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ways Brittany Holleman (career coach) and Dr. Bobby James (career coach supervisor) accepted the award on behalf of UACCH.

- ★ **Hip-Hop Culture and Career Planning** by **Josh Hayes**, program supervisor for Arkansas Works
- ★ **Family Education and Rights Privacy ACT (FERPA)** by **Deborah Germany**, ACE communications director
- ★ **Career and Technical Education new Initiatives: StemWorks and Microsoft IT Academy** by **Sandra Porter**, ACE associate director for workforce training



Arkansas Department
ACE
of Career Education

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Administration

William L. "Bill" Walker, Jr., *Director*; **Robert P. Treviño**, *Commissioner for Arkansas Rehabilitation Services*; **Dr. Robert Gunter**, *Deputy Director for Career and Technical Education*; **James Smith**, *Deputy Director for Adult Education*; **Lee Meadows**, *Chief Information Officer*; **Lorna Claudio**, *Chief Financial Officer*; **Deborah Germany**, *Communications Director*; **Carl Daughtery**, *Chief of Field Services, Arkansas Rehabilitation Services*; **Joseph Baxter**, *Chief Financial Officer, Arkansas Rehabilitation Services*; **Judy Smith**, *Director of Transition Services, Arkansas Rehabilitation Services*; **Jonathan Bibb**, *Administrator, Arkansas Career Training Institute, Arkansas Rehabilitation Services*; **Sandra Porter**, *Associate Director for Workforce Training*; **Sonja Wright-McMurray**, *Associate Director for Arkansas Works*; **Dr. Trenia Miles**, *Associate Director for Adult Education*; **Jim Moreland**, *Associate Director for Special Programs, Arkansas Rehabilitation Services*; **Randy Parker**, *Associate Director, Program, Planning Development & Evaluation, Arkansas Rehabilitation Services*; **DeCarlia Dickens**, *Acting Human Resources Administrator*

Arkansas Department of Career Education

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