



FRIENDS OF THE COURT

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JUSTICE BUILDING ADDITION PROGRESS

The construction of the Justice Building Addition on the State Capitol grounds is scheduled to be completed in late summer 2000. The addition will house the chambers and conference room of the Arkansas Supreme Court, the Supreme Court Clerk’s Office, the Office of Professional Programs, and the Office of Professional Conduct. After completion of the new building, Arkansas State Building Services has announced plans to renovate the current Justice Building, constructed in 1957. A modernized heat and air system, installation of energy efficient windows, and asbestos abatement will be included in the project. The work will require that the Arkansas Court of Appeals, the Arkansas Supreme Court Library, and the Administrative Office of the Courts relocate to offsite premises during the construction phase, beginning in late 2000.



Front of Justice Building Addition.



Connection between old and new building.



(L.-R.) Justice Ray Thornton, Justice Tom Glaze and architect, Gene Levy, discuss building layout.



J.D. Gingerich, AOC Director, Justice Smith and Chief Justice Arnold visit about building plans.

Election 2000 Guide Now Available

The AOC has completed the third edition of its election guide for judicial candidates. The publication which first appeared prior to the 1996 elections has again been revised and updated for the upcoming election season. Information is found under these headings: (1) helpful names and numbers (2) terms and qualifications for judicial offices (3) filing procedures (4) Political Practices Act (5) exploratory committees (6) campaign finance and disclosure (7) contribution limits (8) calendar of key dates and (9) campaign ethics. If you need a copy, contact the AOC, (501) 682-9400.

Notice Regarding Proposed AMI Instructions for Contract and Other Commercial Litigation

The Supreme Court Committee on Jury Instructions — Civil (the AMI Committee) has posted on the Arkansas Judiciary Home Page, <http://courts.state.ar.us>, drafts of proposed instructions pertaining to commercial litigation. Additions will be made to the set of drafts during the year with the expectation that instructions will be published in the last quarter. The AMI Committee solicits comments from the Bench and Bar. The Web Site contains information about making comments.

"Justice is justly represented blind, because she sees no difference in the parties concerned. She has but one scale and weight, for rich and poor, great and small. Her sentence is not guided by the person, but the cause..."

William Penn

Possibilities in Judicial Service Abroad

The International Programs of the National Center for State Courts provide opportunities for judges, court managers, and court technology professionals to share their knowledge and experience to improve the administration of justice in other nations. In order to be able to meet the requests for specialized short and long term assistance, the National Center needs to have an extensive as possible roster of state court judges and professionals in the field.

Since 1992, the National Center has reached beyond the borders of the United States to provide technical assistance, education and training and research services to countries seeking to strengthen their justice systems and improve their rule of law. This is done by responding to requests from such international funding institutions as the United States Agency for International Development and the World Bank. Illustrative projects are the ones in Egypt and Honduras.

* In Egypt the effort is to improve the civil legal system by improving efficiency in two pilot court systems and improving the judges' knowledge and application of Egyptian law.

* In Honduras the activities are directed at ensuring a successful transition by the Honduras courts to a new criminal procedure code. It

outlines an adversarial system with public trials that will assure greater transparency and important checks and balances. This transition requires, for example, infrastructure change, reallocation of court resources, and training of all court personnel in their new roles under the code.

The National Center wants to identify those court professionals in all the States who are

able and interested in participating in a project in another country, particularly those who speak a language in addition to English. Both those currently serving in state courts and, for long-term assignments, those who have retired would be suitable.

Anyone who would like to be considered as an expert for a potential assignment in one of the projects undertaken abroad by the National Center should send the following information: *Language fluency in addition to English, *Maximum period of time of availability, *Professional experience abroad, *Areas of expertise, and *CV to: Dorothy Toth Beasley, Executive Director, International Programs, National Center for State Courts, 2425 Wilson Boulevard, Suite 350, Arlington, VA 22201. 





Chief Justice Arnold, Mrs. Arnold and Dr. Charles Dunn, President of Henderson State University.

Chief Justice W. H. "Dub" Arnold received the Distinguished Alumni Award from Henderson State University in December. Chief Justice Arnold, a native of Arkadelphia, graduated from Henderson State Teachers College in 1957, receiving a Bachelor of Arts degree in Economics.

LAW DAY 2000

William G. Paul, President of the American Bar Association, states in the Law Day 2000 Planning Guide, "Every year, Law Day celebrates our freedoms and the role of law in protecting and preserving them. This year - the first year in the new millennium - we're urging Law Day planners all over the country to pay special attention to the role of citizens in a diverse democracy.....Our growth and strength as a nation are inseparable from the diversity and vitality of our citizens. Our history has been the story of ever increasing inclusion, from the days when the right to vote was largely restricted to a small group of males of one color to the present, when the full mantle of citizenship is spread over persons of all colors, all religions, all national origins."

The theme for Law Day, May 1, 2000, is "Speak Up for Democracy and Diversity". According to Margaret Bush Wilson, Chair, Law Day 2000, "Law Day is a great opportunity for our profession to reach out to the public. Many programs direct their efforts to school children, and this guide and our website are full of ideas on how to reach students at all grade levels. Other programs target the adult public, with outreach to senior

centers, service clubs, naturalization programs, adult education programs, and civic groups."

The Law Day Planning Guide for this year includes topics such as: How to Plan Your Program, How to Reach Students, How to Reach the Community and How to Reach the Media. It also includes tips about locating important allies and bringing them on board. To order by phone: 1-800-285-2221. On line: www.abanet.org/publiced/lawday.

The Administrative Office of the Courts is sad to announce the death of Pete Neathery, a former employee of the AOC, on January 26, 2000. Pete served as a computer programmer for the AOC for 15 years. He graduated from Hendrix College and received a master's degree from UALR. Following his retirement from the AOC, Pete became a doctoral candidate at Memphis State University.

Pete was an avid outdoorsman who enjoyed hunting, fishing and spending time exploring rivers and streams in the State. He loved animals and nature and was interested in their preservation. Memorials may be made to the Humane Society of Pulaski County or the Nature Conservancy.

The Good News About Food

What should you eat for good health? There's plenty of good news about eating...information that's easy to follow.

A healthy diet has three common-sense qualities: variety, moderation and balance. It's important to eat a wide variety of foods within the five food groups; dairy products, vegetable group, meat/poultry/beans/nut group, bread, rice & group.



fish/dry eggs & fruit and cereal, pasta You can

eat what you like as long as you remember "moderation". Any food can fit in an eating pattern that promotes your good health. There are no "good" and "bad" foods or meals, just good and bad diets.

You can make healthy good choices anytime, anywhere. Supermarkets, restaurants, delis, home...almost everywhere, you have plenty of tasty food choices these days. Eating healthy can be convenient and quick. Keep a supply of quick-to-fix foods on hand; frozen vegetables, pasta, milk, low-fat yogurt, healthfully prepared meals. Check the Nutrition Facts panel on food labels to make healthy food selections. Use quick and healthy cooking methods, such as stir-frying, broiling, and microwaving. Healthy foods can taste good. Retain the quality and flavor of foods with proper good storage and good preparation techniques. Enhance the natural flavors of food with a variety of fresh herbs, spices, fruit juices, and vinegars, rather than rich sauces, added sugar, or salt.

Happy, healthy eating!

New Faces in the Judiciary

Municipal Clerks

Fort Smith - **Rachel Sims** replaces Ruth Freeman.

Hampton - **Cathy Hopper** replaces Karen Reddin as city division court clerk.

West Memphis - **Terry Griffin** replaces Debbie Austin.

Hope - **Sherri Rateliff** replaces Joan Lively.

Lake Village - **Lynn Wiltcher** replaces Cecilia Jasay.

Marked Tree - **Ann Tarlton** replaces Luann Boliou.

City Judges

Coal Hill (new court) - **Len Bradley** is the judge.

City Clerks

Coal Hill (new court) - **Nell Linehart** is the clerk.

Cotter - **Mary E. McLaughlin** replaces Sharon Keahey.

Court Reporters

6th (Thompson) - **Madelaine McClure** replaces Loretta Johnson.

18th East (Wright) - **Shari Hamilton** replaces Stacie Givens.

Case Coordinators

6th (Smith) - **Debra Baugh** replaces Paula Long.

12th (Hewett) - **Donna Watson** replaces Leigh Childers.



Judge: (to a witness): Sir, I'm going to have to ask you to answer "yes" or "no", because my reporter does not have "uh-huh" and "unh-uh" buttons on her machine...Plus, the jury needs to hear "yes" and "no", not "uh-huh's" and "unh-huhs", okay?

Witness: Uh-huh.

CALENDAR

FEBRUARY

Municipal Court Officers (Lake Hamilton Resort) 24-25

MARCH

Case Coordinators' Annual Conference (Lake Hamilton Resort-Hot Springs) 2-3

Municipal and City Court Clerks' Certification Program (Riverfront Hilton, North Little Rock) 17

MAY

Municipal Judges' Spring College (Hilton Inn, Little Rock) 18-20

Municipal & City Court Clerks' Certification Program (Hilton Inn, Little Rock) 18-20

APRIL

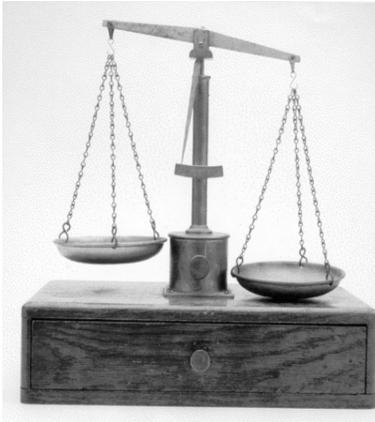
Children & Law Conference III (Arlington Hotel-Hot Springs) 26-28

JUNE

Judicial College/Ark. Bar Ass. 14-17

Friends of the Court

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Friends of the Court is a bi-monthly publication by the Arkansas Administrative Office of the Courts. Contributions, comments, and inquiries are welcome. Please submit to **Friends of the Court**, A.O.C., Justice Building, 625 Marshall, Little Rock, AR 72201. Tel. (501) 682-9400. Karolyn Bond, Editor.

Address
Correction
Requested