August 2024 Volume 9, Issue 2



August

Children Eye Health & Safety Month

National Immunization Awareness Month

8/3-8/4 Arkansas Sales Tax Holiday

8/26 Women's Equality Day

Are you ready?

Beginning at 12:01 a.m. on Saturday August 3, 2024, and ending at 11:59 p.m. on Sunday August 4, 2024, the State of Arkansas will hold its sales tax holiday allowing shoppers the opportunity to pur-chase certain Electronic Devices, School Supplies, School Art Supplies, School Instructional Materials, and Clothing free of state and local sales or use tax.

All retailers are required to participate and may not charge tax on items that are legally tax-exempt during the Sales Tax Holiday. For complete list of items, go to DFA website.

~DFA Sales and Use Tax, 2024 Sales Tax Holiday

Check your local community centers, churches, and organizations in your area for back to school events. Many provide hair services, clothes, classroom supplies, and more. Here are just a few.



DDSPEAKS

UCA Occupational Therapist award recipient Emily McCarron

Congratulations to Conway Human Development Center's Emily McCarron! The University of Central Arkansas Department of Occupational Therapy recently announced she is a 2022-2023 Cynthia B. Cole Outstanding Fieldwork Educator Award nominee and finalist. This award is given annually to recognize outstanding performance as an occupational therapy practitioner and fieldwork educator. Students nominate educators who were instrumental in helping them develop as an occupational therapist through the use of sound educational practices, evidence-based interventions, and the use of occupational therapy within daily practice.

Well done Emily! Your dedication to the future occupational therapy practitioners and CHDC is greatly appreciated.



~Submitted by Kathy Guffey

DHS 2024 Dessert Olympics



Kathleen Hoskins represented DDS in the annual dessert contest. She made scrumptious Lemon Cheesecake Tarts and Pecan Pie Cookies!

Way To Go Kathleen!





Southeast Arkansas Human Development Center goes to Hot Springs, Arkansas



Brandon Y. with Rehabilitation Instructor Tracy Oglesby

Clients from SEAHDC visited the Alligator Farm and Petting Zoo in Hot Springs. Clients were able to feed and pet rabbits, ducks, Pygmy goats, and sheep. We toured the facility, saw the alligators, and got to watch one of the trainers interact with them. A client favorite was getting to see the wolf, but the highlight of the visit was holding a baby alligator! There were lots of smiles and giggles followed by a few screams. Some out our teachers were not as brave as our clients.

~ Submitted by Lauren Franklin



Zachary V.



Rehabilitation Instructor Constance McCoy nervously holding the baby alligator

HAPPY RETIREMENT JOE WINFORD

On July 26th, colleagues, friends, and family celebrated Joe at Colton's Steak House & Grill in Morrilton. Congratulations on 36.4 years of service to DHS/DDS! Enjoy your well deserved retirement!













AUGUST

Conway Human Development Center 22nd Annual Beyond the Borders Regional Conference August 8th and 9th Antioch Baptist Church Conway, Arkansas For more information, contact Beyond the Borders Co-Registration Chair, Juan Alfaro at juan.alfaro@dhs.arkansas.gov

OCTOBER

8th Annual DDS Fall Food & Craft Fair 10/4/2024

More information to come



Comments, Suggestions, Q&A

Let us know what you'd like to see featured in upcoming editions. If you'd like to be a guest writer, let us know! Send all comments, suggestions, and Q&A to yvette.swift@dhs.arkansas.gov