



TRAILBLAZER “PEP” SQUAD

VOLUME 2, ISSUE 3

SPRING 2009

Arkansas State University-Mountain Home

Special Dates to Remember:

- *Denim & Diamonds, April 17*
- *Arvest Concert Series Presents Eden Brent, April 21*
- *ASUMH Commencement Ceremony, May 11*
- *Red, White and Blue Festival, June 27*



*Leda Thompson, Karen Heslep
& Barbara Wright*

Business Department Praises Volunteer

Most of the time you will find ASUMH “PEP” Squad volunteers on the second floor of Roller Hall where they regularly help students with directions and other questions that come up. However, at times volunteers have been requested for special assignments on campus.

Leda Thompson and Karen Heslep, both instructors in the Business Department and sponsors of Phi Beta Lambda (PBL), needed assistance in their office area. Phi Beta Lambda paperwork and files were exhaustive and the “PEP” Squad volunteers offered the pair an opportunity to breathe a little. A simple request for help from the department resulted in a regular partnership between the “PEP” Squad and PBL. Barbara Wright accepted the challenge to volunteer each Wednesday for the business instructors.

“We are very happy to have Barbara volunteering in our department,” said Karen Heslep. “Always cheerful and efficient, she gets any job given done quickly and always with a smile. We want to keep her forever.” All over campus, the “PEP” Squad has been busy making life easier for the faculty and staff of the university. The tasks are not always enormous, but they are all critical to our success at ASUMH.



Student Julie Small with Alice Baker

A Message From the Chancellor

Have you noticed the changes in the Community Development Center on the ASUMH campus? Over the holidays, extensive work was done and steel beams seemed to pop out of the ground. Today, you can see the outline for the auditorium, great hall and four pods. It’s amazing to think that in square footage this building will be as big as three of our academic buildings combined. This truly will be the showplace of North Central Arkansas and it’s right here on the ASUMH campus in Mountain Home.

On April 3, we will have a traditional Topping Out Ceremony on our campus. At noon, we will raise the highest steel beam in the structure. Join us, if you are able, and be a part of history on our campus. In the meantime, the beam we will raise is on Keller Green for the community to sign. Stop by and sign your name. You are an important part of our family!



Volunteer Duane Farris



Carol Gresham, Vice Chancellor for Development

There is a special week that we celebrate each year in the United States called National Volunteer Week. This year, the theme for the event is "Celebrating People in Action" and there couldn't be a better theme for our "PEP" Squad volunteers at ASUMH. We are only two years into our volunteer program, but already our faculty and staff are finding our volunteers to be an invaluable asset and our students appreciate their warm, smiling faces as they offer assistance and directions on campus. We want to take an opportunity to say "thank you" to our "PEP" Squad in this newsletter and let you know that we couldn't do it without you. Thank you for your help with the big jobs and the small tasks, your smiles and your handshakes. We appreciate you and Celebrate you as People in Action at ASUMH!

Cmg



Kathryn Miles

Celebrating People In Action



National Volunteer Week

April 19-25, 2009

VOLUNTEER LENDS SKILL FOR DENIM & DIAMONDS

One of ASUMH's "PEP" Squad volunteers, Kathryn Miles, is known throughout the community as a fabulous decorator. The wife of Joe, Kathryn is also a former instructor at ASUMH. The Miles home was open on the Cameo Tour of Homes at Christmas this year. A fabulous collection of artwork and unique decorating style made the home a favorite of many who attended the tour.

Kathryn is lending her creative talent to an event on April 17 to benefit the Vada Sheid Community Development Center. Kathryn and other volunteers have been busy planning decorations for the event, which will be held at the Baxter County Fairgrounds. Denim & Diamonds will feature the popular dance band "The Loose Ends" and a special chance to win a \$2,000 diamond from Carter's Jewel Chest, when you buy a \$20 collectible glass of champagne with a stone in it. Whether yours is a cubic zirconium or a real diamond, like the one Lucinda Blair won at last year's event, you are sure to have a good time!

Tickets for the event are \$35. For information on attending, call Lisa at (870) 508-6105.

CDC TOPPING OUT CEREMONY SCHEDULED

In building construction, topping out, or topping off, is a ceremony held when the last beam is placed at the top of a building. A topping out ceremony has been held on the ASUMH campus for each of the buildings and one is scheduled for April 3 at noon for the Vada Sheid Community Development Center.

While common in England, Germany and Poland, the origins of the ceremony are obscure. Its practice has long been an important component of timber frame buildings. A tree or leafy branch is placed on the topmost beam, often with flags and streamers tied to it. The last girder is traditionally painted white and signed by all the workmen involved. At ASUMH, we ask all of our faculty, staff and students to sign the beam as well. But, we don't stop there. For this ceremony, we have placed the beam on Keller Green and invited the community to sign their names too.

Please stop by the campus and join us by signing your name to the beam that will be set in place on April 3. You, our volunteers, have been such a vital part of our history and growth at ASUMH. We want you to also be a part of our future by participating in this important celebration!

