



## October

Breast Cancer Awareness Month

Down Syndrome Awareness Month

National Spina Bifida Awareness Month

National Crime Prevention Month

National Physical Therapy Month

10/3 Child Health Day

10/14 Susan G. Komen, Race for the Cure— Little Rock

10/16 National Boss's Day

10/31 Halloween

10/31 DHS Children's Event

## October Birthdays

10/5 Denise Bradenburg

10/7 Ruth Dunn

10/8 Lynn Davenport

10/16 Richard Johnson

10/18 Jewel Barnes

10/22 Avis Lane

10/27 Linda Wilson

10/29 Shamia Rafter

10/30 Joe Winford

10/31 Jackie Williams

## *DDS 2nd Annual Fall Food & Craft Fair*

On Friday, September 29<sup>th</sup>, the Division of Developmental Disabilities Services (DDS) hosted its' Second Annual Fall Festival. DDS operates five (5) state run intermediate care facilities (Human Development Centers) for individuals with severe developmental and intellectual disabilities. DDS also serves thousands of Arkansans living in the community through Medicaid services tailored to assist with their developmental and intellectual disability needs.

At the Fall Festival, clients from the HDCs and clients living in our communities, come together at a fun and casual street style fair to sell items they have personally created. The event was designed to support employment opportunities for individuals with disabilities. DDS believes that all Arkansans with disabilities should have the opportunity for competitive, integrated employment in an atmosphere that allows them to interact with individuals without disabilities. Work contributes to independence and provides a sense of purpose for all individuals. Individuals with disabilities, even severe disabilities, are capable of being employed with the right support. Thank you for supporting the 2nd Annual Fall Food & Craft Fair. Thank you to some of Little Rock's best food trucks: Kool's BBQ, Loblolly Creamery, Count Porkula, Brown Sugar Bakeshop, Southern Gourmasian, and JMG Grilling! See you next year!



# DDS Fall Food & Craft Fair



## Thank you to special supporters!

For your time, donations, and volunteer efforts... THANK YOU!!!

- |                |               |                 |
|----------------|---------------|-----------------|
| David Sterling | Rose Naff     | Dennis Smith    |
| Dale Woodall   | Greg Simmons  | Cindy Gillespie |
| Betty Guhman   | Mary Franklin | Mischa Martin   |



### Dear Santa,



If you could have your Christmas wish granted by Santa, what would it be? Would you ask for something for your family or your community? Would you take a philosophical direction? Perhaps something for yourself? If you had one wish and you knew it would be fulfilled, what would it be? Think about it and email [yvette.swift@dhs.arkansas.gov](mailto:yvette.swift@dhs.arkansas.gov). The list will be posted in next month's newsletter.

FYI- Christmas is about **12 weeks** away! Happy planning and shopping!

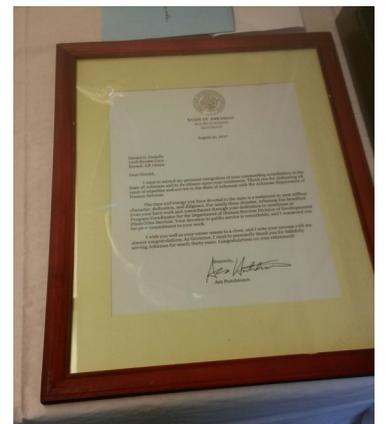


# Gerald Canada's Retirement Celebration, 28 Years of Service

To one of the hardest working men in DDS, you will truly be missed and are undoubtedly irreplaceable. Thank you for your service to the people we serve, the provider community, and your DDS family!



Just got word of three more emergency placements. Duty calls...



Meet *Sheila Cook*, DDS Licensure Certification  
 Administrative Assistant III, 28 Years of Service

Sheila started cake decorating the summer of 2014. She attended her first class at Michaels. She thought it would be interesting and something to pursue after retiring from state government. She has taken various courses (Building Cream Skills, Flowers and Cake Design, Fondant and Gum Paste) in cake decorating during the summer. "In the courses, you have to bake your cake and already have the icing prepared before you go to class. You decorate the cake in class." Sheila has continued decorating cakes and cupcakes using buttercream icing. She says most people like buttercream icing over fondant. When she retires, from state government, she plans to attend Pulaski Tech to get her degree in Cake Decorating. She has designed cakes & cupcakes for some DDS occasions in the past. Sheila shares some pictures of her work and would like for you to keep her in mind for your celebrations.



### *Congressional visit to Jonesboro HDC*

State Representative Rick Crawford visits Jonesboro HDC. He really enjoyed the gardens and Ecoworks. Ecoworks is the HDC recycling center that employs many of the clients. Pictured from left to right are: Darrell Pickney, DDS Board Member and JHDC Parent Council President; James Ratliff, DDS Program Manager; Steven Farmer, JHDC Superintendent; and Representative Rick Crawford, 1st Congressional District of Arkansas.



### *Comments, Suggestions, Q&A*

Let us know what you'd like to see featured. If you'd like to be a guest writer, let us know. If you have a healthy recipe to share, let us know. Send all to [yvette.swift@dhs.arkansas.gov](mailto:yvette.swift@dhs.arkansas.gov).

DDS Job Swap Day,  
 Friday, November 17  
 Be on the watch for  
 more details to  
 come!