



DHS Independence Day Dessert Contest

August

National Back to School Month
National Eye Exam Month
National Immunization
Awareness Month

8/4 Mandatory DDS Training
(non HDC)

8/6- 8/7 Arkansas Sales Tax
Holiday weekend

8/22 Arkansas first day of the
new school year (due to the coro-
navirus pandemic)

8/26 National Women's Equality
Day

DHS hosted its 2nd Annual Independence Day Dessert Contest on July 8th with proceeds from slices sold to benefit the Human Development Center Christmas fund. After the judges deliberated and the scores were tallied, DYS pulled out the 1st place victory with Vicky Rawlins' Passion Blueberry Pie. Second place was awarded to DAABHS with Bridget Atkins' Luscious Lemon Layer Cake with Blueberries and Rosemary Essence. Third place was claimed by OCCE with Keith Metz's Best Peanut Butter Pie You Ever Had. Over \$300 was raised for the Christmas fund!

DDS's own Joe Winford represented well with his famous and absolutely scrumptious delicacy, the Neiman Marcus brownie. It sold out quickly!



Joe Winford's Neiman Marcus Brownie



Non HDC

MANDATORY DDS TRAINING

Director Melissa Weatherton

DATE:
August 4th

LOCATION:
U of A Division of Agriculture
Cooperative Extension Bldg.
2301 S. University Ave.
Little Rock AR 72203

TIME:
9:30 a.m. - 3 p.m.



Please Be Reminded due to the increasing numbers in Covid cases and our desire to promote social distancing, new guidance has been given for attendance.

Mandatory participation is required for the morning session ONLY from 9:30 a.m.-12 p.m. In-person participation for the morning session is required for the speakers, Intake and Referral Unit and Waiver Application Unit **ONLY**. ALL OTHERS will participate via Zoom with cameras on.

Afternoon session 1 p.m. – 3 p.m.

Attendance is **OPTIONAL** for all EXCEPT Intake and Referral Unit and Waiver Application Unit. The afternoon session will include detailed training on Intake and Referral application processing and DDS ICF/IDD eligibility.

Join from PC, Mac, Linux, iOS or Android: <https://arkansas.zoom.us/j/89294310550?pwd=NmVhQ3Zwd29lQnVxSEQyTFduKzA1Zz09>

Password: 139329

Or Telephone:

Dial:

USA 216 706 7005

USA 8664345269 (US Toll Free)

Conference code: 939694

If you have any questions please contact:

Sabrina Harris, Quality Assurance Manager

Division of Developmental Disabilities Services

Dual Eligibility Support Unit

P: 501-682-6355

[sabrena.harris@dhs.arkansas.gov](mailto:sabrina.harris@dhs.arkansas.gov)

Arkansas Sales Tax Holiday



Beginning at 12:01 a.m. on Saturday, August 6th, and ending at 11:59 p.m. on Sunday, August 7th, the State of Arkansas will hold its sales tax holiday allowing shoppers the opportunity to purchase 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 an itemized list of exempt items with more detailed information, please visit the website at: www.dfa.arkansas.gov OR google Arkansas Sales Tax Holiday 2022.

Tips to get ready for back to school

- ◆ Start earlier bedtime
- ◆ Wake children one hour earlier
- ◆ Create lunch and snack menus
- ◆ Take children for medical and dental check-ups
- ◆ Gather all health and physical forms
- ◆ Organize all clothing/uniform items
- ◆ Obtain school supply lists and complete shopping
- ◆ Start limiting tv time
- ◆ Increase reading, board and word games time
- ◆ Talk about safety– age/grade appropriate
- ◆ Create a safe space/way for your children to express when they need a mental health break or struggling with an issue
- ◆ Plan a fun weekend to celebrate the new school year



There is a lot coming up at DHS. Stay tuned!

Save the Date

August

Mandatory DDS Training (non HDC)

8/4

U of A of Agriculture

Cooperative Extension Bldg

Little Rock, Arkansas

9:30 a.m.– 3:00 p.m.

October

DDS Fall Food & Craft Fair

10/7

DHS Administrative Complex

7th and Main Streets

Little Rock, Arkansas

11:00 a.m.– 2:00 p.m.



Comments, Suggestions, and Q&A

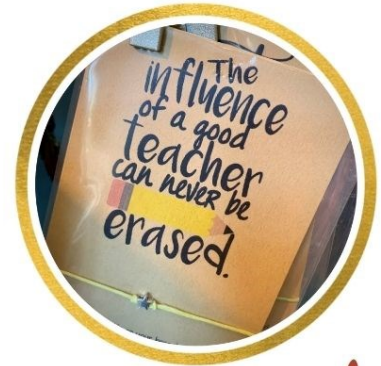
What would you like to learn more about or see featured? Please send all comments, suggestions, and Q&A to yvette.swift@dhs.arkansas.gov by the 15th of the month.

WELCOME BACK TO THE BLUE UMBRELLA



TEACHER GIFT SUGGESTIONS

- Coffee/Tea Mugs from AHDC
- School Bus Magnets by Jeremiah 29:11
- Wood Pen by AR School for the Blind
- The influence of a good teacher can never be erased wishlet
- Teacher World Changer tote bag from AHDC



ARTIST SPOTLIGHT: AMANDA TOPICH



Amanda Topich doesn't just shoot photographs, she captures memories.

Amanda's work reflects her unique perspective as she photographs subjects like bridges, boats, and new places she visits.

Her first real introduction to photography was through a class she completed at Arkansas State University – Beebe before graduating with her degree in Liberal Arts. When someone buys one of her photographs, Amanda says it makes her feel extremely excited knowing that someone else enjoys and appreciates her work. Stop by The Blue Umbrella to see all of Amanda's photographs!



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