

NUTRITION NEWS

Meet the “*Fabulous Five*” from Two Rivers School District

Special points of interest:

- Fabulous Five
- 2017 Poster Contest Winners
- Milestones
- Summer Training
- Summer Meals Go Mobile
- Summer Meals Nutrition Program a Winner



Dates to Remember:

Manager's 1 & 2 Training	June 12-23
Recertification Training	June 27-29
Director's Certification Training	July 10-12
Director's Conference	July 25-26

The “Fabulous Five” was birthed at Two Rivers School District due to desires of both Renee Austin, Child Nutrition Director at Two River School District and Virginia Giles, Art Teacher at Two Rivers School District. Giles discussed with Renee her desire to inspire her students to work harder in producing quality art work and provide them with an opportunity to display their art which was an art framework for the school year. Austin had a desire of her own; to create superheroes to represent the five food groups to excite elementary students about healthful eating.

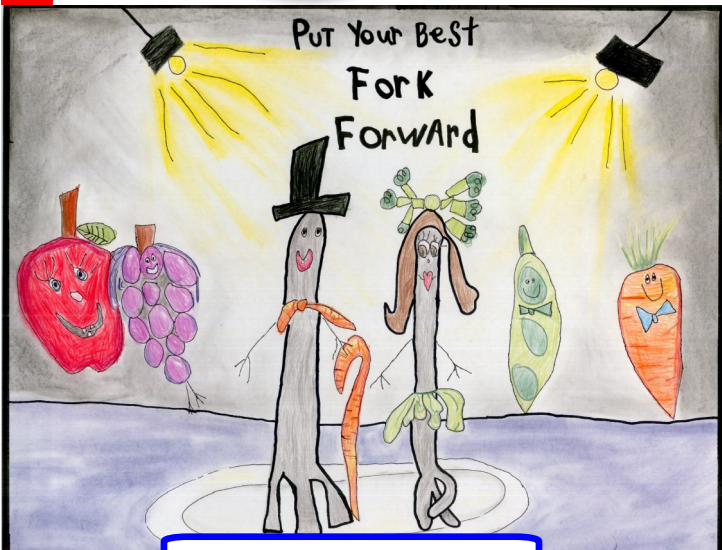
Giles presented the idea to her high school “Art two” students and three young men in her class responded enthusiastically to the request and were eager to take on the task. The three students spearheaded this project by designing, painting, and cutting out the five characters with some assistance from other students in the class. Austin allowed the elementary students name the food group superheroes and they decided on “The Fabulous Five” which include Veggie Man, Milk Maiden, Meat Man, Grainger Ranger, and Fabulous Fruity Freddy.

Giles stated, “Connecting to the community as well as bridging departments and age groups has been a wonderful experience for all of us. This collaboration benefited my students as well our school.”



The 2017 Nutrition Education Poster Contest entries were wonderful! Congratulations to the winners! The choices were difficult since there were so many exceptional posters. The poster contest is an annual event funded by the Nutrition Committee of the Arkansas School Nutrition Association (ASNA) and administered by the Arkansas Department of Education (ADE) Child Nutrition Unit (CNU). "Put your best Fork Forward" was this year's theme for the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics National Nutrition Month Campaign. This also served as the theme for the 2017 Nutrition Education Poster Contest.

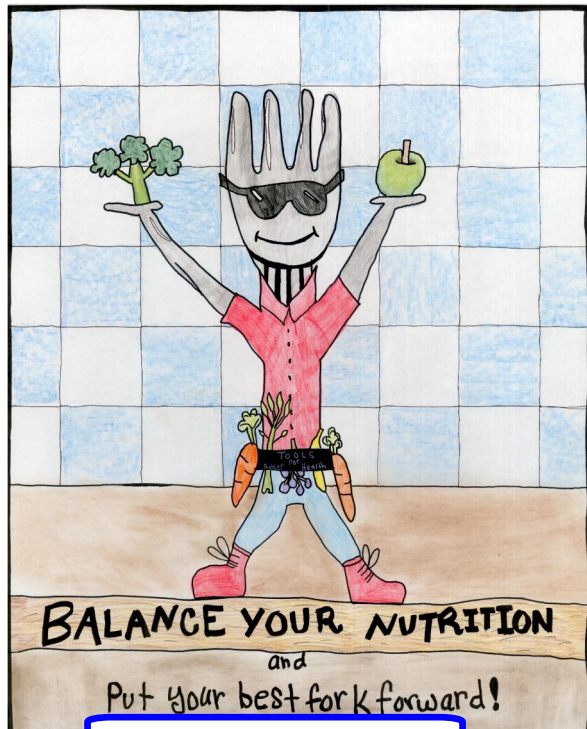
Six division winners were chosen at the state level to receive \$50 and a trophy. A Senior Division winner was selected to receive a \$300 scholarship. The instructor/art teach of each state level division winner was awarded \$100 to be used toward the purchase of classroom supplies. The Child Nutrition Manager for each state level division winner received paid ASNA dues for the year 2017-2018.



Kindergarten Division
Woodlawn School District



Division 1
Woodlawn School District



Division 2
Woodlawn School District



Division 3
Woodlawn School District



Division 4
Batesville School District



Senior Division
Fort Smith School District

Milestones — Deidra Strom



Deidra Strom is a Registered Dietitian and the new Area Specialist for the Southeast region.

Deidra is originally from Little Rock but currently resides in Conway.

Deidra attended the University of Central Arkansas (UCA) in Conway and graduated in 2015 with a Bachelor of Science in Nutrition.

She completed her dietetic internship at UCA

where she also obtained her Master's.

Deidra's hobbies include baking, anything outdoors, crafting, attending concerts, and playing kickball.

When asked why she chose to work in the area of Child Nutrition she replied "to [her] the most sensible way to improve the health of our future is to start with proper education and encourage healthy eating at a young age."

Deidra expresses great enthusiasm to be apart of the Child Nutrition Unit and we are certainly excited to have her !

Milestones — Susie Ward

Susie Ward joined the Child Nutrition Unit in May of 2016. She came to us from Carlisle School District where she was the Child Nutrition Director (CND) and a Math teacher.

Susie has served 35 years in Education in various roles as Principal, teacher, CND, and professor.

She resides outside of Lonoke on her grandparents dairy farm.

In her free time, she enjoys cooking and crafting.

Child Nutrition has always been apart of Susie's life. Her mother was a cafeteria manager/ Director for 32 years. So when asked to become the CND after leaving her position as principal she gladly accepted the role.

She believes that Directors need to be the example for their managers' by possessing a willingness to take on any task, whether great or small, and that's just the type of Director she strived to be.

This month is Susie's one year anniversary with the Child Nutrition Unit and we are glad to have her as apart of our team.



Milestones— Mary Lee Brown



Mary Lee Brown joined the Child Nutrition Unit this month as the Central Area Specialist.

Mary just recently received her M.B.A from Parker University in Dallas, TX while simultaneously working as a case clerk for seven attorneys at the Pulaski County Prosecuting Attorney Office.

Mary has a background in Nutrition with a B.S. in Family and Consumer

Science with an emphasis in Dietetics.

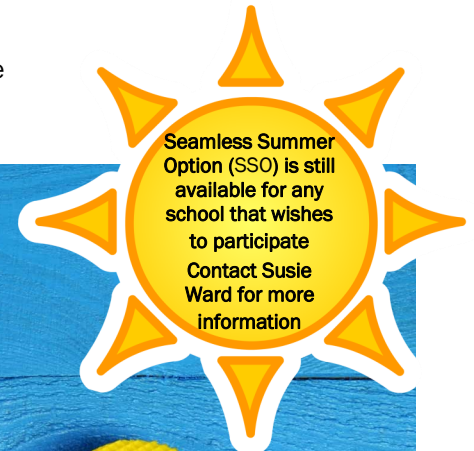
She is eager and very excited to work in Child Nutrition because nutrition is her passion. She hopes to be here long term and be able to assist the schools in Central Arkansas.

She also just recently got engaged to the love of her life, Grant Dennis and has one

dog, Maggie whom she loves dearly.

In her spare time, she likes to hike and go "thrifting" in hopes of finding cool antique items to turn into new and improved gems.

Mary expresses great excitement to be apart of CNU and we are elated to have her as apart of our team.



2017 SUMMER TRAINING

Manager's 1 & 2 Training

June 12-23

Vilonia School District

Vilonia, AR

Recertification Training

June 27-29

Vilonia School District

Vilonia, AR

Director's Certification Training

July 10-21

College of Business

University of Central Arkansas

Conway, AR

Director's Conference

July 25-26

Embassy Suites Hotel

Little Rock, AR

Administrative Review Training (invitation only)

July 27

Embassy Suites Hotel

Little Rock, AR



SUMMER MEALS GO “MOBILE”



ROGERS- The Rogers School District's Child Nutrition Program was honored to be among those programs nationally recognized as a "Turnip the Beet" Bronze award recipient and one of the two districts in Arkansas receiving recognition along with the Hope School District who won the "Silver" distinction.

The new initiative sponsored by USDA recognizes summer meal programs in the United States for excellence in providing optimum nutrition and variety in summer meal planning.

District Child Nutrition Director, Margie Bowers took the Rogers summer program "mobile" 5 years ago to extend the availability of hot meals to children living in apartment complexes that were located in the district's highest free and reduced eligibility areas.

Having recognized that the greatest barrier to children accessing the summer meal program sites seemed to be a lack of transportation, it made perfect sense to utilize the transport and packaging equipment used during the school year for satellite operations to provide the same service throughout the district during summer.

The decision was made to provide hot meals four out of five days, rather than a cold sandwich meal everyday. This way they are able to deliver the same variety and nutrition that children receive during the school year and to keep them interested.



It was quickly noticed within the first year that the mobile program was meeting a need for many children who were home with younger siblings during the day while parents worked.

One child was heard to remark "This is way better than cereal!"...another asking if he could "have another one for supper." Grandparents who brought their grandchildren to the meal truck each day remarked what a blessing the program was to their tight budgets. Every Friday the staff provided weekend snack packs to every child who wanted one, utilizing a partnership with the NWA Food Bank and Samaritan House.

The program was an instant success with participation rising from 400 meals per day to over 1000 with about 700 of those meals served at mobile sites. It is expected for participation to increase to 1400 meals per day this summer as two new sites have been added.

"TURNIP THE BEAT" during summer and...Go MOBILE!

SUMMER NUTRITION PROGRAM A WINNER

HOPE – The Hope Public Schools Nutrition Services Summer Program is one of two summer meals programs in Arkansas to be recognized by the U. S. Food and Drug Administration's "Turnip the Beet" initiative.

HPS Nutrition Director Deanna Gilbert was given the USDA Silver Award during a recent national USDA conference in Washington, D.C.

"This was totally brand new," Gilbert said.

The Hope summer nutrition program was nominated by the Arkansas Department of Education, Gilbert said. The program, which provides one hot meal per day during the summer, free to children districtwide, typically serves as many as 200 children, as well as "walk-in" services.

"During summer school, it's a lot more," Gilbert said.

The program is summer school based and conducted in cooperation with local public service agencies and organizations involving children, as well as providing "walk-in" services, she said.

Gilbert said the program serves students up to age 18, typically Monday through Friday, throughout the summer.

"A lot of districts do not do summer nutrition," she said.

The "Turnip the Beet" program award is based upon a snapshot of the district's summer nutrition services, its menu quality, the nutritional value of menu items, emphasis upon fresh fruits and vegetables, taste satisfaction, and cultural and age appropriate meals.

"We are extremely proud of our entire food services department," Superintendent Bobby Hart said of the award announcement. "They all work hard to see that every student in our district has a good meal."

The summer nutrition program has been in place about six years, which Hart said has built goodwill within the community.

"Mrs. Gilbert and her staff do an incredible service to our community by running such a terrific summer feeding program," he said.

The Silver Award designation means that the HPS summer nutrition program will be featured in the USDA Food and Nutrition Service Newsletter this summer, as well as on the USDA's internet blog.



ADE Commissioner's Communication Memos

The following Arkansas Department of Education Commissioner's Communication Memos relate to Child Nutrition Programs. A complete list can be accessed on the Child Nutrition Web page at http://www.arkansased.gov/divisions/fiscal-and-administrative-services/child_nutrition_unit/cn-related-commissioners-memos

- CNU-17-052: Child Nutrition Directors' Conference
- CNU-17-051: Policy Updates on Modifications to Accommodate Disabilities in the School Meals Programs
- CNU-17-050: Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) Elections Procedures
- CNU-17-049: Child Nutrition Renewal Agreement and Policy Statement for the 2017-2018 School Year
- CNU-17-048: Web-Based Free and Reduced Price Meal Applications
- CNU-17-046: Exam Fee Reductions and Waivers for Students in CEP Schools
- CNU-17-045: 2017 Child Nutrition Directors Certification Training
- CNU-17-044: Updated Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) Meal Pattern Changes
- CNU-17-043: Child Health Advisory Committee Recommendations: SY 2017-2018 Maximum Portion Size List
- CNU-17-042: Target 2 Sodium Requirements for School Year 2017-2018
- CNU-17-040: Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) Reporting
- CNU-17-039: Summer Feeding Programs
- CNU-17-038: Wellness Policies: Meeting Requirements of the Triennial Assessment
- CNU-17-036: Paid Lunch Equity Guidance and Tool for 2017-2018 School Year
- CNU-17-035: 2017 Child Nutrition Manager Training

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