

## A-State and Every Child is Ours provide cultural enrichment opportunity for local fourth graders

RACHEL RUDD

NEWS EDITOR

The Arkansas State University P-20 Educational Innovation Center partnered with Every Child is Ours to host a cultural heritage event for local fourth graders. A-State invited seven schools from the Jonesboro, Nettleton and Tuckerman school systems to learn to be more aware of other cultures.

"We wanted the fourth graders to be aware of others and other cultures, so that we can all live peacefully and in harmony with everyone and respect one another's culture," said Dr. Mary Jane Bradley, dean of the college of education and behavioral science.

Events like this one originated when Dr. Kelly Damphousse was still chancellor. Upon examining the reports of local schools, he saw that some of them struggled in math and language arts.

"That's when he gave us a challenge and that's why we've started working with schools to make their children feel special and hopefully do well in school," Bradley said.

This is not the first time A-State has worked with Every Child is Ours, an organization based out of Tuckerman that

focuses on hunger relief and education empowerment. In years past, they sent supplies to two Louisiana schools after Hurricane Ida struck, as well as teaching children to cook in the food pantry.

"Our children are all wonderful. Sometimes we forget that everyone, even a child, needs to be motivated and needs to see they can succeed," said Jan Paschal, founder of Every Child is Ours.

The event saw a number of speakers from A-State and the community talk to the students about remaining committed to their education. Speakers included Diana Davis, KAIT 8 anchor, A-State student athletes and Bob Nash, former Under Secretary of Rural and Community Development in the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

"I want you to look deep within yourself and figure out what your talents are," Davis said. "No matter where you come from, you can do anything."

When Nash spoke, he had a key takeaway for the students.

"Listen to your parents, listen to your teachers, don't abuse your body with drugs and alcohol," Nash said. "You fourth graders are going to run this state, you're going to run this country, you're going to



PHOTO COURTESY OF KAIT 8

Alice Phelps (right) dances the jingle dress dance along with two of her students. It is a sacred healing dance.

run corporations. But you've got to do what I'm telling you."

The event also featured Alice Phelps, principal of the American Horse School, a K-8 school located on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in South Dakota. Phelps, along with two of her students,

danced in the jingle dress style.

The dance originates from the Ojibwe tribe and features dresses with metal jingles. It is a sacred healing dance.

"I'm just really thankful I'm able to share this with everybody, just to let everyone know that we're still here and

we're alive and well and going strong," Phelps said. "We continue to find ways to heal our people through the cycle of suppressions and atrocities that have occurred in the past."

Bradley said the reason the event focuses on fourth graders is because it is an "integral year."

"It's one of the years where they are tested," Bradley said. "But we want fourth graders to realize that there's more than just testing, that there is also academics. We want them to know there are other cultures that go along with their academics."

## A-State hosts blood drive



Photo by Laila Casiano | Staff Writer

Jonesboro residents giving blood at the LTC Frederick C. Turner Military Science Building.

LAILA CASIANO

STAFF WRITER

Arkansas State University hosted a blood drive at the LTC Frederick C. Turner, Jr. Military Science Building on Nov. 1, starting at 11 a.m. and ending at 4 p.m.

The blood drive was in partnership with the ROTC and NYIT. The drive's goal was collecting 25 units of blood.

Jerrica Fox, an accountant manager for the Poplar Bluff district of the American Red Cross foundation, said the A-State blood drive collected 28 units and had over 30 donors attending.

"I encourage everyone to at least try it once. You may have a friend or family member that may rely on a blood donor and it only takes 30 minutes of your day. You can dedicate

that time to possibly saving someone's life," Fox said.

Fox added that in recent years, the foundation has been in need of Type O donors and encouraged anyone with Type O blood to donate.

"If not today, donate at the nearest blood drive to you," said Fox.

To be a donor, one has to be 17 years or older and at least weigh 110 pounds. More information on the specific height and weight of a person can be found on their website at [RedCrossBlood.org](http://RedCrossBlood.org), under the donor requirement tab, or by scanning the QR code.

Information on what can qualify or disqualify one as a potential donor can be found on their website.

Carl K. Valentine, a Jonesboro native, gave blood at the drive.

"I give blood every eight weeks. I'm doing my best to help," Valentine said.

"It's great to give back to the community and also to get some exposure to what the Red Cross stands for," said McKenzie Dwyer, a volunteer for the Red Cross foundation and student at the NYIT, from Tennessee.

"It's a special thing, being able to give somebody life, so I think giving blood personifies that."



QR code that leads to the donor requirement tab on the Red Cross website

## CAMPUS CRIME



RACHEL RUDD

NEWS EDITOR

Nov. 5 | 5 a.m.

Officers were investigating room 422 at 2509 Aggie Rd in reference to a pending investigation of another call. The door was already open and the room was unoccupied. Dispatch came over the radio stating that there was a white male in black underwear walking down the hallway just prior to UPD arriving on scene.

After walking down the hallway, Officer Justin McMillen noticed that room 423 was also left wide open and was occupied by the subject dispatch had seen on camera. The subject was only in his underwear and was lying across multiple end tables.

After Officer Takeem Bowman read suspect one his Miranda rights, it became clear that suspect one appeared to be under the influence of alcohol. Suspect one had a very strong odor of intoxicant coming from him and appeared to be very unaware of his surroundings.

Suspect one had already informed the officers that he was under the legal drinking age. He was arrested for criminal trespassing for entering and occupying a room that did not belong to him.

Suspect one is not an A-State student and was supposed to be staying with his friend in room 422. Due to suspect one being under the legal drinking age, he was also arrested for minor in possession. Suspect

one was then transported to the Craighead County Jail. Suspect one was given a court date of Jan. 4 at 9 a.m.

Nov. 2 | 9:11 p.m.

Officer Takeem Bowman was dispatched to 223 N Red Wolf Blvd in reference to suspect one being intoxicated and attempting to leave with her daughter. Upon arrival, the Houlihan's restaurant manager told Bowman suspect one was extremely intoxicated and was screaming at her 5-year-old daughter. He then made contact with suspect one and immediately smelled a strong odor of intoxicants coming from her. Her speech was also slurred.

Bowman asked suspect one how she planned on getting home due to how intoxicated she was. Suspect one explained a wreck she was involved in and stated that her mother was going to pick her up. Bowman asked suspect one how far out her mother was and she stated she didn't know. Bowman then asked suspect one how long has it been since she spoke with her mother and she stated "that her cell phone was dead." Bowman saw that suspect one's cell phone was on and operational.

It was determined that suspect one was extremely intoxicated to the point that she couldn't care for her child or herself. Bowman requested that suspect one walk outside with him, so that he didn't arrest her in front of her child. Suspect one refused. Suspect one was asked

several more times to step outside and finally complied and walked outside. Bowman told suspect one she was under arrest and she argued about why she was being arrested.

Bowman attempted to grab suspect one's wrist and she placed herself on the ground. Suspect one then attempted to pull away as Bowman was trying to place her in handcuffs. Suspect one was provided several verbal orders to place her hands behind her back or pepper spray would be used. Suspect one refused and continued resisting arrest. Officer Stephen Montgomery, who had stayed behind suspect one's child, engaged suspect one when he noticed she was resisting arrest. He gained control of suspect one's arms and assisted in securing her in hand restraints. Bowman issued a two second burst of pepper spray to suspect one's face. Suspect one then submitted to arrest.

Emerson Ambulance Service was then contacted to render medical aid to suspect one. Bowman transported suspect one to the Craighead County Detention Center.

Montgomery returned to the child and remained with her until a resolution for her custody could be determined. The Department of Human Services obtained contact information for the grandmother of the juvenile, witness one. Montgomery confirmed the identification of witness one and released the child to her custody without further incident.