

A BREAK IN LIFE: THE GED

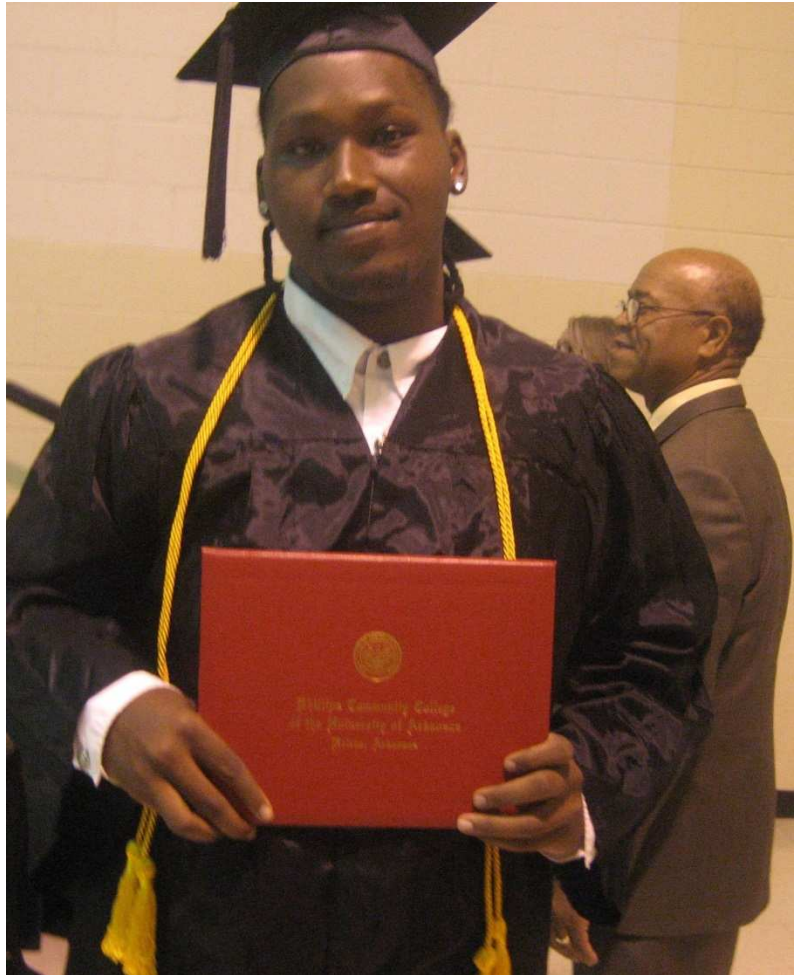
Honors graduate Christopher Jackson displays his certificate

Youth does not serve everyone equally, so many of us don't earn a high school diploma. For those who don't, there's another path to a richer, more productive and happier life: the GED.

A GED (General Educational Development) certificate says that a person has passed tests that show that he or she has developed the learning and skills expected of a high school education. It gives a person access to a better job, better pay, potentially college and certainly a more fulfilling life.

The Boys, Girls, Adults Community Development Center will again offer a GED program at the BGACDC headquarters at Marvell.

Phillips Community College will pay for the instruction. Anyone in the Marvell-Elaine School District can enroll by calling (870) 829-3275, Extension 7. The program will start October 9. BGACDC offered the GED program for many years and is resuming it this fall.



Beatrice Shelby, executive director of BGACDC, said the sense of self-fulfillment from the GED is at least as important as the improved career and pay prospects and eligibility to enroll in college.



"I remember a GED student telling me twenty years ago that he was a happy man when he could read his mail himself and know his business before anyone else knew it—the people who had to tell him what his mail said."