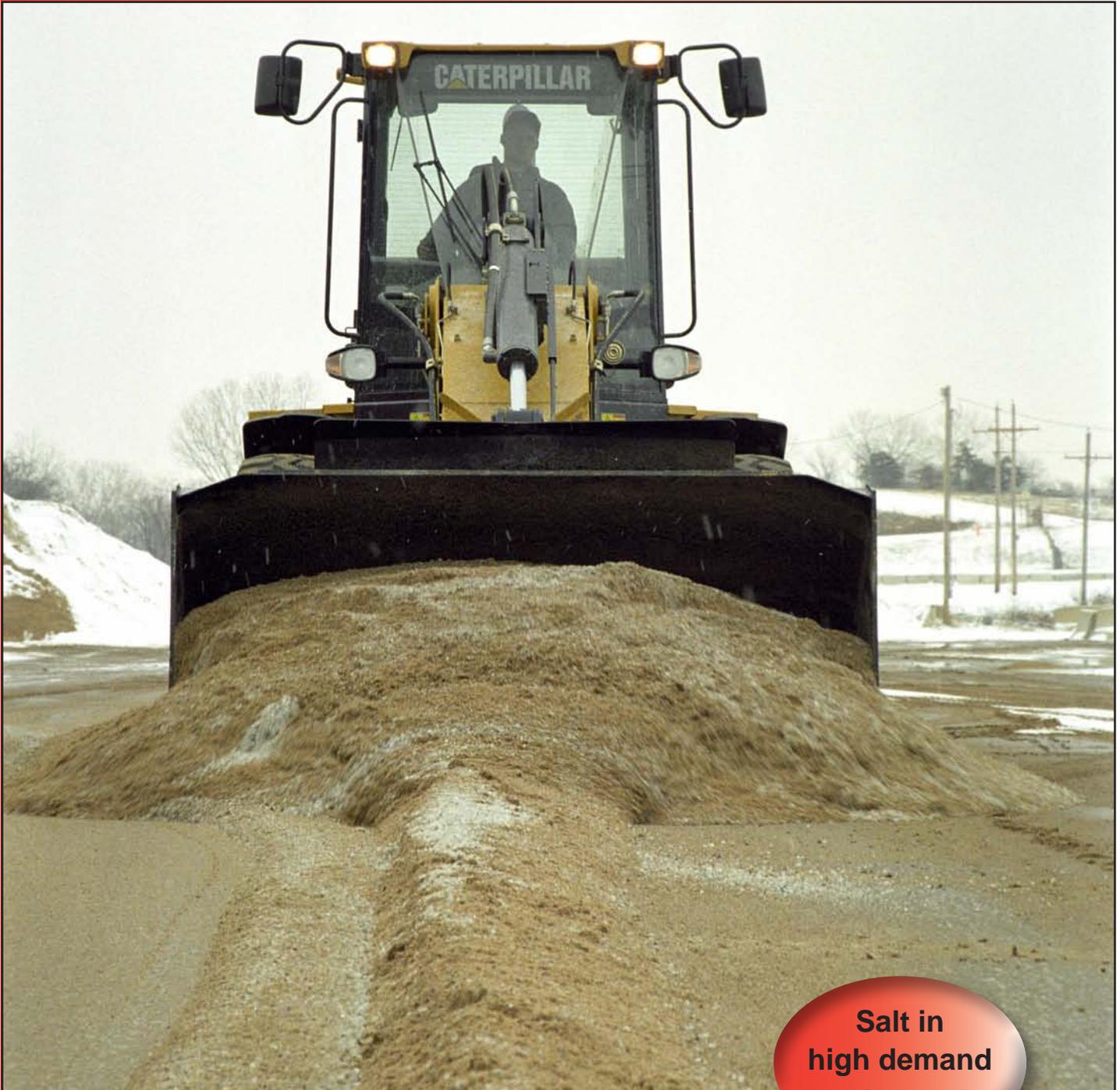


Translines



**Salt in
high demand**
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- ◆ **Orange Hero Awards**
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- ◆ **Kansas Scenic Byways program expanded**



**By Secretary
Deb Miller**

A squandered inheritance

Every now and then we read something that makes such a strong point that we just have to share it. That's the case with an op-ed written by my friend and colleague Pete Rahn, Director of the Missouri Department of Transportation and past President of AASHTO.

Pete's op-ed, which has been shared with transportation leaders throughout the country and published in some newspapers, passionately makes the case for leadership and the need to take better care of our nation's infrastructure, which has been allowed to fall into disrepair. Since I can't say it any better than Pete already has, here is an abridged version of his op-ed:

Americans seem to hold a special disdain for those who have been given much through inheritance but have managed to lose it through foolishness and neglect. Yet, as a generation, we have done exactly that.

Consider that we – the baby boomers – have allowed our inheritance, the nation's economic infrastructure, to crumble beneath our feet from selfishness and neglect. Somewhere along the path of being the "me" generation we forgot about "us." Great nations build and invest for

succeeding generations, as our parents and grandparents did. We have not.

Access to economic infrastructure – that being high quality transportation and utilities – is the underlying difference between first-world and third-world countries. Reliable electricity, clean water and communications, along with highway systems, railroads and airports make our modern economy possible.

While China, India and Russia are spending record amounts to increase their economic advantage, the United States is retreating from our needs. Our highways are deteriorating, with many fixes today being no more than Band-Aids.

Frankly, we have squandered our inheritance. We have enjoyed the benefits without a willingness to ensure our own children and grandchildren have the same advantages that we've had.

We've allowed demagogues to convince us that we have very little, if any, personal responsibility for a public service that we cannot see how it benefits us individually. And, if it does benefit us, we prefer to have someone else pay for it.

How is this possible? We truly are the wealthiest society our planet has ever seen. We have more reason to invest in our critical economic infrastructure than at any time in history. Yet we remain unwilling to do so.

Situations like this require leadership. If Americans are unenthusiastic about investing in their future, our own past tells us courageous leaders must act in our best interest. Jefferson, Lincoln, Roosevelt and Eisenhower all "got it." Today they are recognized for their vital contributions to the nation through critical transportation system improvements.

We have a chance to turn this around in 2009 as Congress works to authorize the next national highway and transit bill and the next president establishes his vision for our economic infrastructure. Without bold action, our children will surely ask, "How could we have bungled this so badly?"

KANSAS
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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On the...

COVER

A KDOT employee at the Area Four office in Topeka mixes salt and sand while battling one of the snow storms last winter. High salt demands this winter could make the availability of salt a concern. See article on page 5. Photo by Sonya Scheuneman

Havenstein receives FARS national award

Theresa Havenstein, Fatal Accident Reporting Analyst, received an Excellence in Service 2008 national award at the Fatality Analysis Reporting System (FARS) workshop on Oct. 30 in Dearborn, Mich.



Theresa Havenstein

According to the nomination, Havenstein “developed new business processes to increase the quality and efficiency of FARS operations. She has also built positive working relationships with law enforcement and other state agencies to obtain missing information such as Blood Alcohol Content (BAC) data and automated several processes to improve efficiency.”

Only seven awards are given out annually to FARS analysts across the country. In addition, Havenstein was one of four FARS analysts to receive a certificate for helping other states with their backlogs.



Two sections of purple pavement have been installed on U.S. 283 near Minneola to access the safety benefits of this material. Photo by Kirk Hutchinson

KDOT tests purple pavement on U.S. 283 to help enhance safety

As part of a research project, KDOT has installed purple-colored pavement on U.S. 283 at the north and south ends of Minneola. KDOT wants to learn if the colored pavement will help alert drivers to a lower speed zone and, in the case of the north side of Minneola, a railroad crossing and major highway intersection.

The product called Tyregrip was placed over the existing pavement. According to the manufacturer, Ennis Paint, Inc., the pavement, which can come in a variety of colors, provides

traffic calming by alerting drivers to upcoming changes far enough in advance to aid driver decision-making.

The manufacturer also claims that the material has skid resistant characteristics which enhance safety. The research project is designed to assess the safety benefits of this material.

KDOT chose purple since the colors of the Minneola Wildcats are purple and gold. The purple pavement was placed on 100-foot sections of the lanes approaching Minneola on U.S. 283 from the north and from the south.



Members of the Patriot Guard ride along K-53 near Mulvane after a ceremony on Oct. 23 dedicating this stretch of highway in the group's honor. See article on page 4. Photo by Larry Katsbulas

K-53 designated as Patriot Guard Highway

A group whose mission is to support families of soldiers and Marines killed in the Middle East was honored at the Oct. 23 unveiling of a sign that designates K-53 near Mulvane the Patriot Guard Highway.

The Mulvane ceremony recognized the efforts of a group of motorcyclists who have combined their empathy for grieving families with a love to ride and an appreciation for the freedom an open



Secretary Deb Miller, right, is joined by several Patriot Guard supporters in unveiling a highway designation sign at the Oct. 23 ceremony. Photo by Larry Katsbulas

road has always symbolized.

The Patriot Guard was formed by Carol and Terry Houck in 2005 in response to a planned protest at the Oklahoma funeral of a young soldier killed in the Middle East. Since then, the group, which creates a human and flag barrier

between protesters and the families, has carried out 66 “missions.”

The bill creating the highway designation was introduced by the late Rep. Ted Powers in the 2008 legislative session.



Amy Link of KDOT's Division of Public Affairs shakes hands with former Nebraska football coach Tom Osborne after presenting the 2008 Coaches' Mentoring Challenge trophy to former K-State Coach Bill Snyder at halftime of the Nov. 15 K-State-Nebraska football game in Manhattan. At right is Kansas Mentors Director Ella Todd.

KDOT staffer honored at KSU-Nebraska game

Amy Link of the Division of Public Affairs was honored at halftime of the Nov. 15 K-State – Nebraska football game in Manhattan for her efforts in developing Kansas Mentors while serving as the program's inaugural director.

Link joined former head coaches Bill Snyder of K-State and Tom Osborne of Nebraska on the field at halftime. The former coaches, who are both leaders of their respective states' mentor programs, were competing in the 2008 Coaches' Mentoring Challenge designed to recruit new mentors

over a five-month period. The challenge was won by Coach Snyder and Kansas Mentors.

Link served as full-time director of Kansas Mentors from August 2007 to June 2008. She served as staff liaison from January 2006 until her full-time appointment. Link began her career at KDOT in December of 2004 and returned to KDOT in June of this year.

State employees are allotted 90 minutes per pay period to volunteer with Kansas Mentors' Gold Star Mentoring programs. For more information, visit www.kansasmentors.org.

Calendar of Events

Dec. 4 – 8:30 a.m. - Asphalt Paving Conference, University of Kansas Union in Lawrence.

Dec. 9 - 11 a.m., KDOT Employees' Council Meeting, Third Floor, Eisenhower State Office Building.

Dec. 12 – 9:30 a.m. - Highway Advisory Commission meeting.

Dec. 17 – 1 p.m. Construction bid letting, Fourth Floor, West Wing, Eisenhower State Office Building.

Dec. 25-26 – State employees off for Christmas Holiday.

Jan. 1 – State employees off for New Year's Day.

KDOT suspends most projects in next two lettings

Due to funding uncertainties at both the state and federal levels, most construction lettings for December and January have been suspended.

“We are operating in a time of extreme financial uncertainty, and it would be irresponsible for us to begin work on projects without knowing whether we will be able to pay for them,” Secretary Deb Miller said.

KDOT was scheduled to let \$203 million worth of projects in December, which will be cut back to \$57 million. In January, \$111 million worth of projects were scheduled to be let and that number has been reduced to \$48 million.

Among the suspended December lettings is the first phase of the K-61 project in Reno County, which at nearly \$58 million is the largest project in the December reduction. Also suspended for the December letting is the \$53 million expansion of U.S. 169 in Montgomery County. Included in the January suspension is the \$38 million K-61 expansion in McPherson County.

KDOT will continue to let projects that already have initial phases under way and smaller, preservation projects that have been identified as crucial for maintaining the state’s infrastructure. Those include emergency repair projects, critical preservation projects and projects funded primarily with local and federal funds.

“We will continue to evaluate our financial situation to determine whether we can afford to let additional scheduled projects,” said Secretary Miller. —S.S.



In the photo above, Michael Bowen, Federal Highway Division Administrator (left), and Freddie Simmons, KDOT Consultant, talk at the annual KDOT/ACEC Kansas Partnering Conference in Topeka on Oct. 28. At right, ACEC Executive Director Scott Heidner addresses conference attendees. Photos by Larry Katsboulas

Partnering
through
innovation



Salt for roads in high demand this winter

By Kim Stich

Salt supplies for roadways during inclement winter weather in Kansas are proving harder to get, according to Peter Carttar, KDOT Assistant Bureau Chief in Construction and Maintenance.

“There were so many wide-ranging snow and ice storms the last two winters across the entire Midwest, KDOT is now forced to compete against other DOTs, city and county maintenance departments for salt,” Carttar said. “It’s a limited resource and everyone is trying to stock up on salt.”

Although KDOT has experienced some salt availability issues, Carttar said all the salt domes were full in early November. “However, if we have a hard winter and salt availability continues to be an issue, we may have to conserve materials in ways that will be noticeable to the traveling public,” Carttar said.

Carttar said KDOT uses various techniques and technologies in its fight against inclement winter weather. A few examples include:

- ◆ Salt brine pretreatment of bridges and certain roadways when conditions are appropriate. This technique works to prevent snow and ice from bonding to the pavement, which makes it easier to remove both during and after the storm.

- ◆ Road Weather Information Systems (RWIS) technology that uses remote sensors across the state to measure air and pavement temperatures, wind speed, visibility and other pavement conditions to give maintenance crews better information on conditions and weather forecasters better information for their forecasts.

- ◆ Salt spreader control equipment in trucks to help monitor and control how much salt is being put on the road for maximum effectiveness.

- ◆ Maintenance Decision Support System (MDSS) research to assist maintenance workers in choosing the right maintenance action at the right time and to provide real-time information throughout and after a storm.

KDOT employees honored with Orange Hero Awards

Nineteen KDOT employees were bestowed the honor of Orange Heroes during the annual agency Leadership Forum in Topeka on Nov. 4.

Orange Hero trophies were awarded by Secretary Deb Miller recognizing employees who have taken on additional responsibilities, demonstrated leadership and helped KDOT transition to the next level. The winners are:

Howard Lubliner - Rising Star Award. Lubliner is working on an electronic mentoring program for young engineers to gain guidance and tips about their profession. He teaches classes at KU and has encouraged engineering students to consider KDOT after they graduate.

Larry Thompson, Mike Pittman and Dale Luedke - Paving the Way Award. The three were honored for being instrumental in putting together KDOT's first practical improvement project on K-156.

Bruce Burditt - Financial Wizard Award - Burditt manages the recently created Office of Financial and Investment Management, which has been challenged to provide information on revenues and possible funding sources during a trying economic time.

Shad Lohman, Dale Hershberger, Ralph Finley and Chris Meyer - Sign of the Times Award. Lohman, Hershberger and Finley from District Two and Meyer from Design were recognized for their leadership in implementing KDOT's first rural dynamic message signs.

Scott Otipoby - Monumental Achievement Award. Otipoby built a five-foot by three-foot scale model of a Flint Hills monument sign. The model was on display at the ceremony celebrating the completed monument project.

Jerry Moritz, Robert Weiss and Gregg Wicker - Snowmen Award. The three were honored for their work in implementation of snow gates on I-70 to improve safety during inclement weather.

Kerry Hullet - Shaping Young Minds Award - The KDOT Safety Specialist was recognized for developing a presentation on work zone safety geared toward third grade students.

Ed Young - All-Kansas Air Tour All-



Dale Hershberger and Shad Lohman accept their Orange Hero awards from Secretary Deb Miller. Photo by Kurt Weaverling

Stars Award. Young was honored for the work his staff did in coordinating the 80th anniversary of the All-Kansas Air Tour, which stopped in 23 towns and was attended by 10,000 people.

Julie Lorenz - Long and Winding Road Award. Lorenz was recognized for the development of the Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) and her involvement launching T-Link, in addition to facilitation of LRTP, T-Link and Local Consult meetings.

Mark Karolevitz and Ken Shivers - Count on Us Award. Karolevitz and Shivers were recognized for their efforts in responding to the tornado that hit Manhattan and Chapman, respectively, on June 11.

Chris Herrick - Team-Building Award. Herrick was honored for his leadership during a transitional period in Planning and Development. - S.W.

Welcome
new KDOT
employees!

Headquarters

Bruce Duffin, Engineering Technician Specialist, Local Projects

Adam Fernsler, Engineering Technician Specialist, Local Projects

Brian Haar, Engineering Technician Associate, Design

Latikka Moore, Administrative Specialist, Support Services

Lyndi Sout, Senior Administrative Assistant, Fiscal Services

District One

William Beutler, Equipment Operator Trainee, Topeka

Dean Conner Jr., Equipment Operator Trainee, Topeka

Matthew Smith, Equipment Operator Trainee, Lawrence

Rick Tull, Equipment Operator Trainee, Topeka

Kevin Vaughn, Engineering Technician Associate, Topeka

District Two

Chris Gorrell, Equipment Operator Trainee, Minneapolis

District Three

Justin Carver, Equipment Operator Trainee, Goodland

District Four

Christopher Cavender, Equipment Operator Trainee, Yates Center

Scotty Slater, Equipment Operator Trainee, Yates Center

District Six

Carl Ghan Jr., Equipment Operator Trainee, Ulysses

Ryan Grubbs, Equipment Operator Trainee, Lakin

Robert Satterfield, Equipment Operator Trainee, Sublette



By

Benny
Tarverdi

TRANSPORTATION
TALK

Change you can believe in

Large highway programs for the last two decades have made Kansas roads some of the best in the nation. When someone from outside of Kansas comments on the state they'll often mention, "Wow it's flat," and sometimes throw in an "Oh, the roads are great too."

The investment in the highway infrastructure is important not only for our reputation, but for the state's economy, as well. In these uncertain times when oil prices rise and fall (but rise more often), when the future of transportation seems unclear and when environmentalists, candidates, media and even oilmen call for "new plans," "change you can believe in," and "real change," how will the need for state highways change?

Crude oil is becoming scarcer and remaining oil fields have political, economic and environmental barriers to their exploration. Unstable crude oil prices could lead to a decrease in transportation of goods. Crude oil, though, does not power our vehicles' engines: gasoline does.

Crude oil is a blend of thousands and thousands of different hydrocarbon molecules. Refining of these mol-

ecules into discrete fractions such as light gases, naphtha (gasoline), kerosene, diesel, fuel oils and asphalt is a mature technology providing many products. As the demand for gasoline has increased, new technologies have been developed (such as delayed coking and hydrocracking) so that fuel oil and asphalt fractions can be converted into gasoline and diesel "transportation" fuels. As a result, asphalt – essential for KDOT to maintain the state highway system – has become scarcer and more expensive.

Many alternatives and plans have been discussed, including that of business tycoon T. Boone Pickens. His widely-broadcast TV commercials focus on alternative energy, including that produced by wind and solar. But as hard as the wind blows in Kansas, no wind turbine will push a car anywhere. . . or will it?

Wind and solar can be used for "non-transportation fuels" – fuels that power our homes, factories and places of work. Typically, much of this "non-transportation" energy is generated by power plants using natural gas. This extra natural gas, in turn, can be used in transportation fuels.

This idea is not untested. The state of Texas encouraged cities to use alternatives to gas- and diesel-powered vehicles to cut emissions. Several cities, such as Beaumont, Texas, invested in the natural gas distribution infrastructure and clean-burning natural gas buses. The city realized savings when the price of natural gas rose only modestly compared to the rise in the price of diesel. And, the environment was protected since vehicles powered by these alternative fuels emit fewer emissions.

Natural gas can power cars as well as buses and can displace crude oil derivatives – gasoline and diesel – as the primary transportation fuel. Wind and solar (perhaps nuclear energy too), in turn, can displace natural gas. And these energy forms are domestic and clean.

There are many plans and technologies to produce the energy that drives our economy and supports our way of life. But the change to alternative energy sources that Pickens talks about in his commercials is real change. That's change you can believe in and change that's good for state highways.

Benny Tarverdi is the Wichita Metro Engineer.

★ ★ ★
KDOT salutes our troops
★ ★ ★

The Bureau of Personnel Services supplies military information to Translines.

KDOT would like to recognize its employees who have returned home from military service in support of the war on terror. Employees are listed by district and their branch of service.

District Six

Denver Donovan, Equipment
Operator Specialist, Army

40 years of service



KDOT employees celebrating 40 years of service with the State of Kansas pose with Secretary Deb Miller (center). They include: (front row) O'Neal Smith, Bill Lay, (back row) Donald Campbell, George Carr Jr. and John Allacher Jr. Photo by Kurt Weaverling

Two bridges take home top awards, Kansas project places second

Virginia and Maryland were honored with the national Grand Prize for the America's Transportation Award, an award that recognized 41 transportation projects across the country. The \$2.47 billion project, the Woodrow Wilson Bridge, spans the Potomac River and will unclog one of the worst bottlenecks on Interstate 95.

Ten of these projects also competed for the People's Choice Award. Only a Mississippi project (the Mississippi's St. Louis Bay Bridge) garnered more votes

than KDOT's innovative 87th Street/I-35 interchange project. Of the 55,000 votes cast for the 10 finalist states, Kansas had about 11,000.

"AASHTO has always known how quality transportation projects impact people's lives in positive ways," said AASHTO President Pete Rahn, director of the Missouri DOT.

The competition was sponsored by AAA, U.S. Chamber of Commerce and AASHTO.

KDOT Computer Training

– from the KCTC

Increase your efficiency!

Do you know these shortcuts?

In Office 2007 from any application with the ribbon function open (in Outlook you must be in a task, appointment or mail message to have the ribbon and tab functions), you can click on the Alt key to see all of the one-stroke keyboard shortcuts.

Once you are in your chosen application, click the Alt key to see all of the available Alt shortcuts to navigate through the tabs and their functions. The shortcuts appear as numbers or letters on top of all the sections of the ribbon.

For example, in Excel (with the Home Tab open), click Alt to see that by clicking M you go directly to the Formulas tab (in Word M takes you to the Mailings tab). Learn that R takes you to the Review tab where you see S immediately spell checks your document. Click on W to take you to the View tab.

The Alt shortcuts are endless but you might find a few you like to rely on.

Here are a few other shortcuts:

Document management

Ctrl + O – Opens a file

Ctrl + S – Saves a file

Ctrl + W – Closes a file

F1 – Help Menu

Edit operations

Ctrl + X – Cuts selected text

Ctrl + C – Copies selected text

Ctrl + V – Pastes selected text

F7 – Checks spelling

Check out the shared calendar: KCTC for on-going classes. Contact the KCTC at kctc@ksdot.org or call Ingrid Vandervort 785-296-8993.

Kansas Scenic Byways program expanded

Kansas Scenic Byways has expanded its program for recognition of special routes in Kansas with two new designations, Historic Byways and Backroads.

Historic Byways are roads with national or multi-state regional significance that offer travelers access to the nation's rich history in Kansas. Designation of such routes are a benefit in many ways, such as encouraging preservation of historic resources, promoting pride and cooperation among the communities along the route, identifying routes on the state map and increasing tourism.

Backroads are city or county routes that offer travelers an opportunity to enjoy the scenic beauty along the roads off the state highway routes. Local sponsors of these routes will give visitors the opportunity to travel some of the unique, hidden city or county roads in their communities.

Recently, local groups expressed interest in historic byway and backroad designation procedures. After researching other state programs, the Kansas Scenic Byways Program developed these two designations following the general format for scenic nominations,



The Kanopolis Reservoir is located near the ninth Kansas Scenic Byway to be selected - the Prairie Trail Scenic Byway. The program has now been expanded to recognize other special routes in the state. Photo by Sonya Scheuneman

evaluations and management planning.

KDOT started the Kansas Scenic Byways Program in 1992 based generally on the National Scenic Byways Program policies and procedures. It was designed as a grassroots initiative for local groups to nominate their routes for designation for their scenic beauty. The goals of the program are to identify

scenic resources, and preserve, enhance and promote those resources through partnerships between local groups and state agencies.

The Kansas Scenic Byways program has nine scenic byways, two of which are also National Scenic Byways. More information on the program is available at www.ksbyways.org.

Rockin' at KDOT



Dan Scherschligt, hand in air, gets down with keynote speaker Lee Stuart at the Leadership Forum in Topeka on Nov. 5. At far left, Lea Ann Curtis also jams with the group to the song "Life is a Highway." A total of 14 KDOT "Leading Rockers" helped Stuart stress his message of going out on a limb and trying something new during his speech "The Leadership Road Less Traveled." Photos by Larry Katsbulas

*Fun Facts
and Trivia*

Do you
know?

**From the 2007
Kansas Traffic
Accident Facts
Book**

◆ The number one contributing circumstance of accidents was driver failure to give their full time and attention.

◆ Out of 379 fatal accidents there were 416 fatalities.

◆ There were 112,346 vehicles involved in traffic accidents.

◆ During 2007, it is estimated that there were 30,364,235,390 miles traveled.

◆ 62.5 percent of occupant fatalities were not properly restrained.

◆ PDO - Stands for Property Damage Only

Step Back in Time 



An aerial view of the District Six complex at Garden City in October 1938. Photo submitted by Ina Smith, Administrative Specialist, Garden City.

KDOT partnership honored by NPHQ

A public/private partnership between KDOT and the Kansas Contractor's Association (KCA) has received national recognition for partnering that is making a difference.

The National Partnership for Highway Quality (NPHQ) honored KDOT with the "2008 Making A Difference - Partnering" award for a training program developed in partnership with KCA designed to enhance the opportunities of Kansas workers and develop a highly skilled workforce to serve the state's transportation needs.

KDOT received the bronze award in the partnering category. The Michigan DOT took first place and the Pennsylvania DOT was second.

"This program is absolutely essential for the future of the construction industry in Kansas," said Jerry Younger, Deputy Secretary for Engineering and State Transportation Engineer. "There are just not as many skilled workers available today as there was 10-15 years ago. If you want to continue having a quality infrastructure like we do in Kansas, then you must have a diverse workforce trained in many facets of the

construction industry."

The partnering program is designed to give construction workers the additional skills they need for career advancement and to increase the construction industry's retention rates. It will also generate awareness to attract new workers to the industry.

KDOT oversees the program's curriculum, and has the option of sending its own employees to relevant courses. In turn, KCA is charged with providing instructors, facilities, materials and administration to organize the statewide courses.

"A reliable transportation system and a skilled workforce are vital to a healthy economy," said Bob Templeton, NPHQ Executive Director. "Thanks to the KDOT/KCA partnership, both of these are being addressed in the state of Kansas."

NPHQ is a national coalition of public highway agencies, industry organizations and private firms founded in 1992 as the National Quality Initiative. For more information on the NPHQ and its awards go on-line to www.nphq.org.

Transportation Briefs

511 reaches milestone

The Kansas 511 Phone System that provides roadway and weather information for highways in Kansas reached a milestone when the system received its two millionth call on Nov. 11.



Kansas 511, which began in January 2004, received its one millionth call on Dec. 31, 2006. Due to severe winter weather, flooding and tornadoes, the system handled a record number of calls in 2007.

While call volumes in 2008 have not been as high as the record number in 2007, use of the 511 phone line and Web sites consistently spike during periods of severe weather. Overall, average annual call volumes have continued to increase since 2004 when the system began.

New funding needed

New federal data shows Americans are continuing a 10-month-long decline in driving habits, according to U.S. Secretary of Transportation Mary Peters. The decline is putting new pressure on the way road, bridge and transit projects are funded at a time of record growth in transit ridership, showing the need for a new approach for funding transportation construction, she added.

In August 2008, Americans drove 15 billion fewer miles, or 5.6 percent less, than they did in August 2007—the largest ever year-to-year decline recorded in a single month, Peters said.

Transit ridership, meanwhile, saw an increase of 6.2 percent this summer compared to last, said Peters. In Texas, the DART rail system saw an increase of 15 percent this summer, one of the largest in its 12-year history, she noted. - *Roads and Bridges Magazine, Oct. 27, 2008*

Voters approve funding

Voters across the U.S. approved more than \$71 billion in additional transportation funding during the Nov. 4 elections, according to a report by the American Road & Transportation Builders Association (ARTBA). Twenty-seven of 37 total measures, or 72 percent, were approved.

Of the 37 measures related to transportation funding, eight were bond issues, 24 were new taxes or tax extensions, renewals or increases, two questions proposed changes to existing funding allocations, and three were advisory questions.

All eight bond measures, totaling \$10.9 billion, passed with an average approval of 65 percent. - *Roads and Bridges Magazine, Nov. 6, 2008.*

Dear Editor



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Mr. Tom Hein (KDOT Public Affairs Manager in Wichita),

Thank you so much for helping let us know about the poster contest, I am enjoying all of the prizes. I like the helmet with the cool designs and the gift card to Walmart. I also thank you for the trip to Topeka and for the \$50 gas card.

Thank you for arranging the officer to come to my school. I also thank you for coming and taking pictures, we have sent them to my grandparents and they enjoy them since they could not be there. The program was such a surprise to me, and a fun way to tell me that I had won. Thank you for putting my drawing on a poster for me.

Sincerely,
Marissa Thelen, Wichita

United Way

Debbie Greeve looks over items for sale (right) while Robyn Dudney and Rex Kraus check out the baskets at the United Way fund raising event in Eisenhower. The event raised \$2,400. Photos by Sonya Scheuneman



M I L E S T O N E S

KDOT salutes employees celebrating state anniversaries in November

Deaths

Condolences to the family and friends of a KDOT employee who recently passed away.

Robert L. Davis, 54, an Equipment Operator at Smith Center, died Nov. 10. He is survived by two brothers.

Memorials contributions may be made to the Bobby Davis Memorial Fund and sent in care of Simmons-Rentschler Mortuary, Smith Center, 66967.

10 YEARS

Allen Hyden Wichita
 Ronald Kaufman Topeka
 Michael Kinzel Claflin
 Sherri PankratzLincolnville
 Malia Rich. Garden City

30 YEARS

Rodney Coles Parsons
 Clifton CombsKansas City
 Thomas Eddington Hutchinson
 Tamela Kerwin Delia
 Dianne Parker Tecumseh
 Dale Patterson Lecompton

20 YEARS

Stephen Carlyle Topeka
 Lonnie Ehrlich Sylvan Grove
 Robert Fuller Topeka
 David Funke Manhattan
 Allan Haverkamp Auburn
 Melvin Watson Dodge City
 Mark Wiese Clay Center

State service anniversaries are compiled by Personnel Services.

Kansas Department of Transportation
Bureau of Transportation Information
 Eisenhower State Office Building
 700 SW Harrison, Second Floor, West
 Topeka, KS 66603-3754

PRE-SORTED STANDARD
 U.S. POSTAGE
 PAID
 TOPEKA, KS
 PERMIT No. 157

Promotions/Transfers

Headquarters

Mary Bruner, Engineering Technician Senior, Construction and Maintenance
Christy Reichert, Management Systems Analyst I, Design

District One

Gary Moulin, Highway Maintenance Superintendent, Osage City
Joyce Paynter, Engineering Technician Associate, Topeka
Robert Turner, Highway Maintenance Supervisor, Olathe
Kirk Wohlgemuth, Program Consultant II, Olathe

District Three

Randy Most, Engineering Technician Specialist, Atwood

District Four

Michael Doyle, Equipment Operator Specialist, Independence

District Five

Stan Bogdanovecz, Engineering Technician Associate, Wichita
James Groene, Highway Maintenance Supervisor, Winfield

District Six

Dennis Grubbs, Equipment Operator Specialist, Lakin
The Bureau of Personnel Services supplies information to Translines.

NOTE: This information is available in alternative accessible formats. To obtain an alternative format, contact Transportation Information, Eisenhower Building, 700 SW Harrison, 2nd Floor West, Topeka, Kan., 66603-3754, or (785) 296-3585 (Voice)/ (TTY).