

Translines EXPRESS

April 3, 2019

Flooding

Flood waters caused a portion of K-7 south of Mill Creek in Doniphan County to crumble. Flooding affected several roadways in Kansas the past couple weeks. Numerous roadways throughout the Midwest were also affected by flooding. More photos are in this edition.



National Work Zone Awareness Week



Concordia Equipment Operator Bruce Sicard and other KDOT employees will be seen on social media and KDOT computers next week promoting work zone safety.

Go Orange: Work zone safety is a priority all year long, and KDOT and many transportation partners are highlighting this important effort during National Work Zone Awareness Week, April 8-12.

A few things you can see - more than 50 billboards (see story/photos later in this edition), message boards, a new public service announcement with District Four employees, a short video featuring employees across the state and orange lights and banners at numerous KDOT offices.

You can do your part by reading/sharing the daily blogs written by KDOT and KTA employees and a contractor partner, sharing the coloring page with kids and sharing social media messages on KDOT's Headquarters and regional Facebook and Twitter pages on your home computers. Emails will be sent each day with more details starting this Friday.

Trivia!

50th anniversary of Sesame Street in 2019

1. What music group lead singer is going to help celebrate the 50th anniversary by appearing in an episode?
2. What color was Oscar the Grouch in the first season?
3. In 1980, the Star Wars characters R2-D2 and C-3PO visited Sesame Street. What did R2-D2 fall in love with?
4. What song reached #16 on the Billboard Hot 100 in 1970?
5. How tall is Big Bird?
6. Which character testified in front on Congress?

Flooding

KDOT crews in District One delivered 100 tons of sand from Holton to Elwood to help with sandbagging and sand boils operations that took place on March 21.



Annual Leave

Vacation Overage Reminder: Excess vacation leave for classified employees and employees under Executive Order 04-13 must be used by Friday, June 14. Maximum accumulations are as follows:

- Less than five years - 144 hours
- 5-9 years - 176 hours
- 10-14 years - 208 hours
- 15 years and over - 240 hours

If you are unable to take your excess vacation leave, up to 40 hours of vacation leave over the maximum will be converted to sick leave at the end of the fiscal year. Hours accrued during the June 2-15 pay period will not be affected.

TRIVIA ANSWERS

1. Foo Fighters lead singer Dave Grohl.
2. Orange. Jim Henson decided to make him green before the second season.
3. A fire hydrant.
4. "Rubber Duckie," sang by Ernie.
5. Eight feet, two inches.
6. Elmo, for more funding for music education.

Flooding



A view of K-7 flooding from White Cloud looking north.



Above: The levee on the north side of I-435 at the Missouri River. Right: Field Maintenance Manager Jim Frye shared this aerial photo he received from the Division of Emergency Management of the flood waters and the damage along K-7. KDOT crews recently provided crews and equipment to help pump water over the levee in Elwood.



K-5 flooding at Lansing.

Kansas Transportation

Wednesday, April 3

#IAMKDOT

This month's #IAMKDOT focuses on Highway Maintenance Supervisor Kade Cooper. He started in spring 2004 at the KDOT Mankato Subarea, then went to the Area crew and in 2011, was named the Supervisor in Belleville.

Cooper appreciates his work environment. "You don't find many places that you enjoy the company of the people you're working with," he said. "And I like the hours in the summer so I can spend more time with the kids."

Cooper coaches the baseball team for his son, Andrew, and attends softball games for his daughter, Kinley. He and his wife, Jackie, like to take the kids camping when they can. And they have a few cattle on his father-in-law's farm that they take care of.

Cooper and his crew members are out on the highways year-round with overlay projects, right of way maintenance and snow removal operations. Winter brings a busier schedule, he said, with keeping all the equipment running, planning repairs with the mechanics, scheduling shift when storms come up, making sure potholes are patched and stay patched as well as other maintenance duties. We're very dependent on the weather, Cooper said, and plans can get changed quickly. "We live in Kansas, if you don't like the weather, wait 15 minutes," he joked.

Cooper has seen many improvements in work zone safety. "We're very fortunate we have the tools we have for safety," he said. Everything has a purpose – from the cones to the attenuators to the arrow boards to the people working in the lane. We're out



there for a reason."

But motorists must pay attention and follow the signs. "There are times we've had close calls even with crash attenuators," Cooper said. "Sometimes they'll go around the attenuators and then try to get in the lane that we're trying to block."

When he's not on the highway, Cooper assists co-workers and agency partners in various training efforts. Cooper is a certified bucket truck trainer throughout District Two. To work in a truck with a basket, employees must go through certification before they can do it by themselves. He also trains people for Traffic Incident Management. Cooper works with fire departments, local law enforcement, local utility companies and others to train people how to set up traffic control if there was an incident in their area. Then they can go back and train their staff, he said.

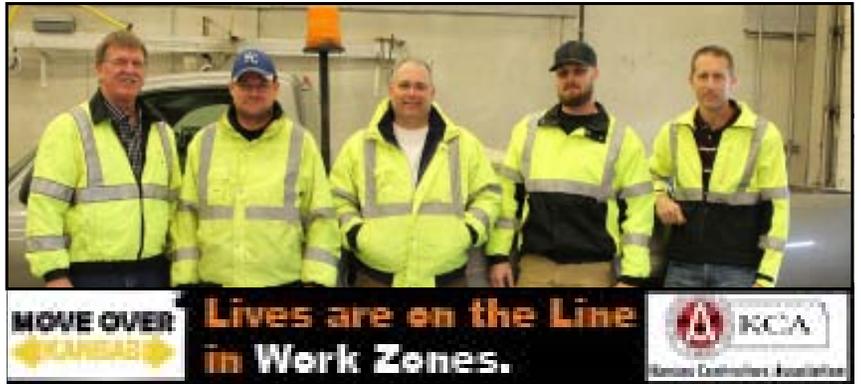
Do you know a KDOT worker that deserves recognition? Nominations are open - email Mallory.goeke@ks.gov today to get started.

See more stories on the Kansas Transportation blog at <http://kansas transportation.blogspot.com/>

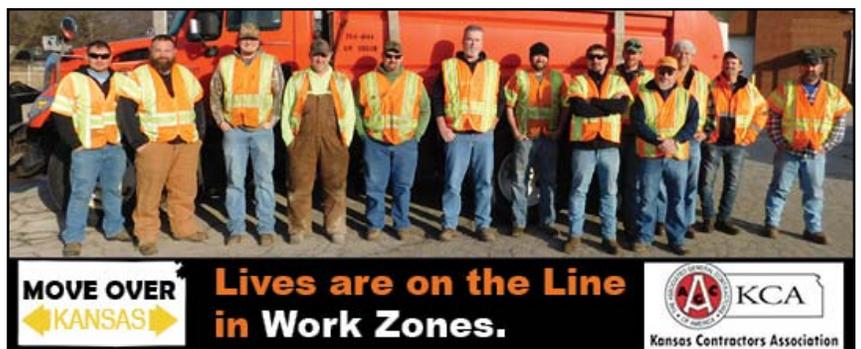
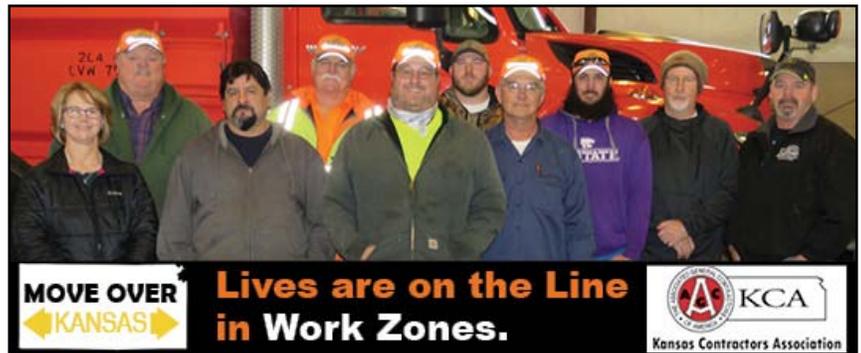
Go Orange

Go Orange: The Kansas Contractors Association and KDOT have teamed up for the second year with several digital billboard companies across Kansas to promote work zone safety as part of National Work Zone Awareness Week. Lisa Knoll, KDOT's Public Affairs Manager in southwest Kansas, organized the effort across the state. More than 50 billboards will feature KDOT employees. Billboards will be able to be seen from now until April 12 in Great Bend, Chanute, Pittsburg, Dodge City, Hays, Garden City, Newton, Hutchinson, Liberal and Topeka. They will also be at 16 locations in the Kansas City Metro area and 18 locations in the Wichita area. All the pictures being used can also be seen on the Go Orange page [here](#).

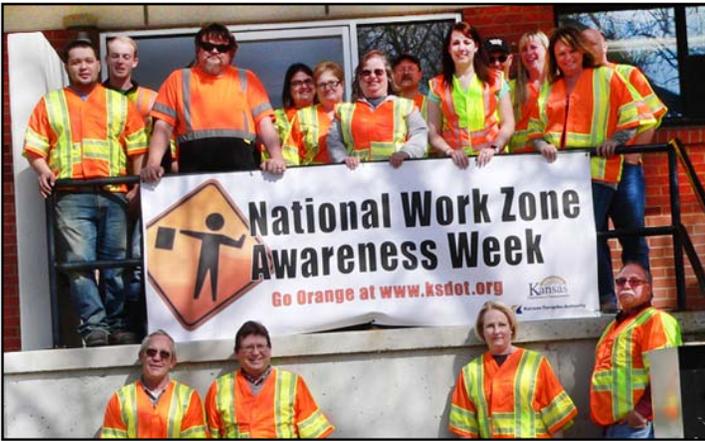
KDOT employees will be featured on billboards across the state. These groups, from top to bottom, will be seen in Hays, Wichita, Dodge City, Pittsburg, Edwardsville and Shawnee.



Lamar Highway Maintenance Supervisor Rick Looper shares a safety message. See other people sharing their safety messages on the Headquarters and regional Facebook and Twitter accounts.



2018 Go Orange



Just a few of the KDOT employees across the state who participated in National Work Zone Awareness Week during 2018 are pictured here.



District Two

It looked like spring for a few days, but then on March 29, Equipment Operator Specialist Jeff Welch removed hail from K-148 north of Barnes. Welch works at the Washington Subarea office. A day later, parts of the state received snow.



District Three

Repairs continue: After a long season of battling snow and ice, KDOT crews are shifting their focus to repairing the damage winter weather has left behind. Among that damage is a plethora of potholes dotting pavement across the state. Potholes are formed when moisture left over from snow and ice seeps into cracks in the pavement. When the temperature drops, water freezes and expands the pavement, causing it to bulge and crack. Cars driving over these trouble spots eventually cause the pavement to break up, forming a pothole.

KDOT has a variety of methods and tools available for pothole patching, one of them being spray patching. Spray patching is done with a specialized trailer mounted machine, reducing the need for many different pieces of equipment. Crews recently utilized this method on a portion of U.S. 36 in Norton.

The process begins with clearing any debris and dirt out of the hole.

A tack coat may then be applied, followed by a layer



of emulsified asphalt and aggregate. The emulsion is essentially the glue that will hold the asphalt together in the hole.

Finally, the hole is topped with a layer of dry rock and excess materials are swept up. After a short curing period, the patch is ready to withstand traffic.

KDOT employees from Norton, Phillipsburg and Colby work together to repair potholes.

Top: KDOT crews clear debris and dirt away. Right: There are several methods to fix potholes - this time the crew is using the spray patching technique.

Far right: The final step of filling a pothole is by adding a layer of dry rock that will help the patch be able to withstand traffic.



Traffic Safety Conference

Improving safety: KDOT honored five Kansans with Transportation Safety Recognition Awards for their efforts to improve traffic safety at the 25th Annual Transportation Safety Conference that took place April 2-3 in Wichita.

The People Saving People Award recognizes outstanding contributions to the improvement of transportation safety behavior. The 2019 recipients are:

Rita Lesser, Perry – As the SAFE sponsor at Perry-Lecompton High School, she teaches students about seat belt usage and distracted and impaired driving by creatively utilizing sidewalk messages, PSAs on YouTube, pledge cards, posters, window painting, health fair booths, drunk goggles and the Convincer (a crash simulator).

Amber Rollins, Olathe – Rollins is the Director of KidsAndCars.org, an organization that focuses attention on children left unattended in or around vehicles. She was instrumental in the passing of a Good Samaritan law (HB 2516) in Kansas to protect citizens from liability if they break into a vehicle to rescue a trapped child, vulnerable adult or animal.

Overland Park Police Department – The Overland Park Police Department utilized the Data-Driven Approach to Crime and Traffic Safety (DDACTS) to significantly reduce the number of crashes at Oak

Park Mall and two major intersections adjacent to the mall. Officers focused on hazardous traffic violations and made every effort to monitor seat belt violations, distracted driving, teen drivers and motorists driving while impaired. As a result, overall crashes were reduced by 17 percent - from 214 crashes in 2017 to 177 in 2018.

The Hero Award recognizes the individual who risked his or her own life for someone else when they happened upon a crash or while trying to prevent the likelihood of a crash in a one-time traffic safety-related incident. The 2019 recipients are:

Deputy Robert K. Kunze, III, Sedgwick County – Kunze demonstrated extreme bravery and courage during a traffic stop in which he was mortally wounded but still managed to pursue and capture his assailant. He very likely saved the lives of two citizens onsite at the traffic stop and all the responding law enforcement officers who followed.

Sergeant Mitchell Talley, Miami County – Talley responded to a medical call in which a man was bleeding from a self-inflicted four-inch laceration on the left side of his neck. Talley believed the victim had severed an artery, and he continuously applied pressure to the area until EMS arrived and took over. The man survived because of Talley's meritorious actions.

KTA

KTA announced a contract was awarded for improvements on I-70/KTA between the Lecompton and Eastern Terminal toll plazas. Work includes pavement resurfacing, drainage improvements and ramp lengthening. Learn the details in the latest news release [here](#).

Right: A new memorial was dedicated to Knute Rockne, legendary Notre Dame football coach who was one of eight killed in a plane crash in 1931 in Bazaar, Kan. The new sculpture was placed at the Matfield Green service area, located at mile marker 97 on I-35/KTA.

