

Translines EXPRESS

Aug. 12, 2015

Example of Excellence



Congratulations to members of the Bonner Springs Tower Lighting Team for being selected as the Example of Excellence for the second quarter of 2015. The team worked together to update the inventory and check the accuracy of what KDOT is being billed for on high mast tower lights in the Kansas City metro area. The result is nearly \$4,000 saved a month. The team was honored on Aug. 4 in Bonner Springs. Joining Secretary Mike King are, from left to right, Rachel Shanholtzer, Pete Wiehe, Jim Pickett, Albert Horn, Jim Uhlig, Shawn Gessner and Oscar Hamilton.

In Memory

Condolences to the family and friends of KDOT retiree Bob Banister who died Aug. 3 in Topeka. He worked at the Materials and Research Lab for 38 years, retiring in 1993.

Condolences to friends and family of KDOT retiree Arnold Lennington who passed away July 26. He spent his entire 40-year KDOT career in the Syracuse construction office, retiring in 2003 as the Construction Manager.

KTA

Personnel changes: Kent Olson has been hired as the new Director of Finance for the Kansas Turnpike Authority. Kent will start with KTA on Aug. 21 and will be working out of the KTA's headquarters in Wichita. For the past three years, Kent has been serving as the Chief Financial Officer and Inspector General for KDOT. "We're excited to welcome Kent's experience and expertise to the Turnpike," said KTA CEO Steve Hewitt. "Because KTA and KDOT are good partners, Kent will still be available to KDOT in an advisory role as needed. This allows Kansas transportation to retain Kent's knowledge and both organizations to grow through new leadership and ideas." Prior to working at KDOT, Kent served as the State of Kansas Comptroller, Department of Administration Inspector General and the Social and Rehabilitation Services Chief Financial Officer.



Kent Olson



Above, Secretary Mike King welcomes attendees to the 106th annual meeting of the Mid-America Association of State Transportation Officials taking place in Overland Park this week. Photos at right show sessions at the meeting.



America's Transportation Award

Permitting system wins award: A KDOT program that reduces paperwork and wait times for truck routing and permitting has received regional recognition. The Kansas Truck Routing and Intelligent Permitting System (K-TRIPS) won in the "Under Budget" category of America's Transportation Awards out of the Midwest region of the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO).

K-TRIPS allows truckers to apply and pay for most over-dimension permits at any time, every day of the year. And, the entire process can be done in 10 minutes or less. Motor carriers no longer need be stuck at the Kansas border in a loaded truck waiting hours for a permit.

"In business, time is money and K-TRIPS is saving shippers money," said Secretary Mike King. "Thanks to this customer-oriented permitting system, truckers carrying over-dimensional loads through Kansas can now move at the speed of business."

K-TRIPS was developed by KDOT, the Kansas Department of Revenue and Kansas Highway Patrol, with support of the Kansas Motor Carrier Association. Development was budgeted for \$3 million, but the final cost was only \$1.29 million.



AASHTO Executive Director Bud Wright, left, and Director of the Wyoming Department of Transportation John Cox, right, present KDOT's Director of Policy Joel Skelley with the America's Transportation Award for K-TRIPS on Tuesday at the Midwest AASHTO meeting taking place in Overland Park.

Social Media Campaign

#I Look Like an Engineer: Numerous women engineers at KDOT volunteered to take part in a social media campaign last week with the #ILookLikeAnEngineer. The campaign was started earlier this month by a computer engineer. The KDOT engineers who posed each showed a sign that described their jobs and showed the different types of jobs an engineer at KDOT could enjoy. Pictured below include, top row, left to right,

Sally Bosak in Road Design, Michelle Anschutz at Topeka Area Four's office, Jessica Upchurch in Transportation Planning, bottom row, Kathleen Deitering in Transportation Safety and Technology, Allison McCart in Structures and Geotechnical Services and Sandra Tommer in Construction and Materials. To see all of the engineers, check out KDOT's transportation blog at <http://kansasransportation.blogspot.com/2015/08/looklikeanengineer.html>



Trivia!

Ice cream

1. Before milk-based ice creams were introduced in the 10th century, what was it made from?
2. When was ice cream first produced in the United States?
3. What is the most popular flavor of ice cream?
4. Over her entire lifetime, one dairy cow can produce enough milk for how many gallons of ice cream?
5. How is a "brain freeze" triggered?

CAPITOL MID-WEEK FARMERS' MARKET

 TOPEKA

Every Wednesday 7:30 a.m. to noon until Oct. 14
 10th Street - south side of the Statehouse grounds

General



The KDOT/KTA Transload Facility Site Analysis team reviews information after listening to presentations on July 30-31 from the seven finalists selected for the site of a proposed Kansas transload shipping center. A final selection is expected in the next month.

District Four

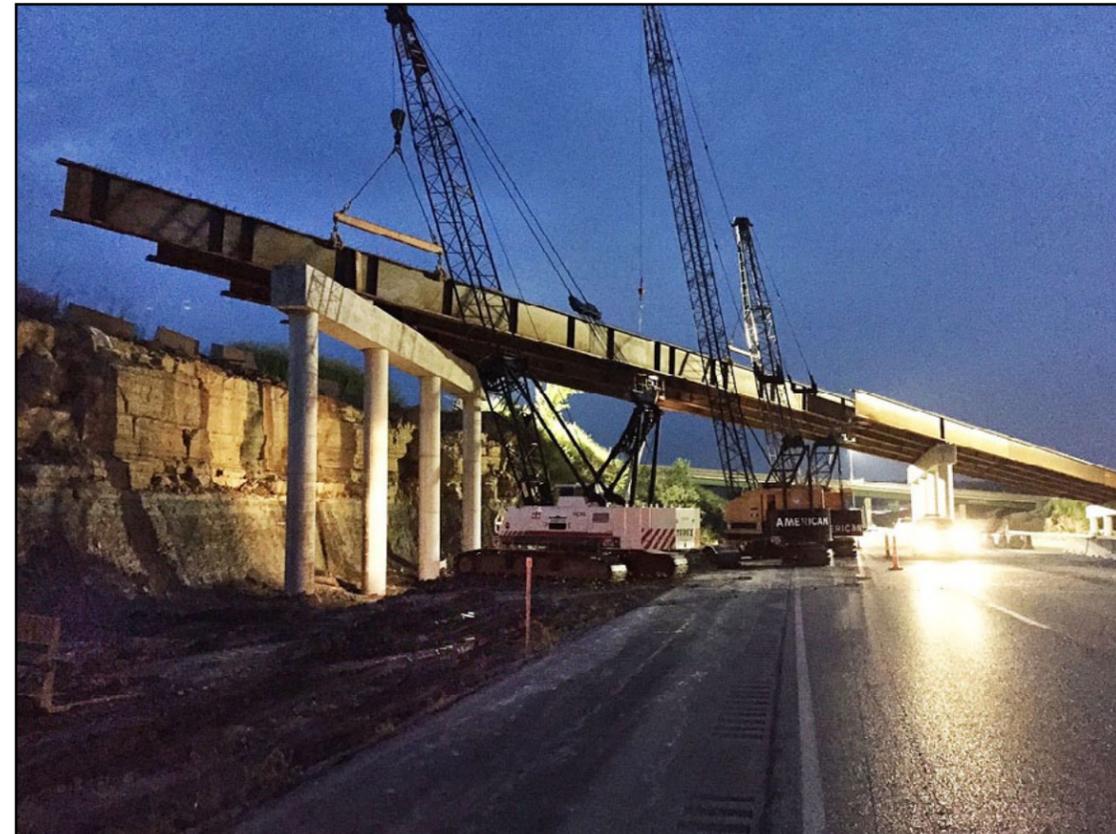
New way to plant: Dutch botanist Dr. Pieter Hoff came to southeast Kansas on Aug. 5 to show people how to plant trees in a Groasis Waterboxx. Hoff invented the device and it uses growth-promoting and water-saving technology to ensure that any tree or plant placed in it will grow a healthy tap root with much less water. The special training took place Aug. 5 along the section of historic Route 66 known as "Hell's Half Acre" at Galena. Supporters of Route 66, local officials and interested citizens gathered to hear Hoff describe the process. Hoff noted that with the Waterboxx a person or community can plant trees at virtually any location without using irrigation. Officials hope to eventually plant hundreds of trees along Route 66 to green up the arid space and beautify Mother Road.



Dutch botanist Dr. Pieter Hoff demonstrates planting trees in a Groasis Waterboxx on Aug. 5 along the section of Route 66 known as "Hell's Half Acre" at Galena.

Hoff specialized in commercial flower growing early in his career but today is a promoter of xeric planting and reforestation programs throughout the world.

District Five

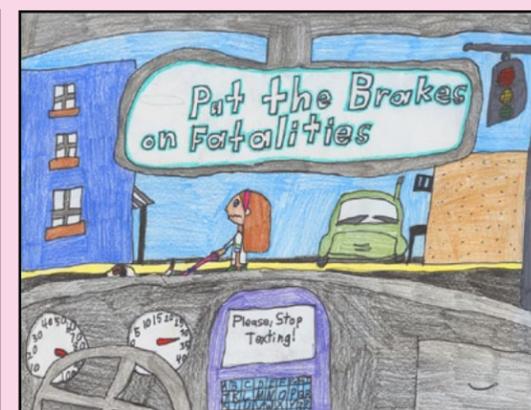


Reconstruction of the Kansas Avenue bridge at mile post 221.5 on I-70/Turnpike in Leavenworth County is still in full swing. Crews placed five girder lines during the overnight hours in early August. This project began in March and is projected to be completed in November.

Put the Brakes on Fatalities Day

Kansas kids are winners: Participation in the Put the Brakes on Fatalities Day poster contest and new video contest gives Kansas children greater awareness of traffic safety. The hope is that awareness will help keep them safe on roadways. All Kansas kids ages 5-13 are eligible to participate in the poster contest and teens in grades 8-12 are eligible for the video contest. In addition to reinforcing safety messages, participants have a chance to win great prizes. Regional poster contest winners receive bicycles

and helmets, and statewide winners receive family packages to Great Wolf Lodge in Kansas City and \$50 Visa cards from the Petroleum Marketers and Convenience Store Association of Kansas. Video contest winners can win an Apple Watch, iPad and a Go Pro, and the booster club of the schools' winners will receive a \$500 donation. Poster entries must be postmarked by Sept. 18 and video entries must be posted by Sept. 20. Go to KDOT's website for more details, www.ksdot.org, or information sheets are at the end of this publication.



2014 Put the Brakes on Fatalities Day poster contest winners

Kansas Transportation

Wednesday, Aug. 5

Sturgis motorcycle rally celebrates 75 years, motorists should be cautious of riders



In 1938, J.C. "Pappy" Hoel purchased an Indian Motorcycle franchise in Sturgis, S.D., and hosted a dirt track race that would lay the foundation for what would become the world's largest motorcycle rally.

The Sturgis motorcycle rally celebrates its 75th anniversary this year and will draw riders from all 50 states and several countries. As the rally heads into its final week, motorists may notice an influx of riders heading to and from the event. The NHTSA offers the following safety tips for sharing the road with motorcycles:

- Allow motorcycles a full lane.
- Keep a keen eye out for motorcycles. Their small size makes them difficult to see and can also cause drivers to misjudge their speed and distance
- Check blind spots, and then check them again. Motorcycles can be easily hidden in a vehicle's blind spot.
- Use your turn signals. This allows motorcyclists to anticipate your movement and find a safe lane position.
- Watch for their turn signals. Just because a turn signal is on, doesn't necessarily mean the rider is turning. Some signals are not self-canceling and sometimes riders simply forget to turn them off.
- Increase your following distance. Allow 3 to 4 seconds when following a motorcycle. This gives riders more time to maneuver or stop in an emergency.

You can find more tips at <https://www.ktsro.org/>. Motorcyclists have the same rights, privileges and responsibilities as any other motorist on the roadway. Safe riding practices and cooperation from other road users will help reduce the number of fatalities and injuries. Be safe and "Share the Road!"

To see more stories on other transportation topics, check out the regular posts on the Kansas Transportation blog at <http://kansastransportation.blogspot.com/>

The following employee retired from KDOT on Aug. 1.
Edward Poe, Equipment Operator Senior, Sharon Springs

TRIVIA ANSWERS

1. Ice
2. In 1851 in Boston
3. Vanilla
4. About 9,000 gallons
5. When ice cream touches the roof of the mouth, causing blood vessels in the head to dilate.

General

Quick bridge: The Tennessee Department of Transportation built a bridge in less than 58 hours, and they've got the footage to prove it. According to Better Roads, TDOT released a time-lapse video of the first weekend of the Interstate 40 Fast Fix 8 bridge project in Nashville where workers removed and replaced the westbound bridge at breakneck pace. Vehicles crossed the bridge without delays during their Friday afternoon commute before the Interstate was closed the night of July 24 and the bridge was shut down. By the morning of July 27, drivers had a fresh new bridge over Jo Johnston Avenue. TDOT's pace actually exceeded its own expectations: the road was reopened about an hour before planned. TDOT repeated the procedure a week later on the eastbound lanes of what was a 47-year-old bridge. Here is the video link - <https://goo.gl/jfEFk1>

Have an idea for a news brief or picture that could be featured in an upcoming edition of Translines Express? Please e-mail to translines@ksdot.org



Sitka Junction reconstruction: Work has started on a project to rebuild and relocate the U.S. 160/U.S. 183/K-34 intersection, known locally as the Sitka Junction, in Clark County. The project came out of KDOT's local consultation meetings, as nearby residents sought improvements to an intersection that they considered dangerous, due in part to a hill on U.S. 160 directly east of the intersection that reduced sight distances for cross traffic on U.S. 183 and K-34. The project calls for shifting a portion of U.S. 160, including the intersection, to the south and removing a portion of the hill to the east. KDOT expects these changes to improve the sight distance for drivers at the intersection. APAC-Kansas, Shears Division, of Hutchinson is the primary contractor on \$2.7 million project. All work should be completed by May 2016.

Above and below, grading work is underway on the new U.S. 160/U.S. 183/K-34 intersection in Clark County.



Work Zone

(From Better Roads Magazine) **Man steals Minnesota DOT truck from work zone:** A 35-year-old man was arrested on Aug. 3 for stealing a Minnesota Department of Transportation truck from a construction zone, but not before he took a 14-mile joyride with police in pursuit. According to the Minneapolis Star Tribune, the man walked into the Highway 61 work zone and took a MnDOT inspector's Ford F-150 early Monday. The Inver Grove Heights man then headed north through the Dakota County

suburbs. The workers at the site alerted police just after the man stole the truck. Police soon saw the F-150 driving down Highway 61 and gave chase. Officers from the Minnesota State Police joined local law enforcement in the pursuit. The man in the stolen truck was just about to pull onto Interstate 494 when police were able to turn the vehicle sideways and stop it from continuing to flee. The man was arrested and charged with felony counts of fleeing of police and theft of a vehicle.

District Five

Below, KDOT employees Kevin Duerksen from the Newton Subarea office and Rob Schmidt from the Wichita West office drive a mower and a loader in the Newton Fair parade on Aug. 1. At right, KDOT employee Paula Kendall from the Newton Subarea drives a dump truck in the parade with Secretary Mike King riding in the passenger seat.



District Four

KDOT is conducting a field survey of six weight-posted bridges on U.S. 166 east of Chetopa. The bridges are all located within a 2½-mile section of the highway and will be replaced in future years.



Poster Art Contest

Put the Brakes on Fatalities Day - October 10, 2015

Traffic crashes are a leading cause of death in the U.S. for people age 3 to 34. "Put the Brakes on Fatalities Day" focuses on reducing traffic fatalities by encouraging motorists to take extra precautions.

Information on these websites -
www.ksdot.org
www.ksturnpike.com

Kansas kids ages 5 through 13 are invited to enter artwork representing their thoughts on "Put the Brakes on Fatalities." Regional winners in the three age categories will be chosen. Then, three statewide winners will be selected from the 18 regional winners!

Age Categories

- 5 to 7 years old
- 8 to 10 years old
- 11 to 13 years old

Each regional winner will receive a **BICYCLE** and **HELMET** Courtesy of Safe Kids Kansas

Statewide winners will win \$50 VISA CARDS from the **Petroleum Marketers and Convenience Store Assoc. of KS** AND family packages to **Great Wolf Lodge Water Park Resort in Kansas City**

RULES:

- ♦ Art **MUST** be on 8.5" x 11" paper. Any materials can be used including paint, crayon, pencil, pastel, and collage. No computer-aided drawings.
- ♦ All entries must be postmarked by **September 18, 2015**, to be eligible.
- ♦ Winners' names/artwork will be sent to media and posted on the KDOT website.
- ♦ **Mail entries to:**

AAA Kansas/Public Affairs
 3545 SW 6th Street
 Topeka, Kansas, 66606

Each entry **MUST** have this information on the back;

First Name _____	One entry per child
Last Name _____	
Age _____	
Home Phone Number () _____	
Mailing Address _____	
City _____ Zip _____	
County _____	
Parent's First Name _____	
Parent's Last Name _____	



SUBMIT VIDEO & WIN

OPEN TO TEENS IN
GRADES 8-12

CREATE!

SHARE!

WIN!



PUT THE BRAKES ON FATALITIES

Put the Brakes on Fatalities Day held on October 10 focuses on delivering messages to the public about transportation fatality causes and how they can be avoided.

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

Are you in grades 8-12? Check out the rules and enter! Are you an adult? KTA would like to ask you, as a youth influencer to share this video contest information with youth you engage with regularly? If you're an educator, can you integrate this video contest into a class project?

AWESOME PRIZES!

Three finalists will receive awesome prizes such as an iPad, GoPro video camera or Apple Watch. \$500 will go to the booster club of the grand prize winner's school.

OK COOL! BUT WHAT ARE THE RULES?

1. Video must promote fatality prevention such as distracted driving, seat belts or texting while driving.
2. Video must be :06 to :60 seconds in length.
3. No "Selfie" videos, be creative!
4. Don't break any laws.
5. Submit & share your entry via social media such as Facebook, Twitter or Instagram by **September 20**.
6. Tag the official Kansas Turnpike profile, your school and #PTBOFvideo in the post with your video.
7. Have fun!

Visit ksturnpike.com for detailed rules and submission guidelines. If you have questions, please contact Brett Eitzen at beitzen@ksturnpike.com.

