

Translines EXPRESS

Nov. 13, 2013

District One

KDOT, along with the lighting contractor, Capital Electric, illuminated the new Amelia Earhart Memorial Bridge in Atchison via a light show on Nov. 6 showcasing the bridge's double arches. The LED lights on the new bridge were turned on in July, but the view of the lights had been obstructed on the north side by the former bridge. The City of Atchison is now the keeper of the lights from this point forward. See more photos from the light show at the end of this edition and a video at <http://youtu.be/IBV-ualyi78>



District Six



Traffic is now being detoured around a bridge replacement project on K-156 in Hodgeman County. The bridge is about three miles east of the Finney/Hodgeman County line. L & M Contractors, Inc., of Great Bend is the prime contractor on the \$926,000 project, which should be completed by spring 2014.

In Memory

U.S. Army Sergeant First Class Forrest W. Robertson, 35, of Westmoreland died on Nov. 3 in Logar Province, Afghanistan, in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. His family resides in Hinesville, Ga., and his mother resides in Westmoreland. His mother-in-law is GIS Project Manager Mary Beth Pfrang. "On behalf of the State of Kansas, Lt. Gov. Colyer and I extend our deepest sympathies to Sgt. Robertson's family and friends," Gov. Sam Brownback said. "We offer our deepest gratitude for his service and heartfelt sympathy to his family."



Forrest Robertson

Condolences to the family and friends of KDOT retiree Wayne Ellis who died Oct. 25 in Chanute. He worked for 38 years for KDOT, retiring as the District Four Construction Engineer in 1984.

Trivia!

Veteran's Day

1. Why is Veteran's Day on Nov. 11?
2. It was originally known as Armistice Day – who amended it to be known as Veterans Day to honor American veterans of all wars?
3. From 1971 to 1977, Veterans Day was celebrated on the last Monday in October. Why was it changed?
4. Why was it changed back to Nov. 11 in 1978?

Answers below

Letter to the Editor

Dear KDOT,
Just a note of thanks and appreciation for a delightful trip in the state of Kansas. This year my wife and I took a trip with our 5th wheel camper. We covered a total of 3,786 miles. Just wanted to thank and compliment the state of Kansas and your DOT personnel on the condition of Route 36 across the northern part of your state. This was the best, well maintained highway on our entire trip, including many miles of Interstate freeways. We will use this route from now on when we go to Missouri to visit our daughter and her family.

Thanks again for a super smooth ride,
David and Loretta Wagstaff, St. George, Utah

District One



From left to right, Overland Park Mayor Carl Gerlach, Johnson County Commission Vice Chairman Jason Osterhaus, Mike Hess from HNTB Corporation, Bill Clarkson from Clarkson Construction and KDOT Deputy Secretary Jerry Younger cut the ribbon for the I-435/U.S. 69 interchange project on Nov. 1.

Now open: The I-435/U.S. 69 Interchange Improvement Red Project was unveiled at a ribbon cutting Nov. 1 in Overland Park, the same day the project was opened to all traffic.

This two-year, \$102 million modernization project includes a southbound collector-distributor road network along U.S. 69 between 103rd Street and 119th Street, widening on I-435 and a collector-distributor road network along I-435 between I-35 and U.S. 69. The project will improve capacity on two of the busiest

corridors in Johnson County. Current average daily traffic at the interchange of 142,000 vehicles on I-435 and 79,500 vehicles on U.S. 69 (2012 figures) is projected to increase in 2040 to 190,000 and 165,000, respectively. Interchange improvements were also made at I-435 & Quivira Road, I-435 & U.S. 69, U.S. 69 & College Boulevard, and U.S. 69 & 119th Street. Clarkson Construction was the primary contractor on this improvement project.

TRIVIA ANSWERS

1. To commemorate the day when fighting ceased between the Allied nations and Germany in World War I. The armistice went into effect on the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month in 1918.
2. President Dwight D. Eisenhower
3. To ensure three-day weekends for federal employees.
4. President Gerald Ford signed the law to change it back to Nov. 11 because the day had historic and patriotic significance to a great number of citizens.

From: U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

District Two



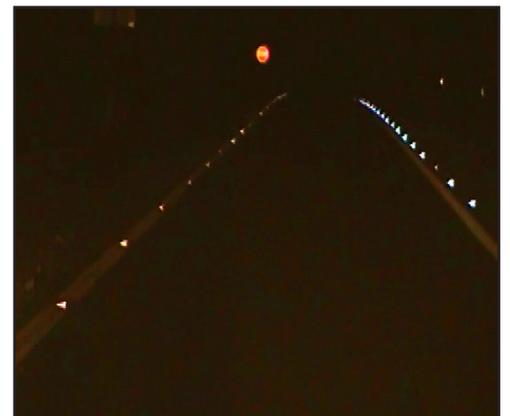
Secretary King spoke to 200 kindergarten and first graders at Kennedy Primary School in Abilene on Nov. 8 as part of an ongoing initiative to have people from the community talk to the students about their job. King spoke about how he uses math and reading in his job and what he likes most about being the Secretary of Transportation.

SLT

Project under way: A three-year construction project began yesterday to complete the six-mile, four-lane K-10 South Lawrence Trafficway. The project will move existing K-10 onto a new alignment that will begin at the south junction of the U.S. 59/K-10 interchange and reconnect with existing K-10 in east Lawrence. Construction work on the project will be completed in phases. An aerial map of the new K-10 South Lawrence Trafficway, including construction phasing and traffic impacts, can be found online at <http://www.ksdot.org/topekaMetro/projectstudytest.asp>.

Crews began clearing vegetation in preparation for grading work that will take place along the new Haskell Avenue alignment and possibly along the new Louisiana Street alignment. There will be minimal to no traffic impacts with this first phase as work is taking place off the existing roadway. Work will take place during daylight hours, Monday through Friday, with some occasional Saturday work. Updated traffic information for the K-10 South Lawrence Trafficway project can be viewed at www.ksdot.org/topekametro/laneclose.asp.

Video Links



Through the years, KDOT has demolished numerous bridges or piers as part of the reconstruction process. Check out this video, set to music, compiled by Support Services that shows various structures coming down quickly - <http://youtu.be/UnggRyfRDko>. Also, check out the short video of KDOT installing solar lights. As of October 2013, KDOT is the first and only DOT to install this style of lighting on a highway as lane delineators - <http://youtu.be/XrPpkQvatPQ>

Public Transit



Secretary Mike King and other KDOT employees visited the Flint Hills Area Transportation Agency in Manhattan last month as part of the Secretary's informal transit tour. As KDOT continues implementing regional transit service across the state, Secretary King plans to visit other transit providers in the future. Pictured from left to right are State Multimodal Planner Joel Skelley, Secretary King, State Public Transit Manager Josh Powers, Flint Hills ATA Director Anne Smith, Chief of Transportation Planning Dennis Slimmer, and ATA Dispatch Operations Supervisor Kevin Riley.

District Five/Six



Jerry Younger, State Transportation Engineer and Deputy Secretary, spoke to the SPIRIT (Southwest Passage Initiative for Regional and Interstate Transportation) Conference.

SPIRIT Conference: The Southwest Passage Initiative for Regional and Interstate Transportation conference on Nov. 8 in Pratt featured attendees from Kansas, Oklahoma, Texas and New Mexico. Since 1995 SPIRIT has been advocating for improving U.S. 54 to a four-lane highway from El Paso, Texas, to Wichita. Each state highlighted current and future work on U.S. 54. In

Kansas, construction continues on multiple segments of U.S. 54 between Pratt and Kingman, while design work is under way for a 10-mile long four-lane expansion of U.S. 54 east of Liberal. Several representatives of KDOT were on hand to answer questions about the future of U.S. 54.

District Four

The District Four Paint Crew places pavement markings on the newly completed Pecan Creek Bridge on K-39 east of Chanute. B&B Bridge Company of St. Paul was the primary contractor on \$630,000 bridge replacement. Over the six months of construction the highway was closed at the bridge site, with a state route detour in effect. The Nov. 4 opening of the new K-39 bridge, which followed the late August opening of the Neosho River Bridge on K-47 – gave a second round of relief to many local motorists.



District One



KDOT employee Dawn Hueske submitted this photo showing a colorful sky in Nemaha County.

Amelia Earhart Memorial Bridge Light Show



2010



2011



2012



2013



Employee Council Holiday Ornament Order Form

To order:

Headquarters: Contact your Employees' Council rep.

Districts/Retirees: Mail completed form and check to -

Ruby Hilton, KDOT, 700 SW Harrison,
13th Floor/Bridge Design,
Topeka, KS, 66603.

Ornament	Quantity	Cost Each	Total
2010		\$5.00	
2011		\$5.00	
2012		\$5.00	
2013		\$5.00	
Total Paid:			

Please Print -

Name: _____

Address: _____

(Retirees only - home address)

Work phone: _____

Checks payable to
Employees' Council

For more details, call
Ruby at (785) 296-0603

Supply is limited on ornaments from previous years - first come, first serve