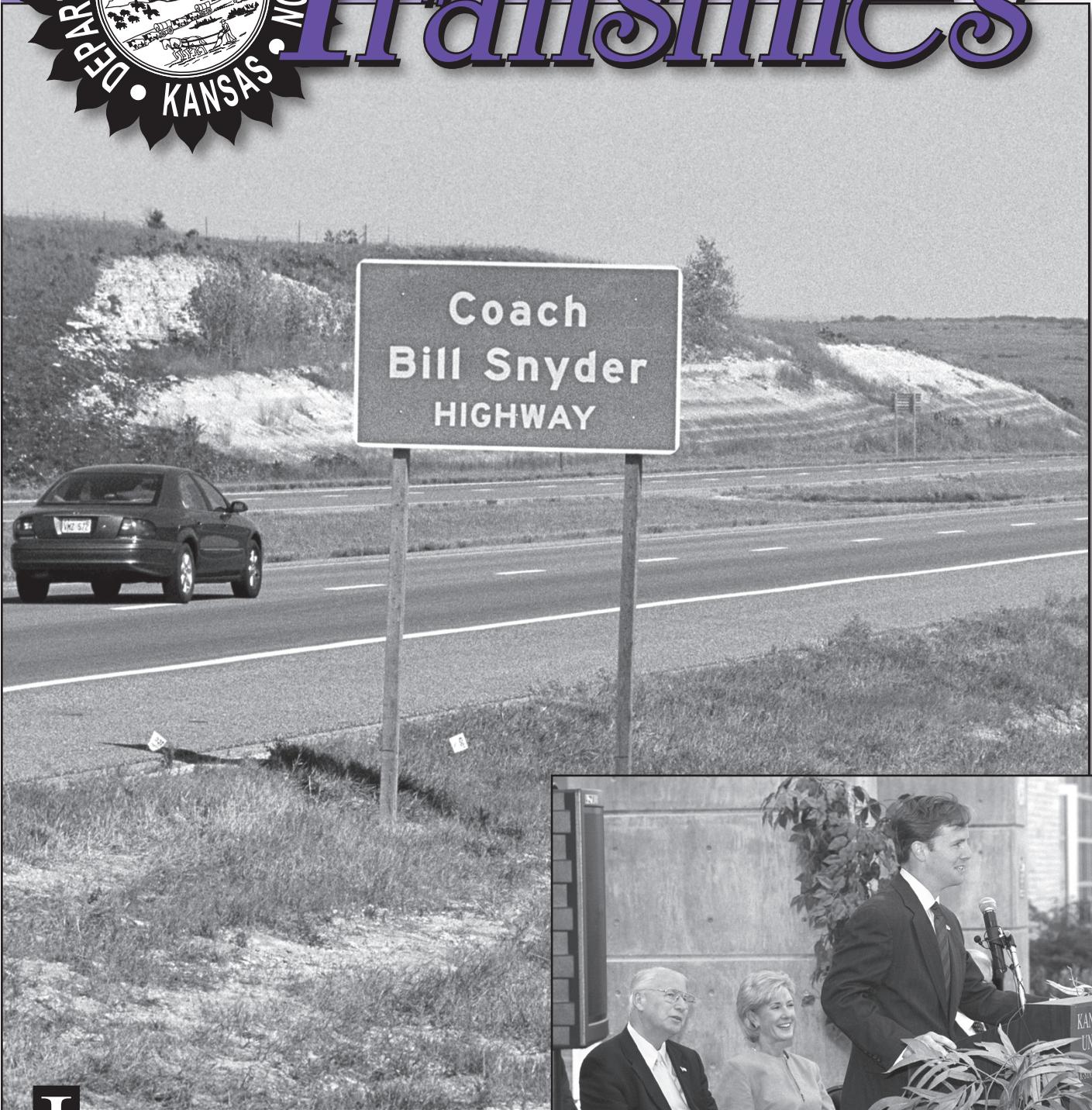




Translines



Inside ...

- ◆ *Kansas shines during 50th anniversary events*
- ◆ *Flaggers strive for highway safety*
- ◆ *The power of mentoring*
- ◆ *Changes in Bureau of Local Projects*



*By Secretary
Deb Miller*

Good plans, good decisions

The comedian George Burns used to say that he looked to the future because that's where he planned to spend the rest of his life. While I won't get any laughs for putting my own spin on his comment (maybe if I put on big glasses and chomp down on a cigar), I whole-heartedly agree with his sentiments.

With apologies to George, I'm looking to the future, too, because that's where I'm going to be traveling the rest of my life. And just how I will be traveling in this state during the next few decades will be shaped by the state's Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP), which we began working on this summer.

Transportation users generally focus on their needs today. But we at KDOT must focus on needs that are 10, 15, 20 years in the future. Even if our system had no unmet needs today, there certainly will be some in time as the infrastructure wears out. On behalf of the state's taxpayers, it's time for us to start thinking about those future needs.

The LRTP is a requirement of the federal transportation act, SAFETEA-LU, and will be an update of an existing plan. But this plan isn't likely to resemble the last version that was put together in 2002. Transportation

needs, costs and forecasts can change greatly and this plan will be reflective of that.

The LRTP will be developed in three phases:

- Phase I (September 2006 to February 2007). This will provide background information on trends, needs and the direction of the current programs through 2030 to build a framework for the LRTP.
- Phase II (February to September 2007). Transportation solutions and strategies will be drafted.
- Phase III (October to December 2007). The Kansas Long Range Transportation Plan will be finalized and rolled out.

The LRTP will be a comprehensive document that is driven by analysis and data. It will include demographic and economic trends, freight analysis, state funding capacity and funding sources. It will also consider the importance of all modes of transportation, including highways, rail, air, public transit and bicycle and pedestrian facilities, in meeting future challenges.

While we as the state's transportation agency have a responsibility to help people understand our future system needs, we also need to listen to local leaders to understand how they see their communities changing and developing. We want the state's future transportation plan to best serve their communities.

We've hired HDR, Cambridge Systematics and HNTB as the consulting team to help with development of the plan. Three advisory committees – one internal and two external – are being formed to engage stakeholders in Phase I.

It would be hard to overstate the importance of the work that will take place over the next year and a half on the LRTP. After all, we're talking about how we will invest billions of dollars and it's essential that we spend that money in a way that benefits the state.

Good planning makes for good decisions. And our best bet for making good decisions about the future where you and I will be driving is to have a plan that is inclusive, thorough and forward-thinking.

KANSAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Bureau of Transportation Information
Eisenhower Building, 2nd Floor, West
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Calendar of Events

October 3-4 – KDOT Operations Meeting in Great Bend.

October 10 – 11 a.m. KDOT employees' Council Meeting, Third Floor, Eisenhower State Office Building.

October 13 – 9 a.m. Highway Advisory Commission meeting telephone conference call.

October 18 - 1 p.m. Construction Bid Letting, Fourth Floor West Wing, Eisenhower State Office Building.

Changes in Bureau of Local Projects

Emig retires after 40 years at KDOT

By Kim Stich

“Learn all you can about everything and you will never regret it.”

Larry Emig, Chief of Local Projects, has tried to follow these words of wisdom that his father told him many years ago.

Emig started his career at KDOT in June 1966 in the Engineering Training Program and enjoyed learning about the different bureaus. He then worked in



Larry Emig

Continued on page 10

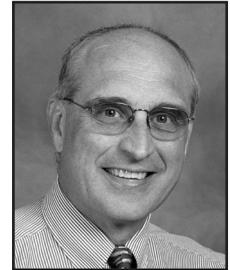
Seitz named Bureau Chief

By Stan Whitley

Ron Seitz, who has served KDOT the past two decades as a Professional Civil Engineer, has been selected to lead the Bureau of Local Projects as its new chief.

“I’m excited about moving into my new capacity as Chief of Local Projects,” said Seitz. “I want to build on what we’ve done well in the past and look for new ways to better serve local governments and ultimately the people of Kansas.”

Seitz has been an Assistant Bureau Chief in Local Projects the past five years where he was in charge of the Technical Management Section. The main responsibility of the section was the review and processing of local federal-aid and state-funded road and bridge



Ron Seitz

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Successful event

Shawnee and Edwardsville Subarea employees contributed to the success of the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation walk by providing traffic control on K-7 from Bonner Springs to Shawnee on Sept. 15. Crews closed down the right lane of northbound K-7 so the more than 1,100 walkers could complete a three-mile stretch of their 60-mile, three-day trek. The event raised more than \$2.8 million.

Highway dedicated to former K-State coach Bill Snyder

MANHATTAN - Motorists traveling in the Manhattan area will notice a new name for the stretch of highway on US-24 and K-177. The Coach Bill Snyder Highway was officially dedicated at a sign unveiling ceremony September 20, at the student union on the Kansas State University (KSU)

campus in Manhattan.

The signs were unveiled during the ceremony by Coach Snyder and his family. Governor Kathleen Sebelius and Rep. Ed O’Malley were on hand to help with the unveiling.

Continued on page 13

On the... COVER

Top photo: One of the Coach Bill Snyder Highway signs is located on northbound K-177 near the Geary-Riley county line. Bottom photo: State Representative Ed O’Malley commends former K-State coach Bill Snyder as Gov. Kathleen Sebelius looks on before a ceremonial sign unveiling on the Kansas State campus. See story at left.

Photos by Larry Katsbulas

Flaggers strive for highway safety

By Kirk Hutchinson
District Six
Public Affairs Manager

You're hot, tired and thirsty. You can taste the dust in your mouth and it feels like the asphalt is burning right through your boots.

You've been standing here for 30 minutes with no one around but the people on your work crew behind you, a farmer on a tractor in a nearby field kicking up dirt that seems to swirl around you endlessly and a pheasant that just wandered by.

Beneath the noise of the wind, the tractor and your own crew, your ears detect a faint whine, the sound of tires on pavement. As you scan the horizon, sure enough, there's something coming down the road. You stand a little straighter, grab the sign paddle more firmly and make sure you're holding it up where the approaching driver can see it.

"You move around, wave the paddle, whatever it takes to be seen," says Jerry Graham, Equipment Operator on the Tribune Sub-area crew. "You've got to be seen."

Probably every equipment operator (and many who aren't equipment operators) has done it—flagged traffic on the highway.

"Flagging's probably on the bottom of the pole," Graham admits. "I love to run equipment."

Graham got plenty of experience flagging traffic

'You've got to be seen. You're looking out for the other employees. They're depending on you to keep the traffic off of them.'

Jerry Graham

when he started out as summer help in Tribune three years ago.

"I mostly flagged all summer, because I didn't have a CDL (Commercial Drivers' License)."

The 47-year-old has filled many roles over the



Jerry Graham, Equipment Operator in Tribune, holds the sign high while flagging traffic in a work zone.

years—locksmith, welder, carpenter—so he's not afraid to tackle the varied tasks a typical highway maintenance crew will take on, even flagging traffic, which he calls more dangerous than other road main-



tenance activities, "because you're just standing out there." He says they usually rotate the duties on a job, flagging for only a couple of hours at a time and then switching off to prevent boredom, which can be a problem

on some of the less-traveled roads in western Kansas.

Allen Phillips, Highway Maintenance Supervisor in Tribune, says flaggers have to be on their toes, because some drivers aren't. "It doesn't matter how many signs you've got out there. They just don't see you."

Graham agrees. "I had a guy come up in a car, talking on a cell phone. I guess he didn't see me and he went right on through, so I radioed ahead. I'd say 90 percent of the close calls are because of cell phones."

He emphasizes that radios are critical tools in the work zone. Otherwise, "the guys working ahead have no idea. You can turn and yell and hope somebody

Continued on page 15

Kansas shines during 50th anniversary events

Numerous events took place this summer across the United States to celebrate 50 years of Interstates. One of the main activities was the reenactment of the first Transcontinental Motor Convoy of 1919.

Even though the original trip did not pass through Kansas, part of the convoy detoured through Kansas from June 21 to 23.

Hosting this part of the national

KDOT **Employee** **Recognition** **PROGRAM**

convoy for two days with a variety of events taking place and keeping the trip across Kansas on schedule was no small feat. With an outstanding team effort involving more than 160 KDOT employees and 28 partnering organizations, "Kansas' celebration was a true success because of the hard work and dedication of everyone involved," said Julie Lorenz, KDOT Director of Public Affairs.

Members of the 50th Anniversary Celebration Team were honored for their efforts in KDOT's Example of Excellence employee recognition program for the second quarter of 2006 with events in Topeka, Salina and Hays through a video conference on Sept. 13.

The convoy traveled safely and efficiently along I-70 with the Kansas National Guard and the Kansas Highway Patrol leading the way. More than 100 vehicles joined the convoy from Abilene to Kansas Speedway.

An evening social, a car show, an



KDOT Headquarters and District One employees and partners from the Kansas Turnpike Authority, Kansas Highway Patrol and Kansas National Guard pose for a picture with Secretary Deb Miller in Topeka.



District Two employees in Salina.



District Three employees and KHP partners in Hays.

Continued on page 12

Training Expo 2006



More than 800 people attended the 8th annual Maintenance Training Expo September 6 and 7 at the Bicentennial Center in Salina. The expo, co-sponsored by KDOT and the American Public Works Association, included such topics as chain saw safety, identifying meth lab materials and the popular ride and drive equipment operation, which gives attendees the opportunity to operate equipment they might not be familiar with. John Barton, with the Texas Department of Transportation, who presented the keynote address at the expo, was so impressed that he expressed his hope to start a similar expo in Texas in the future, according to Jaci Vogel, Assistant Bureau Chief in Construction and Maintenance.





LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Mr. Bruce Heerts,

I wanted to drop you a note and say "Thank You" for you and your crew's assistance with the fatality vehicle accident on August 18, 2006.

By diverting traffic you enabled Lindsborg EMS and Lindsborg Volunteer Fire Department to focus on the rescue and treatment of the individuals involved in the accident and removed the worry of having to deal with vehicles. This created a safer working environment for emergency personnel during a high stress incident.

I have had several of the emergency personnel who worked the accident comment on how much they appreciated your efforts. On behalf of the Lindsborg emergency personnel, City Council and staff, "Thank You!" We are fortunate to have you and your staff here in Lindsborg.

Sincerely,
Gregory DuMars
City Administrator
Lindsborg

(Editor's Note: Heerts is the Highway Maintenance Supervisor at Lindsborg.)

Dear Deb:

I send words of praise to you and your staff.

Recently, some of our staff had the privilege - and it was a privilege - to work with your video production folks in KDOT's Public Information Division (Support Services). Beth Martino, KDOL's Director of Communications, was working on a project to create a video to help explain our Unemployment Insurance Modernization project. We needed the video for our quarterly Managers' Meeting.

Beth reported to me that the KDOT folks were wonderful to work with, were responsive to our needs and simply made the whole experience a truly positive one.

Moreover, the quality of the end product was great. You have very talented individuals working in this unit.

We appreciate the opportunity to share in the talent you have at KDOT. I am impressed with the "one state government" attitude reflected at KDOT. It was a refreshing experience for everyone involved at KDOL.

Thanks again for the cooperative spirit and the help provided to the Department of Labor.

Very truly yours,
Jim Garner, Secretary
Kansas Department of Labor

Deb,

Its been a few years since I have done business with KDOT, however the passage of the booster seat bill put the district in the position of needing to figure out how to transport individual students during the school day safely. And with 57 elementary schools, plus several special day schools, it quickly becomes a bigger issue!!

The folks at the Traffic Safety Bureau helped Wichita Public Schools apply for a grant so each of our 57 elementaries plus the special day schools would have at least 3 boosters, giving the principal, social worker plus all campus security staff access to boosters for the little ones. During the course of the summer I spoke to most of the staff in Traffic Safety -- and I can attest each person was extremely helpful, friendly and willing to help the state's largest school district find a solution. The grant application was smoother than most we see!!

Last week over 200 boosters were delivered to the individual schools throughout the district thanks to Traffic Safety's quick work.

I know we all tend to hear and voice the negative. I wanted to take this opportunity to voice a positive and to let you know we appreciated the help (and dollars!!) of your staff.

Diane Gjerstad



By
**Jim
Kowach**

**TRANSPORTATION
TALK**

The power of mentoring

I began my KDOT career at Marion in 1986. Most of the engineers and technicians working in Marion at that time had worked for KDOT for, well, forever.

Many of them were around when the Interstate highways were designed and built in the late 1960s and early 1970s. All but two of the engineers and technicians in that office had anywhere from 25 to more than 40 years experience with the KDOT (or with the Highway Commission as some still called it).

There were new construction projects that next summer in every direction and the office had inspectors from Great Bend to Wamego helping out. It was a very busy time. I appreciate all the patience those “experienced” employees had

with me and the time they took to train me as well as explain KDOT history.

Since the early days, I have had the privilege of having some great mentors at KDOT. My mentors have included Administrative Support Staff, Technicians, Engineers, Equipment Operators, Maintenance Supervisors, Superintendents, Contractors and Consultants. Sharing advice and experience has helped in many ways. Mentoring helps develop our technical competence, as well as helps us understand how and why we do things. It helps with our communication skills and especially with our confidence.

One common misconception is that you need to be a supervisor or manager to be a mentor. Anyone who knows their job or a specific process that needs to occur to accomplish a task can be an effective mentor.

I remember some early supervisors I had while working in high school and college. The ones I admired and strove to be like were always optimistic, supported their employee’s decisions, had strong goals, and they never asked people to do anything they wouldn’t do or hadn’t done themselves. They cared about the work. But they also cared about the people they worked with. They led by example. They understood that what we can accomplish together is much, much more than any one of us can accomplish alone. I strongly believe that positive role models have a lasting impact on our attitudes and on our accomplishments.

Every employee has valuable experience and knowledge. I strongly encourage you to take the time to share that experience and knowledge with other employees, regardless of where you work in this agency!

Mentor or be mentored! It is amazing what you can learn while helping someone else.

Jim Kowach is Chief of the Bureau of Design.



Step Back in Time

Construction workers pave US-56 highway at Lyons during roadway work in September of 1953.

Celebrating 40 years of service



KDOT employees celebrating 40 years of state service pose for a picture with Secretary Deb Miller on Aug. 25. They are (front row, left to right) Clarence Berry, Mary Salazar, Kenneth DeLong, (back row) Elwyn Johnston, J.R. Campbell, Mitchell Holz, Secretary Miller, Lyle Archer, Robert Bergman, Kenneth Hurst, Larry Emig, and Franklin Heck.

Seitz

Continued from page 3

projects and administration of the local portion of the National Bridge Inspection Program.

Prior to joining Local Projects, Seitz spent 15 years in Design, including 13 years as a Squad Leader managing the design of projects on the state highway system. Before coming to KDOT, Seitz worked two years at Black and Veatch Engineers and Architects.

His professional career began as a teacher where he taught Industrial Arts for six years at Midway High School and Rossville High School.

“I enjoyed teaching, but I was ready

to pursue different challenges and the market was good for engineers,” said Seitz. “Teaching was valuable experience and I gained a lot of skills in communication that has helped me deal with issues in my job today.”

The main responsibility for Local Projects is managing the county and city portion of KDOT’s improvement program for roads, streets and bridges. Seitz said the Bureau also provides technical support to local governments in all 105 counties and serves as an advocate for their concerns at the state level.

Seitz holds a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering from Kansas State (1984), a Bachelor of Science in Education from Emporia State (1975) and a

Master of Science from Pittsburg State (1978).

“The best move I made was coming to work for KDOT as an engineer,” said Seitz. “The agency has a lot of good people that are dedicated to their jobs. It’s a family atmosphere that makes working here enjoyable.”

Seitz is married and his wife, Rhonda, is an agency employee in Fiscal Services where she serves as an Accounting Operations Manager. The couple lives in St. Marys and they have four adult sons – Robin, Ryan, David and Steven.

Seitz succeeds Larry Emig, who recently retired after a 40-year career at KDOT.

Emig**Continued from page 3**

the Bureau of Planning and Research for five years.

During this time, Emig, retirees Vern Walrafen and Bill Watts along with KDOT employees Terry Heidner, David Comstock, and Neil Rusch began development of the Control Section Analysis System (CANSYS) the first computer record keeping system for the highways and bridges, which is now the data base for the State Highway System. Then in 1970, a federal requirement mandated all states to do a functional classification and needs study of all the routes.

“We went through the highway strip maps and coded information on the data forms which then got read into a computer program,” Emig said. “This is the first time a strip map had ever been computerized.”

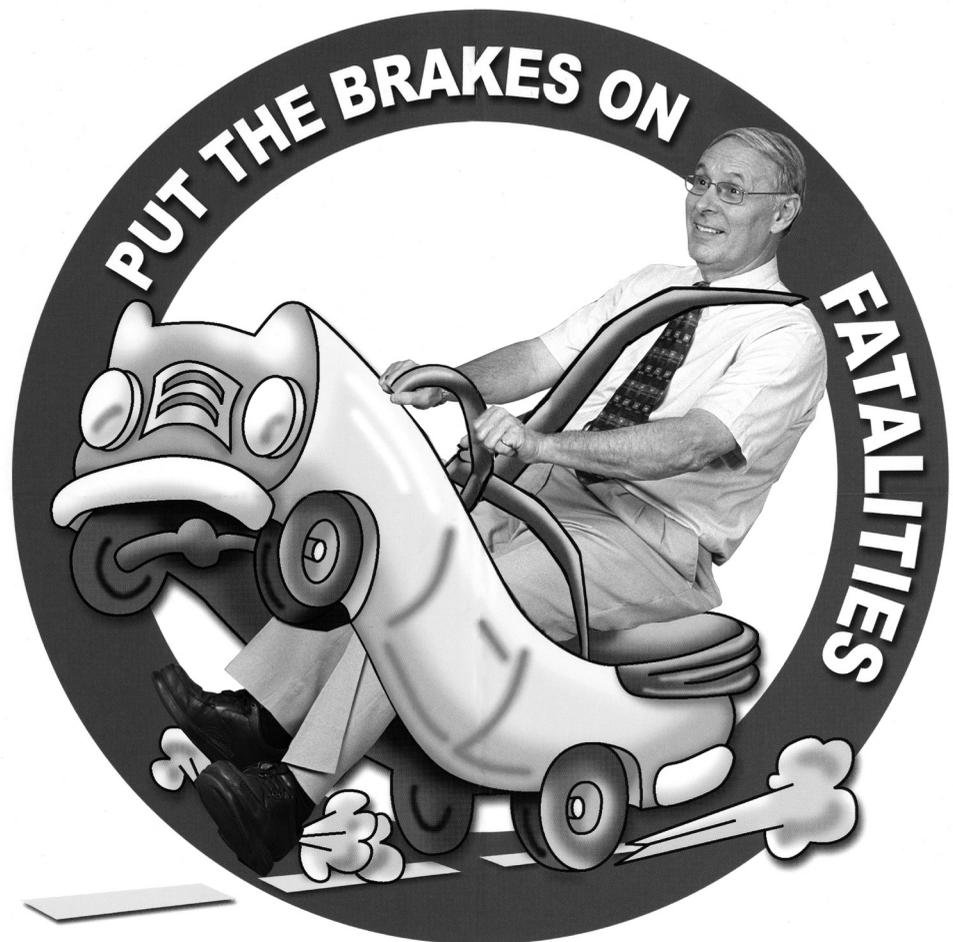
In 1971, Emig was promoted to Program Engineer in the Department of Secondary Roads (now Local Projects). Working with local governments on plans and funding to help them let their projects to construction is a highlight in his career.

“Through the years, you really got to know the county and city officials very well, and they would call upon you and we worked to solve their problems together,” he said.

To address funding concerns at KDOT in the 1980s, the responsibility for selecting consultants to do the inspecting of city and county projects was given to the local governments. A program was developed to help locals with the process.

“Helping to get that set up was monumental and took a great deal of effort to write the agreements, and the agreements now are essentially the same ones we used back in '84,” Emig said.

In 1987, Emig was named as the Bureau Chief of Local Projects, where he has served for the past 19 years. During the years he has worked with local governments he estimates that Local Projects/Secondary Roads' staff have assisted cities and counties let to contract over 3,000 road, street and bridge



Larry Emig is the founding father of the national transportation safety campaign Put the Brakes on Fatalities Day, which is Oct. 10 each year. It focuses on overall safety whether traveling in a vehicle, on a bike or as a pedestrian.

Photo illustration by Sonya Scheuneman

projects.

Emig also worked on the Local Transportation Assistance Program and the Road Scholar Program. Both these training programs focus on improving efficiency for local governments.

No matter the topic, Emig believes training and communication are the keys to success.

“Training keeps us on the cutting edge of making new things happen,” he said. “Training was important 40 years ago and it’s important now.”

Put the Brakes on Fatalities

Several years ago, Emig had a dream of a day with no traffic fatalities across the country. While he recognizes this is an ambitious dream, he worked to begin a national transportation safety program known as Put the Brakes on Fatalities Day to help improve safety.

“People from Kansas and across the country have gotten involved and are serious about reducing fatalities on our highways,” Emig said. “This program works in conjunction with other safety programs because it isn’t just one thing that’s going to reduce fatalities. We need to focus all year long on buckling up seat belts, driving sober and slowing down.”

During Emig’s career with KDOT he has participated in numerous state and national professional and civic organizations receiving numerous awards.

After 40 years at KDOT, Emig retired on Sept. 21. Now he’s going to learn to relax with his wife, Jean Ann, while traveling to visit their three children.

“I’m going to miss working at KDOT, but I’m really looking forward to not having to go to meetings,” he said.

Informing the public



Scott Koopmann, District Five Maintenance Engineer, distributes transportation information and items promoting work zone safety and 511 at the Kansas State Fair in Hutchinson. Fairgoers also have the opportunity to play KDOT's transportation trivia game, which educates people about new safety laws, the importance of safety belts and other general transportation facts.

Rommel appointed to State Employee Health Care Commission

Charlotte Rommel, Human Resource Professional II at Chanute, has been appointed to the State Employee Health Care Commission by Governor Kathleen Sebelius.

Rommel, Thayer, has 20 years of experience in several human resource functions, such as personnel, payroll and supervisory training. She has worked in a variety of fields, including banking, education, and private industry, as well as county and state government. She is also president of Professional Communications Services, which provides human resources consulting for small business owners.

"I was honored just to be nominated, and pleasantly surprised to



Charlotte Rommel

be selected to fill this position," said Rommel. "Because of my work in the field of human resources, I have been exposed to the opinions and concerns of individuals at all levels, from consumers to administrators. I am excited about sharing my experience and hope to play an important role as a part of a team effort to help the Health Care Commission to continue to make improvements to the plans and services we provide."

The State Employee Health Care Commission oversees the administration of the state health care benefits program. The commission negotiates and enters into contracts with qualified insurers, health maintenance organizations and other contracting parties.

Rommel will serve at the pleasure of the Governor. She replaces Sharon Bolyard, who resigned from the board earlier this year when she retired from state service. — S.W.

KDOT Computer Training

— from the KCTC

CLASSES ARE ON THE CALENDAR AT ESOB

Increase your computer efficiency.
NEW CLASS

SQL Fundamentals – November 9.

This class will provide an introduction to SQL (Structured Query Language).

What is SQL? It is the standard language for relational database management systems. It is used to communicate with a database. SQL statements are used to perform tasks such as updating data on a database or retrieving data from a database. Access, Oracle and Microsoft SQL Server are some of the relational database management systems that use SQL.

DID YOU KNOW?

Tips & Tricks:

◆ Did you know you can duplicate a slide in PowerPoint and save yourself a lot of formatting time? After a slide with the general formatting desired is done, go to the left pane of PowerPoint and select the Slides Tab (if not already selected), click on a slide to duplicate and select "Insert" – "Duplicate Slide." Your new duplicate slide will appear underneath your selected slide.

◆ Did you know you can access your Employee File from the KDOT Web? The KDOT Intranet provides a very quick method of looking up employee official information, medical files and more. Go to kdotweb.ksdot.org and click on Employee Info.

This tip is from the KDOT Help Desk.

Enroll by e-mail kctc@ksdot.org or call Ingrid Vandervort 785-296-8993. **Questions are welcome!** Supervisor's approval to enroll is necessary.

50th anniversary

Continued from page 5

Interstate panel discussion and other events took place in Abilene at the Dwight D. Eisenhower Presidential Library and Museum. Kansas Speedway hosted a media event with many speakers focusing on the future of transportation. The Kansas Turnpike Authority and numerous other groups worked together with KDOT to plan and staff the activities.

“All these events garnered a lot of positive attention from media across the state and provided an excellent opportunity to not only recognize our successful past, but also look toward the future,” Lorenz said.

KDOT members of the team include:

District One/Headquarters -

Linda Althof, Michael Applehantz, Ginny Armstrong, Martin Arredondo, Joe Blubaugh, Barb Blue, Shane Bond, Jim Brewer, Paul Burghart, Larry Colcher, Gordon Cole, Tyler Cormier, Bill Crooks, Kenneth

DeLong, Pete Domme, Richard Dreher, Chris Fasching, Carl Gile, Oscar Hamilton, Chris Hess, Fred Holthaus, Dean Jackson, Cathy Johannes, Larry Katsbubas, Ron Kaufman, Don Koehler, Jeff LaCrone, Gary Lesline, Amy Link, Denise MacEwan, Anita Madill, Marie Manthe, Marty Martinez, Bret Mathias, Rusty Miller, Jay Nuzum, Scott Otipoby, Leo Perry, Denise Petet, Robert Rickstrew, James Roth, Sonya Scheuneman, Kevin Schorzman, Kim Stich, Stephany Stumbaugh, Steve Swartz, Maggie Thompson, Tony Trower, Kurt Weaverling, Peter Wiehe, Shane Wiehe, Stan Whitley, Joe Wilburn, Tom Wyrick.

District Two - Jim Adee, Scott Allen, Brad Anderson, Duane Bender,

Clarence Berry, David Choitz, Kenny Cohen, Steve Cox, Pete Donley, Sara Donley, Don Drickey, John Fleming, Clint Frederiksen, Tim Frederiksen, Robert Gladney, Larry Goddard, David Greiser, Paul Harris, Wayne Heller, Dale Hershberger, Steve Keim, Kevin Kennedy, Matt Lee, Garold Macoubrie, Richard Martinitz, Mark Meier, Bob Nienke, Tom Nold, Shawn Ploutz, Roger Podlena, Craig Rose, Chad Rutter, Steve Schlagel, Steve Schmidt, Ken Shivers, Max Smith, Pat Tovar, Corey Trumpp, Don Urbanek, Mack Villalpano, Mike Vincent, Lillian Vogan, Flint Warta, Randy West, Carl Wolf, Dave Woods.

District Three - Beatrice Albers, Anthony Amack, Charlie Baker, Thomas Beatty, Troy Bell, Rodney Bencken, James Bowman, John W. Boxberger,

Kristen Brands, Jose Capo, Gerald Casper, Bob Cotton, Kirk Coulter, John Crawford, Max Dirks, James Ehrlich, Travis Glassman, Gerald Griggs, Larry Groth, Gerald Hammerschmidt, Doug Hecker, Tom Hein, Darrell Hladek, Dave Hovis, Perry Huffman,

John Hutchinson, Kirk Hutchinson, Jim Kanak, Kurtis Kerns, Fred Knoll, Kevin Kolars, Kevin Krause, Cheryl Kruse, Fonda Lawrence, Larry Manz, Tim Micek, Scott Miller, Lonnie Mohr, Noe Musquiz, Eric Oelschlager, Joe Parker, Brad Prester, Noel Ramirez, Brad Reeh, Alan Reuber, Jimmy Reyna, Robert Robben, Gerald Rohleder, Rick Rowlison, Robert Schremmer, Pat Schumacher, Mike Sheley, Curtis Smith, Johnny Strutt, Chris Trundle, Don Ummel, Tyler Ummel, Rick Warren, James Weber, Tim Weigel, Robert Weiss, Bill Windholz, Kenny Withington, Mathew Withington, Kevin Zimmer, and Dan Zordel. **-K.S.**

‘Kansas’ celebration was a true success because of the hard work and dedication of everyone involved.’

Julie Lorenz

**Welcome
new KDOT
employees!**

Headquarters

Lea Ann Curtis, Public Service Executive II, Chief Counsel

Dwight Garman, Program Consultant I, Chief Counsel

James Haugh, Systems Software Analyst II, Computer Services

William Kollin, Administrative Specialist, Fiscal Services

District One – Northeast

Barbara Anderson, Office Assistant, Wamego

Chris Davidson, Engineering Associate I, Topeka

Clifford Jones, Equipment Operator Specialist, Osage City

Joseph Lawson, Mechanic, Bonner Springs

Larry Ubel, Equipment Mechanic, Wamego

District Two – Northcentral

Richard Hinderliter, Engineering Technician Associate, Salina

District Five – Southcentral

Bambi Anderson, Office Assistant, Wichita

Jack Garven, Geology Trainee, El Dorado

Eva Hofflinger, Senior Administrative Assistant, Hutchinson

Joseph Taylor, Equipment Mechanic Senior, El Dorado

District Six – Southwest

Wanda Desselle-Robichaux, Administrative Assistant, Ulysess

Tamara Venturi, Administrative Assistant, Garden City

The Bureau of Personnel Services supplies information for new hires to Translines.



Coach Bill Snyder, along with family members and Gov. Kathleen Sebelius, unveil the Coach Bill Snyder Highway sign. Signs were installed on K-177 and US-24 to honor Snyder. Rep. Ed O'Malley, far left, introduced the legislation to name the roads for the former Kansas State coach.

Coach Snyder

Continued from page 3

The new signs were installed after the dedication. The eastbound sign on US-24 is located north of Manhattan just to the north of the entrance to the Tuttle Creek Visitor's Center. The northbound sign on K-177 is located just north of the Geary/Riley county line south of Manhattan. The signs read "Coach Bill Snyder Highway."

US-24 and K-177 were designated as the Coach Bill Snyder Highway through legislative action during the 2006 session. House Bill 2758 directed that the signs could not be placed until private donations could be raised for the cost of placing the signs plus an additional 50 percent of the initial cost to defray future maintenance or replacement costs of the signs.

Snyder served as Kansas State coach for 17 years and posted a 136-68-1 record, including 11 bowl appearances and a Big 12 championship in 2003.

KDOT Traffic Safety spot bestowed honor

A public service spot for KDOT's "You drink. You drive. You lose." program has received special recognition from the Greater Kansas City Public Relations Society of America.

The spot, created for the Bureau of Traffic Safety, took home top honors in the category of programs or projects completed for not-for-profit organizations. Corporate Communications Group in Kansas City was the producer.

The spot begins with a normal size picture of a little girl jumping rope with children's music playing in the background. An upright liquor bottle then appears next to the girl and ends up on its side. You hear a cork open and a car comes out of the bottle. The car heads

toward the girl and she continues to get smaller before being struck. The spot then breaks away to the tagline "You drink. You Drive. You Lose."

"Verizon Wireless Amphitheater in Bonner Springs was the initial venue for the spot and we were able to reach large, captive audiences at events where alcohol is served," said Pete Bodyk, Chief of Traffic Safety. "The spot was prominently displayed on the Jumbotron before concerts started and between acts."

The spot is also being played on TV outlets across the state through September to coincide with an aggressive nationwide campaign cracking down on impaired drivers.

The "You Drink. You Drive. You

Lose." crackdown is a comprehensive impaired driving prevention program that focuses on combining high-visibility enforcement with heightened public awareness. Last year, there were almost 18,000 arrests in Kansas for impaired driving.

Bodyk said there were 93 alcohol-related fatalities on Kansas roadways in 2005 – 22 percent of all fatalities.

This is the second straight year that a KDOT spot has been honored by the Kansas City Public Relations Society of America. Last year the agency was honored for its "Click it or Ticket" safety belt campaign. – S.W.

*Fun Facts
and Trivia*

Do you know?

1. How many roads were on the first Michigan road map, published in 1862?
2. Approximately how many freight railroads operate today in Canada, Mexico, and the U.S.?
3. About 70 percent of _____ produced in the U.S. moves by train?
4. How many gallons of gas are sold each minute in California?
5. What was the average cost for a gallon of gas in 1995?
6. The United States uses how many gallons of gas each day?
7. What mode of travel has increased at a faster rate than highway travel since 1995?

ANSWERS

1. Three
2. 600
3. automobiles
4. 23,000 gallons
5. \$1.28
6. 178 million
7. Public transportation

Transportation Briefs

Plugging the money gap

How will transportation agencies fill a projected money gap in maintaining and building roads? Here's what some states are contemplating or already implementing:

- South Carolina has petitioned the federal government to turn part of I-95 into a toll road.
 - Oregon is considering elimination of the state gas tax and replacing it with toll roads with a use charge per mile.
 - Atlanta may copy a European model of leasing roads to companies that will maintain them and charge tolls.
 - Denver is making extra money by charging tolls for high-speed, limited access lanes on I-25.
 - Illinois is discussing the leasing of some or all of the 274-mile state tollway.
- Better Roads, September 2006*

Texas tops in highway contracts

Texas had the highest value of highway contract awards for the first half of 2006. Contracts awarded in the Lone Star State through June totaled \$2.2 billion. Following Texas was California at \$1.8 billion; Florida, \$1.2 billion; Pennsylvania, \$1.05 billion; and Illinois, \$905 million. —*Better Roads, September 2006*

It's easy being green

Motorists will soon be seeing MoDOT field employees in new high visibility green t-shirts instead of vests in some areas. These new threads are retro-reflective and meet federal safety criteria. Employees like the visibility, comfort and overall safety aspect of the new shirts. —*MoDot Express Lane, Sept. 1, 2006*

North Dakota State No. 1

A team of civil engineering students from North Dakota State University has won the annual National Steel Bridge Competition for the fourth time in the event's 15-year history. NDSU is the only school to win the competi-

tion more than once.

The 45 competing teams were required to construct a scale-model bridge that could carry a load of at least 2,500 pounds. The bridges were judged in six categories: construction speed, aesthetics, economy, lightness, stiffness and efficiency. —*Public Works, August 2006*

Mother Nature's wrath

A California company that provides information on healthy living and sustainable cities studied the nation's 50 largest cities for their vulnerability to natural disasters. The company, Risk Management Solutions, SustainLane, came up with the following lists:

Most at risk

1. Miami
2. New Orleans
3. Oakland, Calif.
4. San Francisco
5. Honolulu

Least at risk

1. Mesa, Ariz., and Milwaukee
2. Cleveland
3. El Paso, Texas
4. Phoenix
5. Tucson, Ariz.

—*American City and County, August 2006*

USDOT designation to NU

The Mid-America Transportation Center (MATC) at the University of Nebraska has been designated the Region VII University Transportation Center by the U.S. Department of Transportation's Research and Innovative Technology Administration. Under provisions of the federal transportation act, SAFETEA-LU, the new center is authorized to receive \$2 million in FY 2007-08 and \$2.225 million in FY 2009.

The UTC program has a mission "to advance U.S. technology and expertise in the many disciplines comprising transportation through the mechanisms of education, research and technology transfer at university-based centers of excellence."

Flagger

Continued from page 4

will look up and know they're coming."

Another close call came near Leoti, in Wichita County. "We had our work zone set up and had traffic stopped. A semi came up and the sheriff clocked him at 70 (miles per hour) approaching the work zone. He passed the light trailer, 'Road Work Ahead' and 'One Lane Ahead' signs before the sheriff got him stopped—maybe 3/10 of a mile from the flagger."

Fortunately, those who ignore the warning signs are in the minority. "Most people are courteous," Graham says, "but I have been given the finger and cursed at as people went by."

Graham adds that being on both

sides of that stop paddle has changed his own driving habits.

"If I come upon a work zone I start slowing down right away. Before (working for KDOT) I probably never did that. Now I know what it's like to be standing on the road and have somebody blow by you at 55 miles per hour."

You're hot, tired and thirsty. It's already been a long day and you're standing alone on a highway with a vehicle speeding down the road toward you and your co-workers behind you. They're focused on the task because they've got warning signs and you to stop the traffic. All you've got is that sign paddle.

"You've got to be seen," Graham repeats. "You're looking out for the other employees. They're depending on you to keep the traffic off of them."

Deaths

Condolences to the family and friends of a former KDOT employee who recently passed away. **Fred Marstall, 49**, died Sept. 11 at Topeka. Marstall worked for KDOT 20 years as a Management Systems Analysis before retiring in 2001.

Marstall is survived by his wife,

Tammy, two sons, one daughter, two sisters and five brothers. Memorial contributions may be made to the Fred Marstall Memorial Fund to be designated at a later date and sent in care of Piper Funeral Home, 714 Maple, St Marys, 66536.

Retirees

The following employees will officially retire from KDOT on Oct. 1.

Headquarters

Safwat W. Bishara, Research Chemist in Materials and Research – 20 years of state service

James A. Craig, Engineering Technician Specialist in Design - 30 years of state service

Sandra E. Greenwell, Civil Rights Administrator – 20 years of state service

Richard L. Keefover, Engineering Associate in Construction and Maintenance – 29 ½ years of state service

Stephen J. Malone, Equipment Operator at Blaine – 34 years of state service.

District Three

Lyle A. Archer, Public Services Administrator I at Norton – 40 years of state service

Tommy A. Baker, Equipment Operator at Stockton – 23 years of state service

District Four

Roy L. Howell, Equipment Operator Senior at Chanute – 38 years of state service

M I L E S T O N E S

KDOT salutes its employees celebrating anniversaries in September

10 YEARS

*Peggy Gott Olathe
*Jason Rojas Pratt
*Philip Smith Wichita

20 YEARS

*Greg Clothier Marion
*Debbie Greeve Topeka
*Paul Gripka Bonner Springs
*Albert Horn Edwardsville
*Bridget Martinez Topeka
*Vicki Metz Topeka
*Joann Phillips Topeka

30 YEARS

*Kenton Bahr Topeka
*Edwin Delinger Garden City
Rodney Frank Topeka
*Nancy Neiswanger Topeka
Eldon Sheler Ottawa
*Kenneth Teal Holton

40 YEARS

*Barrett Avery El Dorado

This information is compiled by each Office, Bureau, Division, and District.

**denotes state service anniversary*

KDOT INSULATED MUGS ARE ON SALE!



White 22 oz. mugs with red lids feature this blue logo shown above.

**--COST--
Only \$6 Per Mug!**

To Order:

Headquarters: contact your Employees' Council rep.

Districts/Retirees: mail completed form (or photocopy of form) and checks to:

Lindsey Stephens, Personnel, 700 SW Harrison, 1st floor, ESOB, Topeka, KS, 66603.

Checks payable to KDOT Employees' Council.

Number ordered: _____ Amount enclosed: _____

Name _____
Work Address: _____

(Retirees: home address)

For more details, call Lindsey Stephens at 785-296-0939

Promotions/Transfers

Headquarters

Doug Brunner, Engineering Technician Specialist, Design

David Cronin, Professional Civil Engineer, Design

Brian Engelke, Engineering Technician Specialist, Local Projects

Kathy King, Engineering Technician, Transportation Planning

Dale Kirmer, Professional Civil Engineer I, Construction and Maintenance

Janette McGrath, Right of Way Agent III, Right of Way

Richard McMullen, State Auditor III, Inspector General

Pamela Murray-Anderson, Accountant IV, Fiscal Services

Eric Nichol, Professional Civil Engineer I, Design

District One – Northeast

Keith Snyder, Highway Maintenance Supervisor, Shawnee

District Two – Northcentral

Gerald Mai, Program Consultant II, Salina

District Five – Southcentral

John Berndsen, Highway Maintenance Supervisor, Winfield

Jeric Talcott, Engineering Technician Senior, Wichita

Brent Terstriep, Professional Civil Engineer II, Hutchinson

The Bureau of Personnel Services supplies information for promotions/transfers to Translines.

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

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