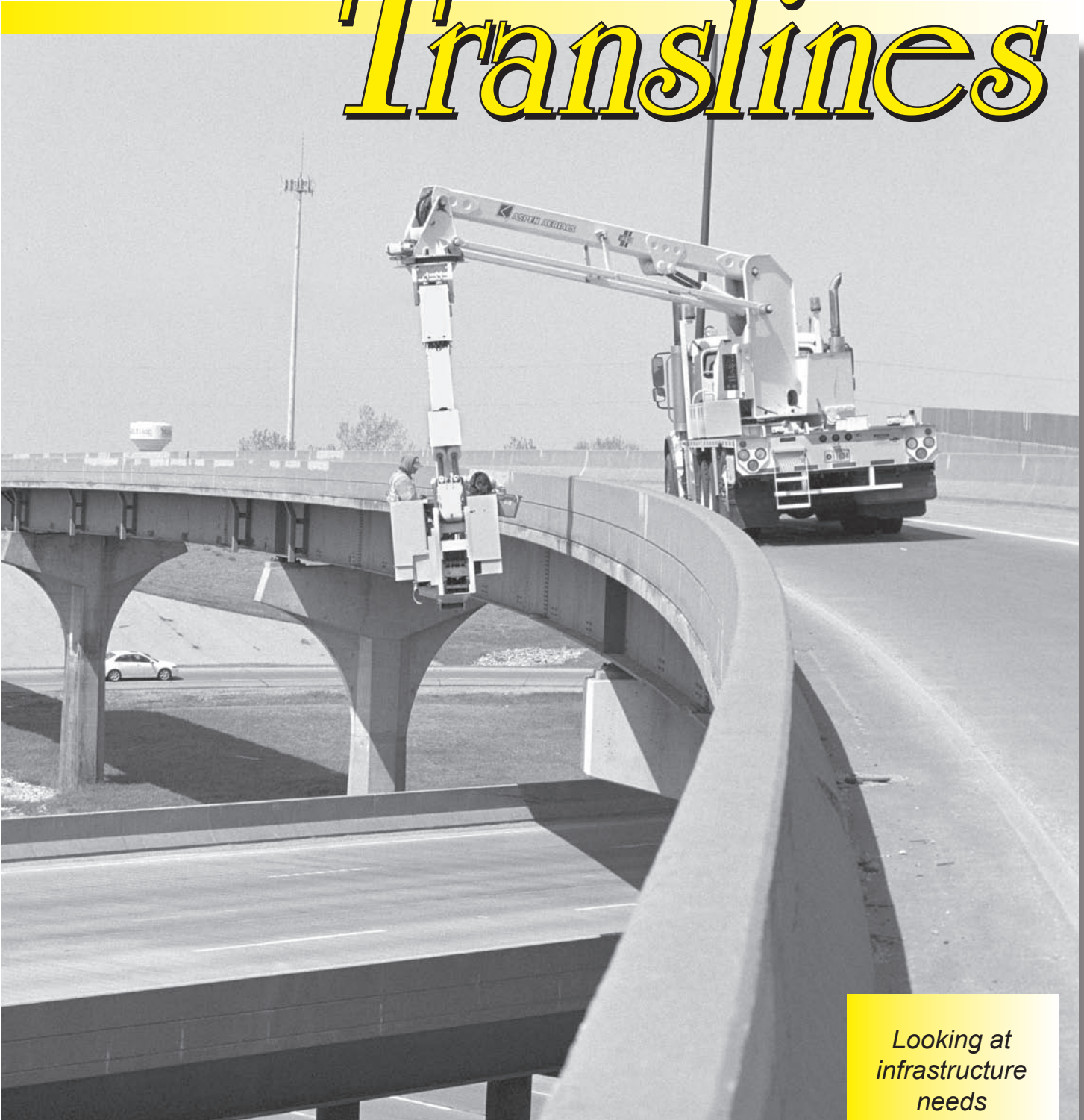


Translines



Looking at
infrastructure
needs
See pages 2,3

Inside ...

- ◆ Highway Trust Fund shortfall discussed
- ◆ Herrick named Planning and Development Director
- ◆ Snow gates installed on I-70
- ◆ KDOT assists in clean-up efforts
- ◆ Automated vehicle transport being researched



By Secretary Deb Miller

Collapse draws attention to infrastructure needs

Since the catastrophic collapse of the Minneapolis bridge last Aug. 1, there has been intense focus on the condition of America's 600,000 bridges.

In Kansas, reporters from both state and national news organizations continue to call KDOT seeking specifics on the condition of our bridges, inspection schedules and funding. That interest isn't surprising given the tragic consequences of the collapse and its sensational nature.

But what might be surprising to some is the degree to which motorists had come to take these complex structures for granted. This may be one of those situations in which past success has elevated the expectations of motorists. They expect our highway system to be safe and reliable without having to think about things such as the amount of traffic carried, age of the structure or the money required to maintain it.

And based on the rarity of a bridge collapse, travelers should have confidence in our bridges. According to information in AASHTO's "Bridging the Gap" report released July 28, there have been 47 deaths attributable to bridge failures in the past 20 years. While the report doesn't lessen those tragedies, it notes that 3,000 people die annually in reaction to vaccines, nearly 100 deaths are attributed annually to bee stings and 80 people die every year from lightning strikes.

Those of us in the transportation industry know that

safe bridges don't just happen. They require appropriate funding, sound design, careful construction, regular maintenance and inspections. Sometimes it's prudent for us to redouble some of those efforts and re-evaluate how we are doing things. And that's what we have been doing in the past 12 months. For example:

◆ Immediately after the Minneapolis collapse, we conducted structural analysis on the state's six deck-truss bridges that had similar components to the I-35W bridge.

◆ We inspected all 105 structurally deficient bridges on the state highway system.

◆ We conducted in-depth analysis of the gusset plates on our structures. A design flaw in the gussets on the Minneapolis bridge is thought to be the leading cause of the failure.

◆ The Kansas Local Bridge Task Force was formed to evaluate options to improve the local bridge inspection process.

In Kansas we have a very good state bridge system thanks in part to the commitment of citizens and leaders to adequately fund our transportation infrastructure. Under the 10-year Comprehensive Transportation Program, we will have repaired or replaced 1,100 bridges through an investment of more than \$750 million. I should also note that much of our success is due to the work of our staff bridge inspectors who are passionate about safety.

Although we have significantly reduced the number of deficient bridges on the system, the needs remain great both in Kansas and across America. As a nation, we have underinvested in our bridges and highways. As a result, that infrastructure has deteriorated – significantly in many places. As the current federal transportation funding bill comes to an end in 2009, we also are facing a shortfall in the Federal Highway Trust Fund, which could have a devastating impact on all the states.

The nation's trust in its transportation infrastructure suffered a blow when the Minneapolis bridge collapsed into the Mississippi River last summer. It brought to light issues about the state of our highway system in a way that made us pay attention. Let's hope that our elected leaders have taken the message to heart.

Our safety, our economy and our peace of mind depend on it.

Related story on page 3.



Eisenhower Building-
2nd Floor West,
700 SW Harrison,
Topeka, Ks 66603-3754

Governor: Kathleen Sebelius
Secretary of Transportation: Deb Miller
Chief of Transportation Information: Steve Swartz
Editors: Stan Whitley and Kim Stich

Phone/TTY: (785) 296-3585 ◆ FAX: (785) 296-0287

Calendar of Events

Aug. 20 – 1 p.m. Construction bid letting, Fourth Floor, West Wing, Eisenhower State Office Building.

Aug. 23 – KDOT golf at Western Hills Golf Course. Individual stroke play format. Contact Kevin Adams to enter at 785 296-5297.

Aug. 26-27 – Mid-Continent MicroStation Community user group conference, Overland Park Convention Center.

Highway Trust Fund shortfall discussed

The shortfall in the federal Highway Trust Fund and its potential impact on the state was discussed at a joint news conference June 30 by Kansas' 2nd District Congresswoman Nancy Boyda and Secretary Deb Miller.

Congress has yet to pass legislation that addresses the shortfall in the federal Highway Trust Fund,

from which money is dispersed to states. Action is needed before October to prevent a more than 30 percent cut in federal highway funds from affecting both state and local transportation projects. The cut would reduce funding to Kansas by nearly \$120 million.

Continued on page 12



Kansas' 2nd District Congresswoman Nancy Boyda (left) listens to Secretary Deb Miller at a news conference outlining the shortfall in the federal Highway Trust Fund on June 30 in the Eisenhower State Office Building. Photo by Larry Katsbulas

Minneapolis bridge collapse has lingering impact

By Stan Whitley

One year ago, tragedy struck in Minneapolis, Minn., as the I-35W bridge collapsed into the Mississippi River, killing 13 people. What followed was a heightened awareness of bridge conditions and close examination of bridge inspection programs nationwide.

The failure of the bridge was the impetus for an increased focus on the safety of bridges and the National Bridge Inspection Program in Kansas. In the immediate aftermath of the bridge collapse, KDOT conducted structural analysis on the state's six deck-truss bridges which had similar components to the I-35W bridge.

The analysis involved an in-depth

Continued on page 7

On the... COVER

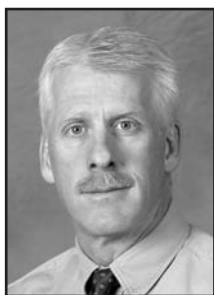
KDOT Bridge Inspectors Justin Shaw (left) and Jim Leaden inspect the I-435/I-35 flyover bridge in Lenexa in June. Photo by Sonya Scheuneman

Herrick named Planning and Development Director

By Jessica Leiker

Chris Herrick has been a valuable asset to KDOT for many years, and will continue to be as he takes over as Director of Planning and Development.

He graduated from the University of Kansas with



Chris Herrick

a business degree and the University of Minnesota with a civil engineering degree. Following his graduation from KU in 1985, Herrick worked as a sales representative for NCR Corporation out of Denver, Colo. After several years of working in sales, Herrick decided to pursue a career in civil engineering.

Herrick's career at KDOT began in 1991 as a Models and Forecasting Engineer Associate. In 1995, he was promoted to an MPO Administration

Engineering Associate. Three years later in 1998, Herrick accepted the job of Statewide Planning Engineer, and most recently he has served as Planning Bureau Chief since March 2005.

He credits his experience with KDOT in helping him transition smoothly into his new position.

"My 17 years of experience at KDOT is all with the Division of Plan-

Continued on page 10

Snow gates installed on I-70 in western Kansas



A crew of KDOT employees from different offices in District Three install snow gates along I-70. Photo by Kristen Brands

It may have been typical mid-summer weather in western Kansas, but blizzards were on the minds of District Three officials in early July.

Crews installed a series of gates along Interstate 70 from Russell to the Colorado line that will enhance safety and efficiency when the inevitable winter storm requires that the road be closed. The gates, which resemble those at railroad crossings, were installed along westbound lanes at Russell, Hays, WaKeeney, Oakley, Colby and Goodland. In past years, crews have manually placed barricades across the interstate. In some extreme conditions, the signs were blown over.

In most situations, a law enforcement officer will continue to be stationed at the gates to allow local traffic to pass through the off-set gates, located on either side of

Continued on page 5

Automated vehicle transport subject of research project

KDOT has teamed with public and private researchers to investigate the potential of a system of small, automated vehicles to ease congestion in the commercial area near the Kansas Speedway in Wyandotte County.

The researchers will consider how Automated Small Vehicle Transport (ASVT) could enhance mobility and relieve parking and vehicle congestion in the area that also includes the Legends at Village West, the Woodlands Race Park and Providence Medical Center. Additional development plans in the area include a casino and water park.

ASVT comprises a fleet of fully automated vehicles – each with a capacity to transport between two and 12 people. Unlike conventional transit that runs on a schedule, stops every mile or so and groups people together in masses, ASVT operates more like automobiles. ASVT vehicles are available on demand and transport people directly to their destination without stopping for additional riders. Such a system is scheduled to open at England's Heathrow International Airport in 2009.

“Despite the number of attractions, the dominant use of developed land is parking lots and roads to serve these attractions,” said Dr. Stan Young, a member of the study team who is a former KDOT researcher and now a member of the University of Maryland faculty.

“The principal complaint of patrons is movement in and about the attractions in the area.”

The research project will focus on accessibility improvements to the existing and planned facilities, possible links to any existing and planned transit systems and reduction in land area dedicated to parking.

The estimated \$115,000 cost of the study will be paid for by KDOT and Kansas University's Transportation Research Institute. Also participating in the project are Unified Government of Wyandotte County, Kansas State University's Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, University of Maryland's Center for Advanced Transportation Technology, Federal Transit Administration, Mid-America Regional Council and Advanced Transit Association. —S.S.



The ULtra, a personal rapid transit vehicle, will be used at London's Heathrow International Airport. Photo courtesy of PRT Consulting

Simmons receives award from KSPE

Freddie Simmons, KDOT consultant in the Division of Engineering and Design, has received the 2008 Kansas Society of Professional Engineers (KSPE) Government Engineer Award for Kansas.



Freddie Simmons

Simmons was presented the award June 26 at the organization's annual meeting, in Wichita. In February, Simmons was presented the Government Engineer of the Year for 2007 by the Topeka Chapter of KSPE.

Simmons has worked for KDOT since September 2005 and says he is very appreciative of how well he has been received by the staff at KDOT and the consultant industry. He is retired from the Florida Department of Transportation.

"I have made new friends over the past three years that I have come to respect and admire for their dedication to public service," Simmons said.

KSPE is a professional organization that offers membership at the national, state and local levels. It has about 1,000 members across the state who practice in a variety of engineering disciplines.

Simmons says he feels as if he has received the award not only for himself, but for KDOT and "its commitment to building stronger partnerships with the consultant industry and in development of training opportunities for both KDOT and consultant staff."

Retirees

The following employee officially retired from KDOT in July.

District One

Roy Rettig, Engineering Technician at Bonner Springs

The following employee will officially retire from KDOT in August.

District Three

Shirley A Gottschalk, Administrative Specialist, Hays

Employees who choose to have retirement re-ception information shared on KDOT's Internet can be found at www.ksdot.org, under News and Announcements.

Harvest time



Trucks travel to and from the grain elevator in Chapman in July during the wheat harvest. Kansas Agricultural Statistics, part of the U.S.D.A., forecasts 366.6 million bushels of wheat will be harvested this year in Kansas. Last year, Kansas wheat accounted for about 14 percent produced nationwide. Photo by Larry Katsbulas

Snow gates

Continued from page 4

the highway, if weather and road conditions allow safe passage.

"This will allow us to close the highway quicker when blizzards are moving in," said District Three Maintenance Engineer Jerry Moritz. "And, it will also be safer for travelers and our workers."

The gates, which are equipped with warning lights, have been tested at the University of Nebraska and are similar to those used in Wyoming. Travelers will be alerted by signs two to three miles in advance that the gates are down and the highway is closed.

The estimated cost of the gates is \$126,500.

Award-winning project



From left, Dan Miller, City Engineer for Overland Park; Mick Halter, retired KDOT Metro Engineer; Secretary Deb Miller; Steve Rockers, KDOT Road Design Leader; Jenee Jungel with Jane Mobley and Associates; Jake Potter with Jane Mobley and Associates; and Gene McCormick with Parsons Brinckerhoff; accept AASHTO's 2008 America's Transportation award in the "On Time" category for the I-35/87th Street/U.S. 69 interchange project in Lenexa. Photo by Sonya Scheuneman



To our KDOT family,

Keith Comfort and I would like to thank Steve Willett, Leo Perry and Tony Trower (KDOT employees in District One) for all their hard work coordinating the Poker Run for the Laha and Comfort families.

We also would like to thank the people who volunteered at the check points and the participants who rode. Also thanks to everyone who came to the pool tournament and dinner/ raffle/silent auction and to those who gave donations. It is very heartwarming to know how many friends we have who care.

Again, thank you for your support and prayers.

Terri Comfort,
District One Receptionist

Editor's Note: The Poker Run was a benefit for the family of Pat Laha, Engineering Specialist, who died of pancreatic cancer, and for the family of Keith Comfort, Equipment Mechanic, who was recently diagnosed with pancreatic cancer.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Secretary Miller:

The Greater Topeka Chamber of Commerce and GO Topeka would like to thank the Kansas Department of Transportation for revising the concept drawing on Project No. 24-89 K-7431-01.

Clay Adams, Mike Floberg and team went above and beyond on this project. They met with the concerned business on very short notice, listened to all the issues and seriously considered all the alternatives. Mike called a follow up meeting in less than a week's time to present the win-win solution. The concerned business will not lose any expansion land, and KDOT will actually spend less money on the Menoken/Highway 24 project.

Thank you for your hard work. We deeply appreciate the efforts that the entire KDOT Team made. You should be commended for the way you helped resolve our issues.

Sincerely,

Douglas S. Kinsinger, President & CEO
Steve Jenkins, Senior Vice
President, Economic Development
Dan Schemm, Director, Existing Business

KDOT assists in clean-up efforts in Chapman



A tornado estimated to be a half mile wide hit the town of Chapman on June 11 about 10:20 p.m. KDOT assisted with search and rescue efforts, then with clean-up efforts as shown in these photos. Above, KDOT trucks haul away debris. Far left, KDOT employee Shannon Clarkson places broken tree limbs in a pile. Left, KDOT employees Chad Rutter and Steve Keim look over damage at Chapman Middle School. Photos by Larry Katsbulas

Bridges

Continued from page 3

examination of the gusset plates on KDOT bridges, since they were believed to be the leading cause of the I-35W failure. This included the six deck trusses in addition to six other bridges in the state.

The agency also began inspections on the 2 percent of bridges on the state highway system classified as structurally deficient.

A Kansas Local Bridge Task Force was formed earlier this year. The task force has been working to identify and evaluate options that local governments and KDOT can take to improve the inspection and condition of bridges under local jurisdiction.

“A number of problems with the

Local Bridge Inspection Program were identified over a period of time from internal KDOT reviews and through FHWA reviews,” said Deputy Secretary for Engineering and State Transportation Engineer Jerry Younger. “An examination of data following the collapse revealed a large number of overdue inspections on local bridges in addition to errors and missing data.”

The local bridge task force, composed of members from KDOT, the Kansas Association of Counties and the League of Kansas Municipalities, have been exploring a number of alternatives to remedy the problem and are finishing a draft proposal to share with stakeholders statewide later this summer.

KDOT follows a rigorous schedule

in inspecting approximately 5,000 bridges on the state system, while local bridge inspections are submitted to KDOT and reported to the FHWA. There are 20,425 bridges on the local system and about 3,500 of those bridges do not have current inspections filed with KDOT.

During the past year, the number of structurally deficient bridges has been reduced from 2,804 to 2,707 today. Kansas has invested in bridges

by spending \$45 million since the Minneapolis failure, including \$22 million on state bridges and \$23 million on local government bridges.

In Minneapolis, a \$234 million project is under way to replace the I-35W bridge. The new bridge is expected to be opened by Dec. 24. —S.W.

See Secretary Miller's column on page 2.



By

**Randy
West**

**TRANSPORTATION
TALK**

New beginnings present fresh opportunities

Wow! What a fantastic feeling it is to be a part of history in the making.

That kind of excitement was felt by our local high school and the entire community this spring when we had the opportunity to share a “new beginning.” The experience was even better because some said it would never happen. But it did.

This particular activity has been a part of other school systems for years. In fact it has been a part of our nation’s history since the early 1800s. It was popular in the army camps during the Civil War. And, by design, it’s an activity that involves thinking, making quick decisions and taking decisive actions. It is our great American pastime – baseball.

So what is the big deal about this new beginning? As I mentioned, other schools have had a baseball program for years. But for Ellsworth High School and the community, it was a new beginning and it will be something we will never forget.

There was great anticipation by both the players and parents waiting for the first pitch. There have

been a lot of season openers in other towns, but never before in the Ellsworth school system. This was our special moment.

Nobody quite knew what to expect but no one had any reason not to be optimistic.

We weren’t disappointed.

The team’s best pitcher recorded four wins, nine strikeouts in a game, 114 pitches in a game, and one complete game. The best offensive player had a batting average of .341, 16 walks, scored 22 times, and made contact 91 percent of the time. The defensive player of the year led the team in unassisted outs, as well as assists, and had a Gold Glove year with the fewest errors.

We enjoyed a season of firsts – the first stolen base, the first hit, the first walk, the first double play. We are still waiting for our first over-the-fence-home run and our first triple play. Those things, and a whole lot of other firsts, are still out there for us to look forward to.

Now, you’re probably wondering, what does this topic have to do with anything at KDOT? The answer is basically everything.

Every day we are presented opportunities that represent new beginnings. Even jobs KDOT has been doing for years can become new beginnings. For example, while we have been building bridges for decades, we tried a new approach some time ago at Russell – we built a bridge from plastic.

Who knows what new approaches to familiar tasks we will develop tomorrow? Facing a shortage of some materials, and having new materials – including some recycled materials – at our disposal, we will probably come up with new ways to build bridges.

If we properly identify what our challenges are, there is ample reason to be optimistic about our ability to answer new questions and successfully meet those challenges.

I hope you enjoy and take pride in working for KDOT. Like the Ellsworth baseball team, we face new beginnings as a team. We will take on new challenges together and become an important part of the agency’s history.

Now, I can’t wait until next season.

Randy West is District Two Engineer.

KDOT Computer Training

— from the KCTC

Increase your efficiency!

ACCESS 2007 - DID YOU KNOW?

Tips & Tricks:

◆ Search for a specific record in a table or form by using the Find tab in the Find and Replace dialog box (you can only use the Find and Replace dialog box if the table or form currently displays data).

1) Open the table or form, and then click the field that you want to search. 2) On the Home tab, in the Find group, click Find, or press CTRL+F. The Find and Replace dialog box appears, with the Find tab selected. 3) In the Find What box, type the value for which you want to search. 4) To change the field that you want to search or to search the entire underlying table, click the appropriate option in the Look In list. 5) In the Search list, select All, then click Find Next. 6) When the item you are searching for is highlighted, click Cancel in the Find and Replace dialog box to close the dialog box. Records that match your conditions are highlighted.

◆ To apply a common filter, 1) Open a table, query, form, or report in any of the following views: Datasheet, Form, Report, or Layout. 2) Make sure that the view is not already filtered. On the record selector bar, verify that either the Unfiltered or the dimmed No Filter icon is present. 3) Click anywhere in the column or control that corresponds to the first field that you want to filter. 4) On the Home tab, in the Sort & Filter group, click Filter. 5) Point to Text (or Number or Date) Filters, and then click the filter that you want. Filters such as Equals and Between prompt you to enter the necessary values.

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

TE projects announced for 2009

Fifteen projects have been selected by KDOT for inclusion in its Transportation Enhancement program for Federal Fiscal Year 2009.

Total cost for the selected projects was approximately \$5.3 million with a minimum of 20 percent of the project cost coming from the project applicants. KDOT received 62 applications from local units of government for funding consideration totaling more than \$43.9 million.

“The Transportation Enhancement program is important to Kansas communities, having funded more than

300 improvement projects totaling \$147 million in the last 17 years,” said Secretary Deb Miller. “However, the program will be facing an uncertain future as the federal transportation funding bill expires next year and construction inflation continues to drive up project costs.”

Transportation Enhancement projects under this federal program fall into three major program categories. They include Historic, Pedestrian/Bicycle and Scenic/Environmental projects.

KDOT honored for efforts



At right, Kathy J. Belanger, Donor Recruitment Representative for the Community Blood Center, presents Secretary Deb Miller, center, and Danni Stallbaumer, Senior Administrative Assistant, the 2007 Kansas State Blood Drive Challenge award. KDOT employees in Topeka donated 189 units during five blood drives. This is the third year in a row KDOT has won the traveling trophy. Photo by Sonya Scheuneman

Deaths

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

Daniel L. Etzel, 81, died June 16 in Topeka. He worked as an Auditor for KDOT before retiring in 1992. He is survived by his wife, Rosemary, four daughters, one son, a brother, a sister and 13

grandchildren.

Memorial contributions may be made to the St. Matthew Capital Campaign Fund, St. Matthew Food Pantry or the Alzheimer's Association and sent in care of Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home, 2801 SW Urish Rd. Topeka, 66614.

*Fun Facts
and Trivia*

**Do you
know?**

◆ The United States has more than 6,500 providers of public and community transportation.

◆ Since 1995 public transportation in the U.S. is up 32 percent.

*Source- American Public Transportation Association---www.apta.com/media/facts.cfm

◆ Route 66 was established November 11, 1926.

◆ What national fast food chain began in San Bernardino, CA along Route 66? –McDonald's

*Source- Alan's Fun Trivia – www.alanskitchen.com/TRIVIA/Highways



MVC ceremonies

Above, members of the Leavenworth High School Junior ROTC unit present the colors while the “National Anthem” is sung during the opening ceremonies at the 99th annual meeting of the Mississippi Valley Conference (MVC) on July 8 in Kansas City, Mo. At right, as outgoing President of the MVC, Secretary Deb Miller presents the gavel to Michigan Department of Transportation Director Kirk Steudle during the closing ceremony on July 10. Steudle was named the new MVC President. Photos by Sonya Scheuneman



Herrick

Continued from page 3

ning and Development,” he said. “While I have not had the opportunity to work for other Divisions, I have worked closely with both Operations and Design on many projects.”

What excites Herrick about his new position, he said, is “being part of an executive staff team that will be responsible for developing, promoting and selling a new transportation program to the public and Legislature.

“In particular, I am excited about the opportunity to grow our modal programs. With the high price of gasoline and diesel, multimodal

transportation options to move both people and freight become increasingly important to our economy and citizens throughout the state.”

Herrick says that his number one challenge as Director of Planning and Development is to fill the two vacant Bureau Chief positions in Transportation Planning and in Transportation Safety and Technology.

He adds that he is “also excited about the challenge of helping KDOT shape a new transportation program that will meet our states future transportation challenges.”

Herrick and his wife Susan have two children, Caleb and Ethan. Herrick succeeds Mike Crow, who retired after 35 years with KDOT.

Transportation Briefs

Pittsburgh dirtiest city

Pittsburgh was named the dirtiest city in the country for short-term particle pollution in the American Lung Association's "State of Air: 2008" report released in May. Although Los Angeles had held this position, the report found that L.A., along with Houston and many other cities have made progress in reducing ozone levels. The cleanest city for short-term particle pollution is Alexandria, La. *—American City & County, June 2008*

New idea boosts safety

The Arizona Department of Transportation is using an innovative effort to promote safety and reduce traffic delays during freeway construction. By building a bridge and conveyor belt system over State Route 51, contractors can move concrete and other materials over traffic to a carpool lane construction site. The system also helps keep truck traffic away from the work zone. *—Better Roads, June 2008*

Transit ridership up

A report from the American Public Transportation Association shows that ridership on public transportation is up 32 percent since 1995, a likely response to rising gas prices. Usage was tracked from 2006-2007 in four categories: light rail, commuter, subways, and buses. *—Public Works, June 2008*

MoDOT blog connects

Web sites are helping the Missouri Department of Transportation open dialogue with citizens. Soon after a 5.2-magnitude earthquake in April shook the Midwest, MoDOT used www.modotblog.blogspot.com to report that none of the bridges in the affected areas of the state had been damaged. The blog has continued to be used to explain road projects to citizens and for the posting of videos on issues of interest to citizens. The blog also allows citizens to post comments. *—Public Works, June 2008*

M I L E S T O N E S

KDOT salutes employees celebrating state anniversaries in July

10 YEARS

Michael Conrad Gaylord
 Jacqueline Doody Ford
 Daniel Flemming Salina
 Bradley Henry Tecumseh
 Christopher Hrabe Smith Center
 Eric Mincks Towanda
 Danny Penton St Francis
 Paul Ray Emporia
 Chad Rutter Abilene
 Bryan Shaw Washington

20 YEARS

James Antrim Norton
 Brian Hoke Ottawa
 Gary Jarvis Kinsley
 John Kaus Norton
 Randy Kunc Council Grove
 Dennis Martin Smith Center
 Dean Pierce La Crosse
 James Pittman Garden City
 James Studebaker Holton
 Jeffrey Tice Osage City

30 YEARS

Stephen Desaire Lenora
 Terry Jones McPherson

State service anniversaries are compiled by Personnel Services. Employees and home towns are included in this list.

**Welcome
 new KDOT
 employees!**

Headquarters

Melanie Doherty, Administrative Assistant, Materials and Research
Lori Jones, Public Service Administrator II, Personnel
Wanda Maichel, Applications Developer II, Computer Services
LeAnn Oblander, Administrative Assistant, Design
Debra Wiley, Human Resource Professional III, Personnel

District One

Jarod Cook, Engineering Technician Associate, Topeka
Andrew Davis, Engineering Associate I, Emporia
Aaron Kennedy, Engineering Technician Associate, Topeka
Kenneth Tabor Jr., Equipment Operator, Shawnee
James Uhlig II, Engineering Technician Associate, Bonner Springs

William Wood III, Equipment Operator Trainee, Lawrence

District Three

Hayden Lewis, Equipment Operator Trainee, Grainfield
Darla Nichols, Equipment Operator Trainee, Colby

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

Promotions/Transfers

Headquarters

Mary Hoover, Management Systems Analyst I, Design

Michael Popp, Professional Civil Engineer II, Materials and Research

District One

Steve Allen, Public Service Administrator, Topeka

Jerrod Edington, Equipment Mechanic, Topeka

Joe Lawson, Equipment Mechanic, Bonner Springs

Danielle Lowry, Administrative Assistant, Topeka

District Three

Mark Becker, Equipment Operator Specialist, Stockton

Rodney Bencken, Equipment Operator Specialist, Grainfield

Thad Vincent, Public Service Administrator I, Sharon Springs

District Four

Benton Wood, Equipment Operator Specialist, Waverly

Larry Isle, Highway Maintenance Supervisor, Independence

District Five

Chris Byrd, Professional Civil Engineer I, Wichita

Chris Golden, Engineering Technician Senior, Wichita

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

Highway Trust Fund

Continued from page 3

Boyda announced that she planned to introduce legislation that would provide a “fix” of the trust fund. She noted that legislation would only restore funding for the 2009 federal fiscal year. Beyond that, she said, the nation needs a plan that would provide sustainable funding sources for the Highway Trust Fund.

In letters mailed June 20, Miller urged 125 Kansas transportation stakeholders to contact the state’s Congressional delegation to express concern and a desire for prompt action to address a potential reduction in funding to Kansas and all other states.

“I am becoming increasingly worried that time and reasonable options to fix the problem are quickly running out,” said Miller.

Sens. Max Baucus (D-Mont.) and Charles Grassley (R-Iowa) have proposed a one-time transfer of funds to the Highway Trust Fund to prevent the loss of federal funds to states. An attempt to include their language in the Aviation Authorization bill in late June failed.

“There are only a few applicable bills during the remainder of this Congressional session that could be used as vehicles to ensure that federal highway funds won’t be cut,” Miller said.

“I can’t state this too strongly – Congressional action is needed soon.” –*S.S.*

Kansas Department of Transportation
Bureau of Transportation Information
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 Topeka, KS 66603-3754

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