

Translines



**Rail project
on track**

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*By Secretary
Deb Miller*

KDOT already gearing up for T-WORKS

We may be moving into the hot, sticky days of August, but these won't be the lazy days of summer.

There's plenty to do as we begin to feel the welcome effect of the new transportation program T-WORKS. Field forces will be busy administering the whopping 85 projects that were let in June thanks to T-WORKS. Seventy of those projects had been suspended in March because of state budget cuts and then reinstated for the June letting after T-WORKS passage. Only four months ago, we thought we may never be able to get to these projects.

At headquarters, many of our staff also are moving quickly to implement the new program. How we select our big projects under T-WORKS will look decidedly different than how we have selected them for the past 20 years, and there's a lot to tell our stakeholders.

In a series of five workshops from Aug. 23 to Sept. 7, we will start the process of explaining how expansion and

modernization projects will now be selected and how the money will be spread around the state. Because there are many more needs on our system than there are dollars to pay for them (and always will be), we must be more strategic than ever in how we select major projects. It was simpler to select projects during the past two programs when there were so many glaring needs. Now we must consider not only system needs, but the desires of local communities and how our projects will support the economic goals of the state.

Those were among the themes that emerged when we started working on the Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) three years ago. One of the exciting things about T-WORKS is that it envisions a structure and a process that will help us be much more strategic in project selection. Under this program, strategic means we'll be looking for projects that don't just have an impact on the system, but also have a positive impact on the state's economic health.

So how do we accomplish that? We provide solid, transparent information to those who want to attend our meetings. And we encourage attendance by a diverse mix of people from a regional area so no one gets too locked in to only seeing the issues and projects from the perspective of their community. We will work to educate our stakeholders on the priorities and needs of others so they have a broader understanding of the competing needs and a greater understanding of where judgments will have to be made.

We will be putting these concepts into action during the August workshops and then move into a series of local consultation meetings in every district in October.

Without a doubt, there will be projects that we could justify doing and probably should do but won't have sufficient money to do. But I'm hoping that by using a thoughtful process that relies on multiple evaluation factors we'll select a powerful set of projects that will be difference makers for the state.

That's what we're going for and that's why we aren't wasting any time getting started.

KANSAS
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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Calendar of Events

Aug. 13 - 9:30 a.m. - Highway Advisory Commission meeting.

Aug. 18 - 1 p.m. Construction bid letting, Fourth Floor, West Wing, Eisenhower State Office Building.

Aug. 23 - 1:30-4:30 p.m. T-WORKS informational workshop, Holiday Inn, 549 Rock Road in Wichita.

Aug. 24 - 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. T-WORKS information workshop, Dodge House Hotel and Convention Center, 2408 W. Wyatt Earp Blvd. in Dodge City.

If you build it



From left to right, team members Jessica Hennes, Jeff Sims and Ryan Sims build a replica of the Marmaray Tunnel in Turkey while competing in the Project Topeka Ultimate Design/Build challenge on July 15. About 2,000 can/box goods and \$340 were donated. Photo by Kurt Weaverling

Cleeves named Budget Chief

By Stan Whitley

Even before he started working as KDOT's new Budget Chief, Ben Cleeves had a strong understanding of the agency budget.

Cleeves began working for KDOT on June 14. He comes to the agency following 3 ½ years at the State Division of the Budget and 1 ½ years as the Social and Rehabilitation Services Budget Manager.

At the Division of Budget, Cleeves started work as a Budget Analyst before becoming a Senior Budget Analyst. His main responsibilities included reviewing numerous agency budgets then making recommendations to the Governor in addition to writing fiscal notes based on information provided by each agency.

"I worked with the KDOT budget for 2 ½ years and it was the largest



Ben Cleeves

budget I reviewed," said Cleeves. "I think that experience will definitely be helpful because I didn't come into this job cold."

Before coming to KDOT, Cleeves worked at SRS as its Budget Manager developing a budget similar in size to KDOT's. Cleeves said work on the KDOT budget and with its staff made him realize the agency would be a place he'd like to work.

"I think it's going to be much more interesting working on the transportation budget instead of the social services budget," said Cleeves. "This is a great opportunity working for a well respected agency like KDOT. I have first-hand experience that there are many competent, professionals at this agency."

Cleeves graduated from Washburn University in 2002 with a business degree. He received a masters in public administration at the University of Kansas in 2005, which involved one year of classes and a one-year internship working for the City Manager at Osage City.

Signs not allowed on highway right of way

It's a sign of the season – campaigning to support favorite political candidates. However, if your plans involve placing a political sign, KDOT reminds the public to make sure it's not located on highway right of way.

By law, all right of way on state highways is to be used exclusively for public highway purposes. Only regulatory, guide signs and warning signs are allowed on the state highway system. KDOT has jurisdiction over all interstate, Kansas and U.S. routes on the state's 9,600-mile system.

All political campaign signs or billboards are prohibited on the state right of way.

When KDOT maintenance crews find political or business advertising on state right of way, the signs will be removed immediately without notice. All such signs will then be taken to the closest KDOT subarea office where they can be picked up by the owner with the agreement they will not be placed on state right of way again. All political campaign signs not picked up will be disposed of after the election.

Political campaign advertising is allowed on private property bordering state right of way. However, people erecting signs on private property must first obtain permission from the property owner. – S.W.

On the... **COVER**

Landscapes, such as the waterfall by the Chase State Fishing Lake and Wildlife Area, can be seen near the Flint Hills Scenic Byway. Photo by Sonya Scheuneman

New bureau chief no stranger to KDOT

By Steve Swartz

The new chief of the Bureau of Public Involvement is a familiar face to many at KDOT.

Maggie Thompson, who left KDOT in 2008 to serve as the Kansas Department of Health and Environment's (KDHE) Communications Director, returned to the agency July 12. While at KDHE, she also served as Director of Administration and Evaluation for the Bureau of Public Health Preparedness.



Maggie Thompson

Thompson, who from 2002 to 2008 was a Public Involvement Liaison and then Special Projects Manager in KDOT's Division of Public Affairs, said she was pleased to have the opportunity to return to her roots.

"KDOT is a great place to work and has so many talented people. With the passage of T-WORKS this is a very exciting time and I'm happy to have the chance to be a part of this organization again," said Thompson

Among the programs and initiatives she will be involved

with in her new job are Traveler Information/511, the Scenic Byways program and implementation of the new transportation program T-WORKS.

"With T-WORKS, there is significant public involvement and outreach work to be done, and I couldn't be happier that Maggie is returning to KDOT and is ready to hit the ground running," said Julie Lorenz, Director of the Division of Public Affairs.

While at KDHE, Thompson directed many communication and public outreach efforts, including high-profile issues such as the H1N1 awareness campaign and a variety of environmental concerns in communities across Kansas. She said she will draw on her KDHE experience, as well as her background with KDOT, as a member of the T-WORKS implementation team.

"T-WORKS is structured differently than the past two transportation programs," she said. "The level of public input expected for the project selection process requires a new public involvement approach. I'm excited to be a part of the implementation team and anticipate being very busy over the next few months."

Thompson is a 2002 journalism graduate of the University of Kansas, from which she also earned a master's of public administration degree in 2007. She is engaged to marry photographer Ken Doll in November.

Fuller takes second in national Braille event

By Kim Stich

Robert Fuller, Staff Engineer in Construction and Maintenance, is a very proud parent. His 10-year-old son, Luther, won second place in his age group at the National Braille Challenge in Los Angeles on June 26. For his achievement, he won a \$1,000 savings bond.

Robert said that Luther didn't think he had done very well and was surprised and happy. "He's pretty competitive, but he realized he was competing against people from across the country," Robert said. "There were a lot of sharp kids there, but he's a pretty sharp kid too."

Luther lost his sight to an eye disease just before he turned one. It was difficult at first, "but life just kind of pulls you back and before long, you get in a rhythm, and life gets fairly normal," Robert said.

He started learning Braille at the Kansas State School



Robert Fuller poses with his son, Luther, who won second place in a national Braille competition.

for the Blind in Kansas City at age three and went there through second grade. Now Luther attends Quail Run Elementary School in Lawrence.

He found out about the competition from his teacher and decided to give it a try. According to the Braille Institute, the Braille Challenge is a contest designed to motivate blind students and bring attention to the importance of literacy through the use of Braille.

Robert said people are not using Braille as much now, but that it's very helpful in retention. "Sighted kids can listen to books on tape too, so why bother to teach them to read? If you think of it that way, you can understand how important learning Braille can be," he said.

Luther has done well in competitions as he was the school winner in the geography bee last year. And he plans to complete in the Braille Challenge again next year.

U.S. 59 expansion provides many benefits

OTTAWA - After years of discussion and formal planning, an expanded U.S. 59 is now carrying traffic in Franklin County.

The 7.6-mile project is the first of two construction phases that will result in a four-lane, 19-mile free-way between Ottawa and Lawrence. The \$63.5 million Franklin County phase opened to traffic this spring and was the focus of a special event in Ottawa on June 16.

“This is an important, ambitious project on a highway that has long been in need of improvement,” said Secretary Deb Miller. “This project, along with Phase II in Douglas County, will have safety and economic benefits that will last for decades.”

A formal study of expanding U.S. 59 was done in 1997 following years of discussion about how to improve the road. Phase I construction began in 2007 and includes 20 bridges, a 40-acre wetlands mitigation project and construction of a site that will eventually be used as a Kansas Highway Patrol weigh station.

Phase II construction in Douglas County began in 2008 and is expected to be completed in late 2012. Total construction cost of both phases is about \$167 million. It is funded under the 1999 Comprehensive Transportation Program.



At left, Gov. Mark Parkinson talks with attendees at the U.S. 59 expansion celebration on June 16 at the American Eagle Outfitters distribution center in Ottawa. Below, Secretary Deb Miller speaks about the benefits the new highway will provide. Photos by Kurt Weaverling



U.S. 59 - by the numbers

Length	Franklin County - 7.6 miles	Douglas County - 11.1 miles
Quantities	Franklin County <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦Bridges: 20 ♦Earthwork: 35,000 cubic yards of rock excavation and 3 million cubic yards of dirt excavation ♦Surfacing: 97,900 cubic yards of concrete pavement 	Douglas County <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦Bridges: 23 ♦Earthwork: 2.3 million cubic yards of rock excavation and 3.2 million cubic yards of dirt excavation ♦Surfacing: 78,000 cubic yards of concrete pavement, 125,000 tons of asphalt pavement
Construction Cost	Franklin County <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦Grading: \$43.7 million, Ames Construction ♦Surfacing: \$19.8 million, Koss Construction Co. ♦TOTAL: \$63.5 million 	Douglas County <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦Grading: \$57.1 million, Ames Construction ♦Surfacing: \$46.1 million (estimated construction costs) ♦TOTAL: \$103.2 million

U.S. 59 TOTAL (estimated construction costs): \$166.7 million

District News...

New interchange opens

District One Engineer Clay Adams spoke at the “Red Carpet Roll-Out Opening” ceremony of the new I-35 and Lone Elm Road interchange in Olathe on July 1 with local city and county dignitaries.

District One

This two-year, \$45 million project began construction in spring 2008. The new interchange, a cooperative project between KDOT and the City of Olathe, included the construction of a new folded, or half diamond, interchange at 159th Street/Lone Elm Road and I-35.

It includes exit/entrance ramps to I-35 from Lone Elm Road; widening I-35 to three lanes in each direction from 151st Street to the Lone Elm Road bridge; improvement of Lone Elm Road to a full four-lane divided roadway, including new bike/pedestrian lane; and extension of 159th Street across I-35.

Subareas takes shape

For several years, KDOT has been working toward modernizing Subarea buildings across the state. With three floor plans to select from, most of the Subareas in District Two chose the three-bay pass-through design currently being constructed at Ellsworth. This design creates three new pass-

District Two



Work continues on the Ellsworth Subarea building. Photo by David Greiser

through bays running parallel to the face of the old Subarea building.

Each bay can house two trucks with plows and spreaders with the doors closed. The addition is attached to the existing structure creating one open space in which to work. The old bays in the existing building may then be used for storage. In addition to the new bays is the existing wash bay, which is part of the older structure.

The McPherson Subarea is also being modernized with the same floor plan. Construction at both facilities should be completed by October.

Joint effort on K-27

A joint effort of two state-tied projects will reconstruct a portion of K-27/U.S. 24 Business from I-70 north to the

Walmart entrance in Goodland.

The first project was funded by the 2009 American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA); and the second project was made possible by Geometric Improvement funding through KDOT. Both projects were submitted by the city of Goodland and approved by KDOT. The city helped finance both projects. Prime contractor Smoky Hill L.L.C., of Salina, is in charge of the combined \$982,000 projects. Evans-Bierly-Hutchison & Associates, P.A. (EBH), of Goodland, is in charge of the inspection.

District Three

The project started on June 7 with traffic reduced to one lane in each direction. The lane reduction will continue throughout the construction period.

Weather permitting, the work should be complete by Labor Day.

Rail bridge comes down

Work has started on tearing down the abandoned ATSF Railroad bridge on U.S. 169 at Welda. The bridge is being replaced with a box culvert along the Prairie Spirit Rail Trail State Park.

District Four

King’s Construction Company, Oskaloosa, is the prime contractor on the \$1.3 million project. Since the work zone is closed



The ATSF Railroad bridge at Welda is torn down. Photo by Priscilla Petersen

District News

Continued from page 6

to through traffic, a detour has been set up using U.S. 59 and U.S. 54 east of the project. Weather permitting, U.S. 169 should reopen to traffic in two to three months.

The Prairie Spirit Rail Trail State Park stretches about 50 miles from Ottawa on the north to Iola at the south end. The park is built on former right-of-way of the Leavenworth, Lawrence & Galveston Railroad, the first north-south rail line in Kansas.

The rail line was constructed in the 1860s and operated until the 1970s. The first major rail-trail conversion in the state, the Prairie Spirit Trail opened in 1996 and became a state park in 2010.



Don Snyder finishes the Bike Across Kansas ride with a ceremonial dipping of the bike tire in the Missouri River.

Biking across Kansas

For the third year in a row, District Five Materials Engineer Don Snyder has completed the Biking Across Kansas (BAK) event.

The BAK started on June 5 at the Colorado/Kansas state line west of Goodland and finished eight days later in Leavenworth at the Missouri/Kansas state line (Snyder completed the last two legs of the ride in one day so he finished on June 11).

District Five

The BAK route used a combination of paved county roads, U.S. 24, K-181, K-284, K-18, K-43, U.S. 56, K-31, and K-68, making for a 500-mile route. Snyder ended up riding 625 miles on his trek across Kansas because three of the days he chose to ride a minimum of 100 miles even though the distance to the next night's stop was less miles.

During his ride in the BAK, Snyder met a former KDOT employee, Don Drickey. Drickey, who had recently been working for the Texas DOT, had retired from KDOT as the District Engineer for District Two in Salina.

When asked if he will make it four years in a row, Snyder said he will give that a great deal of thought.

Rich a national winner

Jocelyn Rich, a member of the Family Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA), took gold in a national cooking event held in Chicago. She is the daughter of Sammie Rich, Accountant I in Garden City.



Jocelyn competed in the "food innovation" category where she had to prepare a dietary meal that included balanced quantities of the five food groups. This was her first year competing and she won gold at each of the district, state and national levels in the Students Taking Action for Recognition (STAR) competition.

District Six

Information for the District News briefs section is provided by the District Public Affairs Managers.

Welcome
new KDOT
employees!

Headquarters

Maggie Thompson, Bureau Chief of Public Involvement

The Bureau of Personnel Services supplies information to Translines.

Upcoming KDOT Training Courses

Classes at Headquarters

- ♦Whale Done, Aug. 17
- ♦Transition to Leadership/Ethics, Aug. 23-25
- ♦You'll Catch On, Aug. 26-27
- ♦New Employee Orientation, Sept. 2
- ♦Transition to Leadership/Ethics, Oct. 5-7
- ♦BEST, Oct. 11-14
- ♦You'll Catch On, Oct. 19-20
- ♦Transition to Leadership/Ethics, Oct. 25-27
- ♦Difficult Conversations, Oct. 26
- ♦You'll Catch On, Oct. 28-29

Classes at District Offices

- ♦TTL/YCO/Ethics, Chanute, Sept. 13-17
- ♦Overcoming Negativity I & II, Chanute, Sept. 28
- ♦Overcoming Negativity I & II, Chanute, Sept. 29
- ♦TTL/YCO/Ethics, Salina, Sept. 20-24



A project at the Salina Municipal Airport will rehabilitate two of the taxiways. Airports across the state will receive various improvement projects. Photo by Kurt Weaverling

Airport projects selected for funding

Twenty-two projects totaling \$2.7 million have been selected to receive safety and service enhancements through KDOT's Airport Improvement Program (KAIP).

The projects will address maintenance, facility and equipment needs at non-primary public use airports. These are airports that are classified as having fewer than 10,000 passenger boardings a year.

"We're pleased that 91 percent of this year's projects are strategic improvements from the Kansas Aviation System plan that improve air ambulance access and other quality of life issues," said Director of Aviation Ed Young.

Recognizing the importance of air service to the Kansas economy and emergency health care services, KDOT established the KAIP in 1999 under the Comprehensive Transportation Program (CTP).

Under guidelines of the program, project sponsors are required to pay a minimum of 10 percent of the total project costs, up to a maximum of 50 percent based on population. Total cost of the projects, which includes the sponsors' share, is about \$3.6 million. -S.W.

The following communities/counties have been selected for funding:

Northeast

Leavenworth – Pave ramp; **Sabetha** – Self-service fueling system and automated weather observation system; **Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation** – Airport development plan.

Northcentral

Beloit – Upgrade automated weather observation system; **Concordia** – Lighted wind cone and precision approach path indicator; **Lincoln** – Construct ramp and helipad; **Salina** – Rehabilitation of two taxiways.

Northwest

St. Francis/Cheyenne County – Crack repair and ramp construction; **Trego County/WaKeeney** – Aeronautical survey and overlay and widen 2,000 feet of runway; **St. Francis/Cheyenne County** – Crack repair and taxiway and ramp improvements.

Southeast

Coffeyville – Upgrade automated weather observation system for internet; **Independence** – Upgrade automated weather observation system for internet.

Southcentral

Benton – Replace beacon; **Coldwater/Comanche County** – Aeronautical survey; **Great Bend** – Slurry seal on runway; **Harper** – Self-service fueling system and replace airfield lighting.

Southwest

Montezuma – Expand ramp; **Sublette** – Overlay runway; **Syracuse/Hamilton County** – Replace runway end lights and install obstructive lights.

Other

Statewide – Automated weather observation system upgrade.

Buying back first year of service can be beneficial

It's never too early to think about retirement. One way to possibly retire earlier and receive more money each month is to buy back your first year of service.

State employees who started before July 1, 2009, earn service credit for each year worked, except the first year when no contributions are made to KPERS. That first year of time can be purchased, or bought back. (Employees who started after July 1, 2009, now immediately contribute to KPERS.)

"It depends on the person – everybody's situation is different. I recommend it, but it's better to do it early on," said Karla Thies, KDOT Benefits Administrator. "The younger you are, the cheaper it is. But a lot of people don't think about it until they're about ready to retire."

Buying the year back before age 42 is purchased at a rate of 4 percent of the employee's salary for a year. After 42, the amount is based on age and wage combined, and the percentage increases each year after that. For example, a 45-year-old employee would pay 4.77 percent, while a 50-year-old employee would pay 7.1 percent of their annual salary.

"KPERS says that a retiree will usually average at least \$40 to \$60 more a month on their monthly

benefit check, for each year of service that they have," Thies said. "Even if you decide not to purchase time, that's fine, but it's a good idea to check into it to see what's best for you."

There are several types of other service that can be purchased, such as military time, out-of-state non-federal public service and Peace Corps. An employee can also buy back forfeited time – for example, a person works for the State for four years, then leaves state service and withdraws their KPERS contributions, then returns to state service. Those four years are eligible to be bought back. "Sometimes people have a lot of time out there they can buy back and they don't realize it," Thies said.

Some people think they lose their money if they don't retire from the State, but that's not true, Thies said. "That money is the employee's whether they leave state service and withdraw it or retire from the state," she said.

For more information, contact Thies at Karlat@ksdot.org or at 785-296-3519. **-K.S.**

All KPERS forms (purchase applications, beneficiary changes, etc.) must first come through KDOT's Bureau of Personnel Services at Headquarters. Please do not send them straight to KPERS, said Karla Thies, KDOT Benefits Administrator.

"We track all KPERS forms and most of them we need to sign off on before KPERS will accept them, so it's best to go through us first and save time," she said.

This includes all KDOT employees across the state – outside of Headquarters, KPERS forms should go to the District Personnel Clerk who will then send them to Thies.



Step Back in Time



A full crew keeps busy during Kansas City area bridge work in August of 1936.

Deaths

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

Dewey L. Compton, 87, died July 1 in Great Bend. He previously worked as a custodian at KDOT before his retirement.

Survivors include a son, two daughters, four brothers, five grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Memorials may be made to the donor's choice and sent to the Kimple Funeral Home, 113 N. Main, Ellinwood, 67526.

Recovery Act jobs, economic output increase

The number of people working on transportation projects has shown a significant increase as projects ramp up thanks to the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.

The number of Recovery Act jobs in Kansas rose to 4,018 in June – a 19 percent increase from May and a 122 percent increase since the start of the construction season in March. Payroll for those workers rose to \$4.7 million in June, up from \$3 million in April.

“The Recovery Act is doing exactly what it was supposed to do – put people to work and improve the state’s transportation infrastructure,” said Secretary Deb Miller. “It will also help enhance safety and support long-term job growth.”

The Recovery Act was signed into law on Feb. 17, 2009, and Kansas received \$378

million in funding. The state will spend approximately \$348 million in Recovery Act funds for highway and bridge improvements and another \$30 million for transit.

Five major projects were selected to receive funding and all those projects are currently under construction. They include:

- The four-lane expansion of K-61 in McPherson County.
- Widening of U.S. 69 in Overland Park and reconstruction of interchanges at 95th and 103rd Streets.
- The first phase of K-18 freeway construction between Ogden and Manhattan.
- Reconstruction and upgrading of the I-135 and 47th Street interchange in Wichita.
- Improvements to 16 miles of the K-23 corridor in Gove County. -S.W.

Retirees

The following employees officially retired from KDOT in July.

District One

Lowell D. Winter,
Engineering Technician,
Holton

District Six

Milda T. Cruz,
Administrative Specialist,
Ulysses

The following employee will officially retire from KDOT in August.

District Six

Rodney E. Leatherman,
Equipment Operator, Scott City

Employees who choose to have retirement reception information shared on the Internet can be found at www.ksdot.org, under News and Announcements.



High in the sky

Window washing takes place this summer for all 14 floors of the Eisenhower State Office Building.



Learning about KDOT



At left, Safety Consultant Phyllis Marotta illustrates how kids can't be seen behind a vehicle with mirrors alone, while Engineering Technician Rudy Pfeifer shows kids different bolts that are tested at the Materials and Research lab during the annual Bring Your Kids to Work Day on June 28 in Topeka.

Rail project on track with America's Transportation award

A rail project to improve safety and reduce traffic delays in downtown Wichita has been named a regional winner in the America's Transportation awards national competition.

Wichita's Central Rail Corridor currently carries more than 40 trains per day, a number that is expected to double in the future. Accidents had become an increasing issue, large trucks had trouble with inadequate clearance and congestion was seriously disrupting traffic flow.

The \$105 million project raised two miles of track to carry trains over the five arterial streets below. For the first time in 100 years, street traffic and emergency vehicles can now cross beneath five bridges carrying trains without any disruption to traffic. Also, temporary retaining walls were constructed to keep the project within the confines of the existing right of way, significantly reducing project cost and environmental impact.

This improvement project took more than four years to construct and was a joint effort of the City of Wichita, KDOT and other entities. It removed a major obstacle to

downtown Wichita, sparking new economic development that will benefit the city and south central Kansas.

"The Central Rail Corridor project was a great example of a collaboration among local, state and federal entities," said Wichita Mayor Carl Brewer. "This far-sighted project has greatly improved the quality of life in our community by reducing pollution and improving traffic flow through our city. We are pleased that AASHTO has recognized the value of this project and brings much deserved national attention to one of the greatest public works accomplishments in the country."

For the project, Dondlinger & Sons Construction Company of Wichita was the prime contractor; HNTB of Kansas City, Mo., was the designer; and TranSystems of Kansas City, Mo., was the program manager.

The six selected regional projects from Minnesota, Missouri, Iowa and Kansas were announced on July 9 at the annual Mississippi Valley Conference that took place in Des Moines, Iowa. They will join other projects selected from across the U.S. to compete for the Grand Prize and the People's Choice Award. The winners will be announced Oct. 31 in Mississippi.

The America's Transportation Award competition highlights transportation improvements across the country and is sponsored by the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials, AAA and the U.S. Chamber of Commerce. **-K.S.**

KDOT Computer Training

– from the KCTC

Increase your efficiency!

KCTC Free Seminar Days!

The KCTC will host two days of free seminars on Aug. 4 and Sept. 9 in the 4th floor conference room in Eisenhower. KDOT employees can choose which sessions they would like to attend. There is no charge back to attend.

Live meeting/office communicator will make these sessions available to those who can not attend.

“KDOT Programs and Tools You Should Know More About”

(Class times, topics and instructors for Aug. 4 and Sept. 9 are listed below)

8:15 – 9:00 a.m., **Data Warehouse & Data Dictionary** - Misty Rodriguez

9:15 – 10:00 a.m., **Reporting Portal** - Misty Rodriguez

10:15 – 11:00 a.m., **ProjectWise** - Misty Rodriguez

11:15 a.m. – 12:00 p.m., **Org Publisher** - Deb Wiley

1:00 – 1:45 p.m., **Live Meeting/Office Communicator** - Karen Ellis

2:00-2:45 p.m., **Reducing File Size for Email** - Karen Ellis

3:00-3:45 p.m., **Windows 7** - Karen Ellis

For detailed information and descriptions, contact the KCTC.

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

Kansas Department of Transportation

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M I L E S T O N E S

KDOT salutes employees celebrating state anniversaries in August

10 YEARS

David Bergman Minneapolis
Chris Bortz Topeka
Kerry Bramhall Seneca
Travis Combes Topeka
Kelly Cook Peabody
Larry Dobson Plainville
Jerry Farthing El Dorado
Klete Hackney Coldwater
David Hastings Esbon
Tony Robertson Sedgwick
Thomas Valadez Wichita
Placido Vargas III Topeka

20 YEARS

Alexander Kirby Yates Center
Donald Duryea Solomon
Steven Harries Marysville
Scot Keil Topeka
James Metcalfe Chanute

30 YEARS

David Dye Meade
Rodney Kennemer Garden City
Alan McClure Pittsburg
Ralph Pollock Topeka

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