

# Tansines ! **KDOT's 2010** legislative agenda Page 5

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By Secretary
Deb Miller

#### CTP benefits all of us

Even though it may already be 2010 (or nearly 2010) as you read this, I want to say a few things about the past year and the CTP before I put 2009 to rest.

Unfortunately, much attention in 2009 was focused on the dismal economy, the state's poor revenue picture and budget cuts. These things can cause us to lose our focus. But in the midst of concern about losing momentum on important things, we should reflect one more time on the accomplishments of the CTP, which officially ended in 2009. (There are CTP projects that will continue for a few more years, but all of the projects are under way.)

The many improvements to our transportation system over the past decade have been well documented. But there have been many internal improvements under the CTP that benefit all of us and those are the ones I want to focus on here. So, below is a list of some of the internal accomplishments achieved or implemented during the CTP that have helped us do our jobs better.

- **Equipment** We have improved our fleet, both in the sense of newer equipment and equipment that better serves our purpose (such as pre-treatment of roads with salt brine).
- **Subarea shops** A systematic reconfiguration of subarea shops was started during the CTP to better accommodate the larger and different types of equipment we have today.
  - Personal Protection Equipment The PPE reim-

bursement was implemented to assist eligible Operations workers to purchase certain types of equipment/clothing needed for their work. Even though statewide budget cuts resulted in the reduction of the reimbursement in FY10, our intent is to restore PPE to full levels once the budget allows.

- **Progression programs** The Equipment Operator Senior and Engineering Technician Senior programs were implemented to create a more knowledgeable, better-trained work force and provide incentives for workers.
- Crew card This software pulls together reporting on labor, materials and equipment to create a data base that allows us to easily create reports that can lead to greater efficiencies.
- **ESOB** KDOT's headquarters offices, which had been housed in a couple locations in Topeka, were consolidated in the Eisenhower State Office Building, creating a more professional setting for some 800 workers.
- **Premium pay** Pay for snow and ice duty (including standby), as well as certain types of night/weekend construction work, was improved/implemented.
- KGATE The Web portal that allows for easy access to documents and information about specific locations was developed. It provides access to maps, aerial imagery, surveys, average daily traffic, culverts, state system bridges, local area bridges, legislative districts, video log, railroad crossings with images and more.
- License reimbursement The department now reimburses staff for the cost of professional licenses.

I'm sure I haven't included everything I could have, but these are enough to show that we are much better off than we were before the CTP started. There's no doubt that all of these internal improvements have allowed us to do our jobs better. Combined with all the external things we accomplished during the CTP, it's difficult to come up with an area that hasn't been improved over the past 10 years or so.

I don't know if reflecting on our past successes makes anyone feel better about today. But we really should take pride in what we've done for the state and the role we've all had in building the Kansas transportation system into one of the very best in the nation.



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

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**Secretary of Transportation:** Deb Miller

**Chief of Transportation Information:** Steve Swartz

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#### **Calendar of Events**

**Jan.** 1 – State employees off for New Year's Day.

**Jan. 8** - 9:30 a.m. - Highway Advisory Commission meeting.

**Jan. 13** – 1 p.m. Construction bid letting, Fourth Floor, West Wing, Eisenhower State Office Building.

**Jan. 18** – State employees off for Martin Luther King Day.

# Kansas plans to commemorate 150th anniversary

Kansas will recognize a major milestone on Jan. 29, 2011 – that day will mark the 150th anniversary of Kansas becoming the 34th state admitted to the Union.

To commemorate the occasion, a kick-off event will take place on Jan. 29, 2010, at the Kansas Museum of History in Topeka so people can start thinking about ways to celebrate in 2011.

Various state, regional and local organizations are planning ways to commemorate the occasion. Mary Madden, Kansas State Historical Society, Director of Education and Outreach, is the Kansas 150 state coordinator. She is working with members of the Governor's Cultural Affairs Council who will serve as the advisory committee.

This is a grass roots effort to celebrate the anniversary, according to Jennie Chinn, Executive Director of the Kansas Historical Society. Communities, organizations and individuals across the state are encouraged to find different ways to get involved. Involvement of state agencies will be limited



and they will work to support the sesquicentennial through established programs and services, she said.

A Web site for the Kansas 150th anniversary should be online in the spring, Madden said. It will include marketing tool kits with the logo, sample news releases and other publicity materials; an events calendar for the public; and allow individuals and organizations to share their ideas and resources with each other.

For information or to sign up on the Kansas150 mailing list, send your email address to Madden at mmadden@kshs.org. or call 785-272-8681, ext. 417. **-K.S.** 



KDOT's now has more information to educate motorists about driving through roundabouts on its Web site.

## **KDOT adds roundabout education to Web site**

With more than 70 roundabouts on the state highway system and hundreds more constructed by cities and counties throughout Kansas, KDOT has added another driving educational tool on its Web site at www.ksdot. org/roundabouts.

The educational tool can also be accessed through the "Safety Information" or "Bureau Quick Links" icons on the agency's homepage.

The Web site tool describes the design, safety features and benefits of roundabouts. It also includes general driving tips for motorists and tailored techniques for trucks, pedestrians and bicyclists.

This Web site tool complements a series of educational resources avail-

able to the public.

KDOT also offers a free 10-minute DVD that includes actual driving footage with narrated instruction on roundabout driving tips. Brochures and fact sheets are also available. For persons with professional interests in roundabouts, a technical reference is available by typing in "roundabouts" at ksdot.org and reviewing the "Kansas Roundabout Guide: A supplement to FHWA'S Roundabouts: An Informational Guide."

To order the DVD or for more information, contact Chris Hess, Public Involvement Liaison, toll-free at 1-877-550-5368 or by email at chess@ksdot.org.



The Capitol will be a busy place starting Jan. 11 when the Kansas Legislature reconvenes. See story on page 5. Photo by Sonya Scheuneman



Secretary Deb Miller, front row center, poses with members of the District Five, Area Five team that was presented the Example of Excellence award. Photo by Tom Hein

#### Crew works together to construct building

The District Five, Area Five crew worked together to provide a new conference and training room for KDOT employees in and around the Wichita area, saving time and money.

The crew was honored for their efforts as an Example of Excellence for the third quarter of 2009. Secretary Deb Miller attended the event in Wichita on Dec. 3.

A large prefabricated building was purchased during a right-of-way negotiation.

Once the decision to reuse the building was made, work began to disassemble and move the material to the metro complex.

As soon as a concrete pad was placed and cured at the new location, the Area crew began the process of constructing the building, said Benny Tarverdi, Wichita Metro Engineer.

"The entire crew displayed high professional skills and excellent attitude. All the work which included framework, roofing, windows, insulation, plumbing, sheet rock, flooring, carpeting, door frames, and some of the electrical work was performed by this highly skilled and motivated crew,"

Tarverdi said. "Mr. Lechner, Area Supervisor, reused almost all of the salvaged material from the old building down to the bolts."

Members of the District Five, Area Five team are: Dan Acridge, Josh Detherage, Beau Keller, Jim Koerner, David Lechner, David Mantano, Scott Miller, Allen Ralstin, Tony Robertson, Mike Smith and Sam Wilmore.

Do you know of a KDOT group, team, unit, or

office that has gone above the call of duty? Then nominate them for the Example of Excellence award. All KDOT employees are encouraged to suggest ideas and can now fill out Form DOT 1204. Once it is filled out, the nomination is then sent to the selected Division Director, Bureau Chief, District Engineer, Area Engineer, or Subarea Supervisor who

can then sign the form and submit the nomination to Transportation Information.

Hard copies of the form are still available by calling Transportation Information at 785-296-3585 and require the signature of one of the supervisors listed above. **-K.S.** 



#### T-WORKS leads KDOT's 2010 legislative agenda

By Lindsey Douglas

KDOT will be working to pass several pieces of legislation, including a new transportation program, when the 2010 legislative session gets under way Jan. 11.

The new program, which is named T-WORKS, is expected to build on the work of last year's T-LINK task force. The new approaches recommended by T-LINK will enable KDOT

to be more flexible and will allow the department to respond quickly to economic opportunities.

While much of the policy portion of a new program has been ironed out, there is still work needed to determine how to pay for it. Legislators on

the Special Committee on Transportation have met twice over the last few months to discuss a funding plan. The committee is considering a delayed program due to the economic climate and the significant funding challenges that state government are facing.

Jobs

Safety

**Economic Development** 

A final recommendation from the committee is expected in early January, which will then be debated by the full Legislature in the following weeks.

There are other pieces of legislation being proposed that will improve safety on Kansas roadways, including seat belt usage and text messaging.

• Primary seat belt legislation – Allowing seat belt vio-

lations to be a primary offense has increased seat belt usage in the states that enact it. With this law in place, experts project, approximately 30 lives would be saved and there would be 300 fewer people suffer serious injuries each year in Kansas. As an added bonus, Kansas would still qualify for a one-time, \$11 million payment from the federal government if a primary law is enacted. Last year was supposed to be the final year

the state could collect the one-time payment, but since the federal transportation bill under which the incentive was offered continues to be extended, the offer still stands.

• Text-messaging ban

-Unfortunately, many people
have already been victims

of distracted driving in Kansas. Several groups have come together to propose a ban on texting while driving. Passing this safety legislation will save lives, injuries and significantly improve safety on our roadways.

"There is a lot of work to be done to get these and other pieces of legislation passed," said Kyle Schneweis, Chief of the Office of Governmental Affairs. "We would like to extend our thanks in advance to those working to make the 2010 legislative session successful."

Lindsey Douglas is Legislative Liaison in the Office of Governmental Affairs

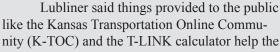
#### **Lubliner honored by ASCE Younger Members**

Howard Lubliner, Road Design Leader in the Bureau of Design, was awarded the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) Daniel W.

Mead Prize for Younger Members at the national ASCE annual conference in Kansas City, Mo., in October for his paper on "Is it Ethical for a Civil Engineer to Relax Design Standards to Achieve a Sustainable Design?"

"For us to perform ethically and do so with sustainability in mind, we have to first educate ourselves to understand what some of the challenges of sustainability are, and also what

are all the impacts of the projects we design," Lubliner said.



public have a better understanding of issues and concerns as well as provide feedback to KDOT employees.

"We also need to educate others about the decisions that we make and some of the cost benefits and challenges that face us as highway designers because then they have a better understanding of the decisions we have to make," Lubliner said.

This national ASCE prize is awarded annually to the author or authors of a paper on professional ethics.



Howard Lubliner

### **Cuts will cost jobs, road quality**

'Cutting projects will impact

jobs, not only of contractors

but of suppliers. It will

also eliminate the spinoff

spending that happens

in communities during

construction.'

**Secretary Deb Miller** 

Cuts to KDOT's budget were announced Nov. 23 when Gov. Mark Parkinson was forced to take budget-balancing measures in light of unprecedented revenue shortfalls this year.

The budget cutbacks will cost the state jobs and impact the quality of the state's highway system.

KDOT will transfer \$50 million from the State Highway Fund to the State General Fund to address the state's finan-

cial crisis. Secretary Deb Miller said the transfer will result in the elimination of highway preservation projects, such as resurfacings, and important equipment purchases.

The Substantial Maintenance program, designed to protect the state's highway investment, will be reduced by \$50 million. But because those projects are paid out over more than one year, that reduction will only save \$25 million this year. KDOT also will reduce planned equipment purchases, including

dump trucks, tractors and mowers, by 50 percent; halt several studies; and indefinitely suspend the purchase of equipment for a Wichita traffic management project.

"Cutting projects will impact jobs, not only of contractors but of suppliers. It will also eliminate the spinoff spending that happens in communities during construction," said Secretary Miller. "We're going to do a lot fewer maintenance jobs and that will result in rougher roads and more vehicle maintenance."

There have now been \$229 million in revenue adjustments to the State Highway Fund since January. Twice since

mid-summer KDOT has had to cut projects.

As a result of all the budget-cutting, KDOT's 2010 construction budget is now down to \$279 million, which is about 40 percent of the annual construction spending during the past 10 years.

"These reductions will have long-term fiscal consequences that will require additional spending in future fiscal years to return the system to good condition," Secretary Miller said.

Cuts to KDOT's operating budget will halt two major studies – the Five County Regional Transportation Study in the Kansas City area and the Rail Freight Study to identify critical freight bottlenecks. Also affected is the planned purchase of equipment to continue the expansion of the Wichita traffic management system.

Secretary Miller said the effect of the fund transfers on a budget that was already smaller than any of the past 10 years will make it difficult for KDOT to

do the work necessary to maintain the state's highway system.

"We are filling very few job vacancies and many of our maintenance crews are short-staffed. That means we are able to do less, and there is a consequence to that. If the winter season is significant and prolonged, costs that exceed our budget for salt, sand and overtime must be absorbed with our remaining operating budget authority," Secretary Miller said.

A list of projects that will be done this year, and those that have been cancelled, is under development and will be posted when completed on KDOT's Web site, www.ksdot.org, under "Recent News Releases."

### **KDOT/KCA** training program honored

The KDOT/KCA Construction Industry Training Program (CIT) was recognized for developing a successful craft worker training program on Oct. 28 by the Associated General Contractors of America as part of the organization's first-ever Education Excellence awards

The craft training program focuses on improving employee skills through targeted

training. The program started as a way to address shortages of skilled workers. Since the program was launched in 2006, thousands of employees from more than 100 companies have taken advantage of the more than 267 course offerings.

The public/private partnership was designed to offer training courses that improve the skills and safety of roadway workers in Kansas. The program also enhances the opportunities for Kansas workers and develops a safer, more skilled workforce to serve the state's transportation needs.

### **KDOT Computer Training**

- from the KCTC

Increase your efficiency!

#### Outlook mail/calendar tips

To set an email reminder to reply to a message: 1) In the Inbox view, right click on the message to be reminded about; 2) Click Follow-up and choose add reminder; 3) On the Flag To drop-down list, choose an option for why the e-mail message needs attention later; or, enter a description in the Flag To text box; 4) Choose the date and time for the Reminder message box to appear; 5) Click OK.

#### To find related email messages:

1) Open the selected message for which you want to find related messages; 2) locate the Related button on the Message tab of the Ribbon (click on the Find binoculars). You have two choices when you click the Related button, Related Messages and Messages from Sender. Choose one. Outlook opens the Advanced Find dialog window and is searching. Once the search results are returned, find the list in the bottom of the dialog window; 3) Double-click on a message in the list to open it without navigating to its actual location.

#### **To add holidays to a calendar:**1) In Outlook, click Tools then Op-

tions then Calendar Options; 2) Click Add Holidays; 3) The United States will be checked, Click OK to update.

To make a reoccurring appointment: 1) Open the appointment you want to recur; 2) On the Appointment tab click Recurrence; 3) Click the options you want in Recurrence pattern; 4) On the Appointment tab in the Actions group click Save & Close.

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



Ramp metering is being used at locations on I-435 in southern Johnson County to help motorists deal with traffic congestion. Photo by Kurt Weaverling

# Ramp metering new traffic management tool on 1-435

Kansas City Scout has unveiled a new tool to help motorists deal with traffic congestion in one of the most heavily traveled locations in the state.

KC Scout, an electronic traffic management system, now has ramp meters on I-435 between Metcalf Avenue in Kansas and the Three Trails Memorial Crossing (I-435/U.S. 71/I-470) in Missouri. The new meters are special traffic signals that will enhance KC Scout's existing system of cameras, pavement sensors and electronic message signs.

The meters monitor and control traffic on ramps entering the freeway during the morning and afternoon commutes. Detectors installed in the pavement measure traffic flow and vehicle speeds. They are designed to turn off if the number of vehicles waiting on the ramp grows to the point where they back up onto city streets, and turn back on once the ramp queue is reduced to a reasonable level.

"The ramp metering project will use technology to make the existing highway system work more efficiently," said K. Mark Sommerhauser, KC Scout Project Manager. "Ramp metering will help decrease overall congestion by maximizing the flow of traffic on I-435 during rush hour periods."

Sommerhauser said the benefits for motorists will be:

- Smoother and safer freeway entries
- Minimized sudden weaving and braking
- More consistent traffic flows
- Improved freeway speeds
- Decreased travel times
- Reduced rear end accidents

Ramp meters work and look similar to traffic signals. Drivers must consider and obey them as they would other traffic signals. A green light allows vehicles to proceed down the ramp and merge onto the freeway.

The meters will only be turned on Monday through Friday during the morning and evening rush hours when the pavement sensors detect traffic congestion at the ramps.

Sommerhauser said successful implementation of the metering program on I-435 could lead to the installation of ramp meters on other Kansas City freeways. – S.W.

#### KDOT launches Interstate 35 Johnson County

KDOT has launched a new Web site at http://i35swjohnsoncointerchange. ksdot.org dedicated to providing project information on the I-35 Johnson County interchange project.

The new Web site will offer detailed and updated project information, a project timeline, public engagement schedule and resource documents developed during the course of the project process.

The purpose of the I-35 SW Johnson County Project is to define a new interchange location on I-35 that will provide access to the future BNSF Intermodal Facility, Logistics Park and warehouse facilities and other future growth.

The demand for improved access to I-35 in southwestern Johnson County is growing due to population growth and business expansion and development. In order for traffic to move safely, efficiently and conveniently through the southwest Johnson County corridor on I-35, a Southwest Johnson County Interchange Access Study has been done. Currently, average daily traffic is 25,000 vehicles per day.

By 2030, average daily traffic is estimated at 56,300 vehicles per day between the existing Gardner Road Interchange and the Sunflower Road Interchange. This level of traffic volume will result in congestion at critical ramp and freeway locations.

Expected completion date for the interchange project is 2011. KDOT is undertaking this project in partnership with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), the Cities of Edgerton and Gardner, Johnson County and the Mid-America Regional Council (MARC).

- Kim Qualls, District One Public Affairs Manager



District Six employee Dale Luedke accepts a first place Director's award for the U.S. 50 project in Ford County.



District Five employee Chris Byrd accepts a second place Overlay award on the U.S. 54 project in Kingman County.



District Three employee John Riggins accepts a second place Director's award on the U.S. 183 project north of Hays.

#### **Paving awards**

KDOT received several awards at the annual Kansas Asphalt Paving Association awards program on Dec. 3 in Lawrence. Deputy Secretary Jerry Younger presented the awards in each of these photos.



District Five employee Jesse Konstanzer accepts a first place Overlay award on the U.S. 400 project in Butler County.



District Five employee Brent Terstriep accepts a first place Full Depth Paving award on the K-61 project north of 11th Street in Hutchinson.

### KDOT a key player in Stop Movement drill

KDOT played a major role in the Oct. 22 Stop Movement exercise that simulated an outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease.

The exercise conducted by Kansas and Oklahoma was the first interstate emergency response drill to test coordination and logistics of implementing a stop movement order by state animal health officials. The scenario was based on a simulated outbreak of footand-mouth disease in the eastern United States.

"Many states have conducted exercises to test their response plans to a highly contagious foreign animal disease within their own borders, so this exercise provides the new dimension of coordinating activities to stop animal movement across a shared border," said George Teagarden, commissioner of the Kansas Animal Health Department.

In addition to providing staff at the State Emergency Operations Center in Topeka, KDOT had crews in Clark County where trucks carrying livestock-related shipments were stopped for inspection.

At the suggestion of Mark Davis, Area Superintendent at KDOT's Dodge City office, the use of KDOT's mixing strip at the intersection of U.S. 160 and U.S. 183 at Sitka was tested for its viability as the inspection site for trucks headed to/from Oklahoma. The initial assessment of the use of mixing strips was very positive. During the exercise, a dozen trucks were inspected.

Livestock shipments also were stopped three miles north of Turpin, Okla., on U.S. 83.

Foot-and-mouth disease was last identified in the United States in 1929. It is a primary concern for animal health officials because it could have potentially devastating economic consequences due to disrupted trade and lost investor confidence.

KDOT has many mixing strips along the state's borders that could be used for such inspections. –*S.S.* 



Trucks are stopped and inspected as part of the first interstate emergency response drill that was conducted to simulate an outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease.



#### Do you know?

#### **Snowfall facts**

- •The snowiest large cities in the U.S. are Syracuse (averages 115 inches of snow per year), and Rochester (averages 93 inches per year).
- •The snowiest small towns in the U.S. are Mount Washington, New Hampshire (averages 260 inches of snow per year), and Valdez, Alaska, (averages 326 inches annually).
- Practically every location in the United States has seen snowfall. Even most portions of southern Florida have seen a few snow flurries.
- •The greatest snowfall officially reported at the Phoenix, Arizona, National Weather Service Office was one inch. That occurred twice. The first time was January 20, 1933. It happened again four years later on the same date.
- Nationwide, the average snowfall amount per day when snow falls is about two inches, but in some mountain areas of the West, an average of seven inches per snow day is observed.

Source: http://nsidc. org/snow/facts.html

Darlene Whitlock. Trauma Services Nurse at Stormont-Vail Regional Health Center in Topeka, discusses details of the new Graduated Driver's License law in Kansas.



# New teen driver's license rules take effect in 2010

A new Graduated Driver's License (GDL) system for Kansas teens that goes into effect on Jan. 1 was described in detail during a recent news conference in Topeka.

Jim Hanni, executive vice president for the Kansas region for the AAA Kansas; Darlene S. Whitlock, Trauma Services Nurse at Stormont-Vail Regional Health Center in Topeka; and Col. Terry Maple, superintendent of the Kansas Highway Patrol, were provided details of the new law during the Dec. 15 media event.

Features of the new licensing system include:

• At ages 14-15, teens can apply for an instruction permit after passing a written test and a vision test and submitting an application from a parent or guardian. These teen drivers must drive with a supervising driver at least 21 years of age, who holds a valid license. The instruction permit must be held for a period of one year.

- At age 15, teens can apply for a restricted license. These teens must first complete an approved driver safety course and must submit proof of 25 hours of driving experience prior to the restricted license being issued. The restricted license allows teens to drive to and from school or work but does not allow minor non-siblings as vehicle passengers.
- ↑ At age 16, teens continue to operate under a restricted license for a period of six months. Teens must submit an affidavit noting 50 hours of supervised driving, 10 of which must be completed at night. These teens may drive unsupervised to and from school, work and authorized school activities and anywhere between the hours of 5 a.m. to 9 p.m.
- The use of wireless devices such as cell phones is prohibited until the teen has achieved full license without restrictions. Seat belt use is required at all times.

# ★★★ KDOT salutes our troops ★★★

KDOT would like to recognize its employees who have returned home from military service. Employees are listed by district and their branch of service.

**Alma Ocasio**, Engineering Technician Senior in Olathe, Army

The Bureau of Personnel Services supplies military information to Translines.

### **Upcoming KDOT Training Courses**

#### **Classes at Headquarters**

- •Whale Done, Jan. 5
- New Employee Orientation, Jan. 7
- ◆SMART Day 1, 2, 3; Jan. 11-13
- ◆Professional Engineer Review, Jan. 12-16
- ◆SMART Day 1, 2, 3\*; Jan. 19-21
- Difficult Conversations, Feb. 4
- ◆Myers-Briggs Type Indicator, Feb. 16
- ◆Emotional Intelligence, Feb. 18
- On Second Thought, March 4
- •New Employee Orientation, March 11
- •SMART Day 1, 2, 3; March 16-
- ◆Transition to Leadership/Ethics, March 29-31
- \*Class held at M & R Basement.

#### **Classes at District Offices**

- Transition to Leadership/Ethics, Jan. 26-28, Hutchinson
- •You'll Catch On, Feb. 10-11, Hutchinson

#### Step Back in Time



Replacement of the K-383 bridge at Clayton in Norton County during the summer of 1953.

#### MILESTONES

KDOT salutes employees celebrating state anniversaries in December

#### **10 YEARS**

David Alexander Hutchinson
Shane Houser Wakarusa
Vernie Koker Topeka
Carl Kostman Troy
Delbert Ramsey Carbondale
Steven Sheaffer Oberlin
Steven Smith Troy
Dale Sweaney Sedan
Thad Vincent Weskan
Ernest Wilcher Salina

#### **20 YEARS**

Dyann Berglund	Merider
Robert Robinson	Columbus
Calvin Showalter	Alber
Kevin Strube	Horton
Robert Virgil	Nortor
Iames Ward	Yates Center

#### **30 YEARS**

Gregory Arehart	Norton
Ralph Burton	Parker
Roger Carlisle	Oberlin
Dwight Dillon	McPherson
Brent Gurwell	Scranton
Jeffery James	Frontenac
Kurt Weaverling	Topeka
Richard Wieneman	Lawrence

#### **40 YEARS**

Leland Tice . . . . . . . . Mankato

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

#### Retirees

The following employees will officially retire from KDOT in January.

Headquarters

**Evelyn M. Fitzpatrick,** Accountant IV, Financial and Investment Management

**Galen E. Thorsell**, Associate Bridge Engineer, Local Projects

Marsha S. Williams, Engineering Technician, Topeka

**District Two** 

**Vickie L. Kaempfe,** Engineering Technician Senior, Marion

**Kenneth E. Lynch,** Equipment Operator, Mankato

**District Three** 

**Stephen J. Desaire,** Equipment Operator Senior, Norton

Frederick M. Knoll, Equipment Operator Specialist, Hays

Carl E. Wederski, Equipment Operator, Atwood

**District Five** 

**Rick A. Claycomb,** Equipment Operator Senior, Wichita

**District Six** 

**Arlene F. Randle,** Administrative Assistant, Dodge City

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

#### **Promotions/Transfers**

#### Headquarters

**Travis Combes,** Systems Software Supervisor, Computer Services *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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#### **Deaths**

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

**Russell S. Penn, 49,** died Dec. 9 in Topeka. He recently completed 20 years of service at KDOT as an Engineering Technician.

He is survived by one sister, two brothers and a former wife.

Memorials may be made to the Helping Hands Humane Society, 2625 NW Rochester Rd., Topeka, 66617-1201.

**James D. Athon, 66**, died Nov. 18 in Topeka. He had worked for more than 40 years at KDOT serving as an Engineering Technician Specialist before his retirement in 2001.

He is survived by his wife, Eva, his mother, three children, a grandson and a great grand-daughter.

In lieu of flowers, memorials made be made to the Helping Hands Humane Society or the Amerrican Diabetes Association and sent in care of the Feltner Funeral Home, 818 Topeka Avenue, Lyndon, 66451.