



# KDOT Translines

Bureau of Transportation Information

May 2003

## Maintaining commitment to core of CTP is crucial

By Stan Whitley

Balancing funding constraints while staying committed to the Comprehensive Transportation Program (CTP) is an important challenge that faces KDOT, Secretary of Transportation Deb Miller told attendees at the annual Transportation Engineering Conference in Manhattan.

“Any discussions concerning potential cuts must keep one goal in mind,” said Miller. “It’s crucial that we maintain our commitment to the core of the CTP, which is the “red map” (major modification and priority bridge projects) and system

**Continued on page 6**



*State Traffic Signing Engineer David Church, right, talks shop with District Four, Area Three Engineer Wayne Gudmonson at the annual Transportation Engineering Conference.*

## Roberts named Public Information Officer

There’s a new face in the Bureau of Transportation Information.

Krista Roberts is KDOT’s new Public Information Officer succeeding Marty Matthews.

“Marty really set the bar for communication both with the public as well as within KDOT and I’m excited to have



*Krista Roberts*

**Continued on page 10**

## Efforts save Ellis County arch bridge

Unless you’re a student of obscure Kansas history, you’ve probably never heard of Fort Fletcher. After all, it only existed for a little more than a year.

But in 1936, the Ellis County Commissioners dedicated a stone arch bridge over Big Creek that bears the name of the fort. The bridge was constructed at a cost of \$14,213



*Renovation of the Fort Fletcher Stone Arch Bridge is nearing completion.*

by local laborers using limestone quarried nearby. It was a project

**Continued on page 3**

## Inside ...

- ◆ WEB SITES HELP TO KEEP PUBLIC INFORMED
- ◆ APPRECIATING FREEDOM

- ◆ TRANSPORTATION SAFETY TO TAKE CENTER STAGE
- ◆ UPDATED AWARDS PROGRAM OFFERS MORE CHOICES
- ◆ STOPPING THE WORRY



# Miller's Time

*By Secretary  
Deb Miller*

## Honest assessments ...real results

I need your help.

As you know from my recent e-mail, next month we will kick off The Partnership Project. I believe strongly that this top-to-bottom review is a healthy exercise that will provide us with a real opportunity to significantly improve the way we do business.

Whether we fully seize that opportunity will depend on our willingness to honestly evaluate how we do our jobs and how we deal with our business partners and the people we serve. I am counting on all of you to keep open minds and make constructive contributions to what I believe will be a very positive process.

While The Partnership Project draws some parallels to Governor Sebelius' Kansas BEST program, they are not one in the same. The Governor's program involves an external team examining all of state government, including our agency. Its focus is finding waste and inefficiencies. The Partnership Project will be our own assessment of what we do best, what we could be doing better, and how

we will get there.

KDOT has long had a reputation of being a forward thinking agency. We're known for coming up with ways to work smarter and then putting those plans into action. Often this is accomplished on a case by case basis. The Partnership Project aims to get us all moving in this direction at the same time.

If the goal of The Partnership Project is to get real results that we can put into action, then it is critical that we honestly assess where we are now. That's where you come in. What we lay out could very well set KDOT's direction for the future. The Partnership Project is designed to give everyone a chance for input. So, although it will be a couple of months before we're asking for your ideas, start thinking now. Take note of what works and what doesn't and come up with ideas for making both better. For the project to be effective, we'll need you to go beyond the basics of simply defining a problem. Give some thought to the environment that is creating the challenge and what can be done to improve it. All constructive ideas will be considered. Even though we may not all agree, it is important that everyone has an opportunity to be heard.

As the project gets underway, I'm sure some of you may have individual concerns about what this process will mean to you. Let me be clear, The Partnership Project is not designed to achieve a workforce reduction. It is not simply about how many people work at KDOT. It is a matter of how we work together for our customers and our partners outside of the agency.

Once again, these are the promises I make to you

**Continued on page 11**

### KANSAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Bureau of Transportation Information  
Docking State Office Building, 754-S  
915 Harrison, Topeka, Ks 66612-1568



**Governor:** Kathleen Sebelius  
**Secretary of Transportation:** Deb Miller  
**Director of Public Affairs:** Jim McLean  
**Chief of Transportation Information:** Krista Roberts  
**Editors:** Stan Whitley and Kim Stich

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

### Calendar of Events

**May 9** – 9:30 a.m. Highway Advisory Commission meeting, Seventh Floor Docking State Office Building.

**May 13** - 11 a.m. KDOT Employees' Council Meeting, Seventh Floor Conference Room, Docking State Office Building.

**May 21**- 2 p.m. - Construction Bid Letting, Capitol Plaza Hotel.

**May 20-21** – Kansas Transportation Safety Conference, Hyatt Regency and Century II Convention Center in Wichita.

NOTE: This information is available in alternative accessible formats. To obtain an alternative format, contact the KDOT Bureau of Transportation Information, Docking State Office Building, Room 754, Topeka, Kan., 66612-1568, or phone (785) 296-3585 (Voice)/(TTY).

## Bridge

Continued from page 1

of the Works Progress Administration, a federal program that employed about 1/3 of the nation's 10 million unemployed workers during the "Dirty Thirties." Many buildings and other structures across the state are results of this economy-stimulating program.

The Fort Fletcher Stone Arch Bridge was scheduled for replacement until local citizens learned they would lose the distinctive span. It is now listed on the National Register of Historic Places and its renovation is nearing completion. The project includes excavation, temporary shoring, stone repair, repointing of masonry, backfill and concrete pavement repair.

Financing for the nearly \$1 million renovation is an 80/20 split between KDOT (using Transportation Enhancement Program funds) and Ellis County. The county also received a \$90,000 grant from the Kansas Heritage Trust Fund, a competitive grant administered by the



*Workers replace some of the stones on the bridge.*

State Historical Society.

But what about the fort?

Here's the story: in 1865, Fort Fletcher was established along the Smoky Hill Trail, a stagecoach road to Denver. It was named after Missouri Governor Thomas C. Fletcher who signed an executive proclamation that made slavery illegal in that pro-slavery state (and this during the Civil War!).

Just a year later, the fort was renamed to honor Major General Alexander Hays who was killed in 1864 during the Battle of the Wilderness, Grant's first step in the Overland Campaign against Lee. Three years later, a flash flood nearly destroyed the fort and it was relocated 14 miles to the northwest near the present site of the city of Hays.

Remains of the old Fort Fletcher (aka Fort Hays), rest in a pasture northwest of the bridge. Since it's on private property, access is restricted. Visiting the Fort Fletcher Bridge, however, is well worth the side trip from I-70. Go four miles south from the Walker Exit (Exit 172) and take a journey back in time.

*-By Tom Hein, District Three Public Involvement Liaison*



*The bridge is on the National Register of Historic Places.*

### Reminder:

Any annual leave overage must be used by the pay period ending June 7, 2003. Up to 20 hours of accrued vacation leave over the maximum will be converted to sick leave and added to your sick leave balance. Any additional hours will be lost. Annual leave accrued during the pay period

ending June 7 does not have to be used. The maximum accrual rates can be found in S.O.M. 2.3.3 Vacation Leave - Use & Accumulation.

For more information, contact the personnel administrator for your office or the Bureau of Personnel Services at 785-296-3721.



# Updated awards program offers more choices

By Kim Stich

Upcoming changes in KDOT's State service awards program will give employees more choices as well as help the program run more effectively. The program recognizes employees celebrating state service anniversaries starting with 10 years of service, then every five years following.

Gifts are now ordered from various vendors and sometimes there are delays in receiving items in time for the awards ceremony, according to Nancy Fleeker-Daniels, acting Chief of Personnel Services. "That's been one of the big drawbacks to the current system," she said. Some employees have had to wait several months after their anniversary date because of ordering schedules.

The current system also requires a lot of time to order the items from the different vendors as well as storing and distributing them. "It's a very good program, but it's more time intensive

than anticipated so we've been trying to look at something different," Fleeker-Daniels said.

The updated service awards program will start with employees who have service anniversaries starting July 1, 2003, and it will be based on a gift catalog system. Actual gifts will not be given out – instead, each employee will receive a gift certificate catalog for their particular level of service and will be able to order any item in the catalog.

Each catalog has 50 different items including electronics, housewares, jewelry, sporting goods, toys, and more. Once an employee receives the catalog, they can fill out the attached card on the back of the catalog specifying their gift selection, and the item will be mailed directly to the employee's home. "We're very excited about it and we think it is a very positive thing to reward our employees in a more timely way," said Sharon Lewis, Employment Specialist

in Personnel.

The gifts selected from these catalogs will not be engraved with a KDOT logo. However, employees celebrating 20, 30, and 40 years of service will receive a pre-selected engraved gift in addition to the gift from the catalog, Fleeker-Daniels said. The gifts include; 20 years, glass clock; 30 years, high-quality watch; and 40 years, glass plaque.

State service pins will continue to be given to those employees with 10, 20, 30, and 40 years of service.

The Division of Operations will be in charge of distributing catalogs to the Districts and Personnel Services will process Headquarters' gifts. A sample catalog showing some of the possible items is available to view on the Personnel Services Intranet site. For more information, contact Fleeker-Daniels or Lewis at 785-296-3721.

## National Work Zone Safety Awareness Week



*FHWA Division Administrator J. Michael Bowen, KDOT Assistant Secretary/State Transportation Engineer Warren Sick, and Kansas Highway Patrol Lt. Col. Terry Maple pose with Governor Kathleen Sebelius after she signs a proclamation designating April 7-11 as National Work Zone Safety Awareness Week in Kansas.*

# Transportation safety to take center stage in Wichita

Transportation safety will take center stage in Wichita, May 20-21, when officials will gather at the Hyatt Regency Hotel and Century II Convention Center for the annual Transportation Safety Conference.

“The conference is designed to share and update information from all facets of the transportation safety community,” said Patrice Pomeroy, KDOT Assistant Bureau Chief of Traffic Safety. “We’ll have timely topics of interest to law enforcement personnel, judges, city and county officials, engineers, EMS workers, bus drivers and anyone interested in traffic safety.”

Bill Cordes of Cordes Keynotes and Seminars, Great Bend, will deliver the motivational keynote address at 9 a.m. the 20<sup>th</sup>. The closing plenary session will feature a talk on cultural considerations in transportation safety by Lawrence Garnanz from the Navajo Nation Department of Highway Safety.

Concurrent sessions each day will focus on four specific areas of traffic safety – injury control, law enforcement, roadway safety, and youth issues.

KDOT employees that will be making presentations and their topics are:

- ◆ Tamela Kerwin, Electronic Accident Data Collection and Reporting.
- ◆ Barb Blue and Susan Barker, KDOT Traveler

Information – One Goal, Safer Travel.

◆ Robert Ott, The ABC’s of Safer School Travel.

◆ Charles Brunson, Operation Lifesaver.

◆ Ken Gudenkauf, Commercial Vehicle Information Systems and Networks – A Trucker’s View of Highway Safety,

◆ Rex Fleming, Kansas City Scout ITS Project.

Prior to the conference on May 19, KDOT will kick off its observance of national Buckle Up America Week, scheduled for May 19-26. A media event is planned for 2 p.m. at the Hawthorn Suites in Wichita with KDOT Assistant Secretary/ State Transportation Engineer Warren Sick and Kansas Highway Patrol Superintendent Col. Don Brownlee serving as featured speakers.

“Our state theme for the event will be “Click Across Kansas,” said Pomeroy. “The goal is to bring awareness that greater safety belt and child safety seat usage is needed in the state.”

Pomeroy said that adult safety belt usage has remained stagnant the last four years with recent figures showing adult usage at 61 percent. The usage is even less in the 4-14 year-old age group with only a 52 percent rate, however, children from 0-4 years of age are secured in child safety seats 92 percent of the time. – *S.W.*

**Test your knowledge of maintenance-related terms and see how many word jumbles you can solve without looking at the answers on page 11!**

1. ebnir stnak \_\_\_\_\_

2. petiqmeun trapoerso \_\_\_\_\_

3. irte shianc \_\_\_\_\_

4. troom dragre \_\_\_\_\_

5. gregfal \_\_\_\_\_

6. dreulsohs \_\_\_\_\_

7. niwmggo \_\_\_\_\_

8. kracc elsa \_\_\_\_\_

9. gins spot \_\_\_\_\_

10. nargiade eppi \_\_\_\_\_

11. naptevem grinkam \_\_\_\_\_

12. grebid nijsot \_\_\_\_\_

13. ecfne \_\_\_\_\_

14. slenarop torcipetev nipeqteum \_\_\_\_\_

15. tals desh \_\_\_\_\_

16. snoiroe noclort \_\_\_\_\_

17. tannimeacen nulama \_\_\_\_\_

18. trececno blas \_\_\_\_\_

19. lufi phedt thacp \_\_\_\_\_

20. gnumkicajd \_\_\_\_\_

# Conference

Continued from page 1

enhancement projects. I also think it's imperative that we maintain our existing system."

Miller said that current cash flow projections show the agency with a \$448 million operating deficit in Fiscal Year 2009. The loss of sales tax demand transfer funds for 2003 and 2004, plus the decision to pay for the operations of the Kansas Highway Patrol out of the KDOT budget account for the operating deficit.

"There is nothing more important than keeping the commitments we've made," said Miller. "Not only is it vital for public trust, I believe it's the essence of good government."

Maintaining the CTP commitment will be difficult under existing conditions, but Miller said it can be done. She said KDOT will examine numerous ways to help address the funding cuts without eliminating core projects. Those include:

- ◆ Revisiting assumptions used in cash-flow projections
- ◆ Cutting funds not yet assigned to specific projects
- ◆ Reducing project scopes
- ◆ Implementing the Transportation Revolving Fund with less capitalization
- ◆ Extending the program by one or two years
- ◆ Improving efficiency within KDOT

"A top-to-



*Above, Secretary Miller met with District Engineers at the engineering conference and discussed The Partnership Project, which will involve a comprehensive review of the agency. At right, Secretary Miller provides a KDOT update during her speech at the Transportation Engineering Conference.*

bottom review of our agency will be accomplished through The Partnership Project," said Miller. "The primary goal is to make KDOT work better in terms of being more responsive to the public and the secondary outcome is to identify



cost savings measures."

Miller stressed The Partnership Project is not designed as a workforce reduction plan. She said it's not a matter of how many people are working at KDOT, but rather how those people are working for each other, our customers, and partners outside the agency.

"The process will be open and transparent with information shared to minimize fear and build understanding for the recommendations," said Miller. "We will also be doing this in a timely fashion with a targeted completion date of November 2003."



*The engineering conference provided the opportunity for former KDOT employees Mike Lackey and Dean Stewart to reminisce.*



# Stopping the worry

By Ron Kaufman

The Missuz recently told me the story about her “first time.” If everyone has a story, then this topic is surely near the top of the list of themes. You may or may not remember your first time, but you probably take it for granted every day. I was more than a little intrigued by her tale, because it reminded me of a common problem in public involvement. I can sum it up in two words: underarm deodorant. Do you remember your “first time” with deodorant?

The Missuz’s story goes like this: One day, long ago (though not so long ago as to get me in trouble for saying it), she was given a roll-on bottle of *Secret*, a particularly venerable brand of deodorant. That day marked her “coming of age.” Coming of age in deodorant terms is that mysterious day when someone realizes your childhood aroma is maturing and you’re standing too close for comfort. It’s a day when you’re still too young to be embarrassed, but too old to let the situation go unchallenged. The Missuz grew up in a sheltered environment, so her parents didn’t coach her in the fine points of deodorant application. Uncertain about what to do with her gift, she recalled the brand’s advertising slogan, *It Stops the Worry*, and followed the logic only young people can create. She reasoned that if it were to “stop the worry,” there was only one place where the deodorant should be applied. Confidently and proudly, she swiped her first wet streak of *Secret* across her forehead.

You might be asking how this wife’s tale relates to public involvement. There are so many avenues to explore here. We’ll take the high road, though, and talk about the first time you were handed information or an idea with which you were unfamiliar. Did you know what to do with your “gift?” Or, did you try to muddle along, hoping you understood correctly? Truthfully, where did you apply your

first swipe of deodorant?

When we’re communicating a new idea or information, we should be aware that it might be foreign to the recipient. Watch for signs that they don’t know what to do with their “gift,” such as a puzzled expression, a pause in their words, fumbling with a response, or an outright mistake when they follow up. It is the responsibility of the sender to be sure the message is clearly sent. So, when you encounter someone who seemingly misunderstands your message, refrain from blaming them for the situation. Don’t ask, “What didn’t you understand?” Instead, take responsibility and ask yourself, “What can I do to help?”

You could attempt to rephrase your

message by telling the recipient, “I can see I didn’t say that very clearly, let me try again.” You might also ask, “I want to be sure I’m making sense, what questions do you have?” That leaves the door open for them to tell you what they don’t understand. When you take

responsibility for your message, the other person usually won’t feel defensive and “win-win” communication can take place.

While the sender is responsible for sending a message clearly, the recipient is responsible for making sure it is clearly received. So, if you find yourself on the receiving end of a “bottle of deodorant,” be sure to let the sender know if you don’t understand the message. Again, take responsibility, and refrain from saying, “You didn’t say that very well. Try again.” Instead, say something like, “I’m not sure I understood something you said. May I ask you about it?” This leaves the door open for them to respond without feeling defensive.

Try to make good communication skills your “Secret” weapon. When you pay attention to how you communicate, you might be rewarded with less sweat, less stress, and less need for long-lasting odor control. You just might be able to *Stop the Worry*.

## Communication: A Key to Success



Kansas Department  
of Transportation

# Appreciating everything that comes with freedom

What does it mean to be free? Sometimes we forget what true freedom stands for, what we have, and why our country represents the model of a free society to the rest of the world.

When I was in Moscow, Russia, last January, I asked people about the changes they have seen since the fall of the Soviet Union in 1991. I was surprised they spoke openly, because I kept forgetting that oppression no longer existed. The essence of the responses I heard was that they now have the freedom to choose, to move about at will, and to speak openly. In the United States of America we cannot imagine life without these gifts. These Russian people were quick to tell me that their country is still in transition and that freedom has come at some costs, including loss of security, struggle, poverty, inequity for some, higher crime rates, traffic congestion, etc. When asked if it was worth it, they answered, "Most definitely, yes!"

Think for a minute, "What do I

want from a free society?" We all want the security of a safe, happy life without fear. We want to be able to speak our minds, discuss, criticize, and argue without fear of being penalized for independent thinking. We want to be able to gather by the hundreds or the thousands to sing, to shout, or

are purchased. We want our farmers to sow and plant as they wish and market what they produce at will. We want the opportunity to work, to earn a living, to prepare for that time in our lives when we can relax and live comfortably.

Most important, a free society respects and cherishes human dignity. Each of us, as members of this free society, must remember to respect each and every member of our workforce, our community, and our world. The right to choose and express different ideas is at the very essence of being free.

Because most of us have never experienced suppression, we have no idea what it would be like not to be free to move about, to choose, or to speak out. As we go through our day, let us be grateful for these freedoms in particular. Let us remember to respect those around us who have opinions different from our own. This is their most precious freedom—and yours.

## ALL ABOUT ATTITUDE

By  
Carla  
Mumma

to cheer. We want our children to live out their youth with hope and wonder and to be given a fair chance in life. We want to live confident of an education system that will challenge our children's intellect and prepare them to be responsible adults. We want to be able to run our households without the fear that rising prices will exhaust our pay checks before basic necessities

## BROWN BAG

### LUNCH

**Topic:** Kansas' Airport Infrastructure

**Speaker:** Mike Armour, Director, Division of Aviation, and George Laliberte, Program Consultant, Division of Aviation

**Date:** Wednesday, May 7

**Time:** Noon to 1 p.m.

**Place:** 4th floor conference room, Docking State Office Building  
*All employees are invited to attend.*

### Step Back in Time



US-24 highway in Wyandotte County was under construction during this photograph taken in September 1949.



# Web sites help keep public informed about projects

Keeping the public informed on the US-54 Pratt-to-Kingman System Enhancement Program (SEP) project is now just a click away at [www.forward54.org](http://www.forward54.org).

The site features project maps, a schedule, history, and includes electronic comment forms visitors can send to the project team. Eventually, the site will feature an interactive Geographic Information Systems (GIS) map that will show the project corridor with interchange, overpass, and access recommendations, as well as potentially affected properties.

The \$96 million SEP project includes determining the exact location, design, and right-of-way needs for 44 miles of four-lane highway from just west of Pratt to east of Kingman. In addition, about 9-10 miles of four-lane highway in Pratt and Kingman counties are scheduled to be constructed by 2010. Right-of-way for the remaining 34 miles of the corridor would be purchased and preserved until construction funds could be identified to build more roadway.

The tentative schedule for the project is as follows:

- ◆ Now to early 2005
  - Determine the precise location and design of the road, interchanges, and intersections, and determine the right-of-way needs. Conduct necessary environmental analysis.
- ◆ 2005 to early 2008 – Prepare final design and right-of-way plans, appraise and purchase right-of-way, and prepare construction plans.
- ◆ 2008-2010 – Construct 9-10 miles of four-lane highway.

The US-54/US-400 Location Design Concept Study completed in 2002 established a general, 1,500-foot-wide corridor in which to locate

improvements to US-54/US-400, however, only about 300 feet would be necessary. The corridor generally follows existing US-54 except for bypasses around three towns: north of Pratt, south of Cunningham, and north of Kingman.

Three other websites are available to provide the public information concerning SEP project development. The sites launched last year are for the K-61 corridor from Hutchinson to McPherson, the I-435 and Antioch Road improvement in Overland Park and the northwest bypass from near Goddard to K-96.

The K-61 site is on-line at [www.k61.org](http://www.k61.org). The project involves construction of a four-lane access controlled roadway between McPherson and Hutchinson with bypasses at Inman and Medora. The 21.8-mile project is tentatively scheduled to be let in January of 2009.

The I-435 and Antioch Road site can be found at [www.focus435.org](http://www.focus435.org). The project involves constructing a new interchange at Antioch Road, improvements to I-435 and US-69 turnback work. The project is tentatively scheduled to be let in November of 2007.

Both web sites contain background information, project maps, public outreach information, and comment forms. Regularly updated sections include project timelines, frequently asked questions and news releases.

The Northwest Wichita Bypass project at [www.nwwichitabypass.com](http://www.nwwichitabypass.com) involves a corridor preservation and environmental study to determine where a new freeway should be placed connecting K-96 near Maize to US-54/US-400 near Goddard. There are currently no construction funds available for the project. – *S.W.*

**Welcome  
new KDOT  
employees!**

#### Headquarters

**Joel Davidson**, Applications Programmer Analyst I, Computer Services

**Richard McMullen**, State Auditor II, Inspector General

**Lindsey Stephens**, Senior Administrative Assistant, Personnel Services

#### District One

**Nicholas Husling**, Engineering Technician Specialist, Shawnee

**Ryan White**, Equipment Mechanic, Topeka

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

## Roberts

Continued from page 1

the chance to continue in that tradition,” Roberts said.

“As KDOT employees know and I’m finding out more and more each day, the work we do here affects people’s lives every day. It’s exciting to be part of the team that keeps the people of Kansas up to speed on KDOT’s progress,” she said.

Roberts comes to KDOT after 14 years in television newsrooms across the country. Most recently she served as Assistant News Director and Managing Editor at KSHB-TV in Kansas City. Prior to that, she was Executive Producer at KTNV-TV in Las Vegas and a producer for KCNC-TV in Denver.

She also worked as a producer for KAKE-TV in Wichita and at KTKA-TV here in Topeka.

Born in Lawrence, raised in Wichita, and a KU graduate, Kansas pride runs deep in Krista, so she’s happy to be back in the Sunflower State. She’s also looking forward to learning the ropes here at KDOT. “Everyone I’ve met has been great and I can tell there’s a real sense of pride in working for KDOT. I’m lucky to have Stan, Kim, Barb, and Shanna here in the Transportation Information Office. I’m counting on their expertise and help as I continue to get my footing,” she said.

You can find Krista in Room 754 of the Docking State Office Building or you can reach her by phone at 296-0289 or e-mail at [krista@ksdot.org](mailto:krista@ksdot.org).

## Deaths

Condolences to the family and friends of two former KDOT employees who recently passed away.

**William D. Predmore**, 76, died March 17 in Topeka. He served KDOT for 38 years before retiring in 1987 as the Director of Engineering and Design.

Survivors include his wife, Marian, one son, two brothers, two sisters and two grandchildren. Memorial contributions can be made to Silver Lake Elementary School, P.O. Box 39, Silver Lake, 66539; to the Silver Lake Public Library, 201 Railroad, Silver Lake, 66539; or to the Kansas Museum of History Education, 645 S.W. Sixth, Topeka, 66615

**Joseph E. Martin**, 77, died February 14 in Topeka. He worked for the agency 43 years in the areas of geologic analysis, subsurface design and hydrology.

Survivors include his wife, Fern, one daughter, one son, six grandchildren and one great-grandchild. Memorial contributions may be made to Central Church of Christ, 1250 S.W. College, Topeka, 66604, or Midland Hospice, 200 S.W. Frazier, Topeka, 66606.

## New guide will help agencies evaluate quality

“Guide to Quality in Preconstruction Engineering,” a new AASHTO publication that is now available, is intended to be a reference for agencies in developing their quality improvement programs. It provides information on possible approaches for developing, measuring, and achieving quality in regard to the preconstruction processes.

Dick Adams, Road Design Engineer in the Bureau of Design, is chairman of the Task Force on Preconstruction Engineering Management which put together the publication. “Quality is in the eye of the beholder, so whatever an agency perceives as quality is quality. Whether it be things like ‘on-time and on-budget,’ ‘technically correct,’ or ‘error-free,’ this publication will give some guidance in ways that you might attempt to subjectively or objectively evaluate it,” Adams said.

The task force is part of the Subcommittee on Design and is responsible for developing publications and documentation as well as conducting studies regarding effective means of managing highway projects. Numerous people on the subcommittee contributed to the publication which took about eight years to complete.

Adams said the publication is not a design guide, but rather an accumulation of many different approaches and guidelines that evaluate characteristics of quality. It includes Gantt charts, scatter diagrams, histograms, cause and effect diagrams, and other techniques commonly used to evaluate quality and productivity. But, never before have these techniques been focused on the preconstruction process. Several of the examples used came from KDOT, he said.

The publication is now being distributed across the country to transportation agencies with areas involved in preconstruction engineering. For more information, contact Adams at 785-296-3901. **-K.S.**

**Mark your calendars  
for the  
Employees' Council  
softball tournament  
and picnic**

on Saturday, June 14,  
at Gage Park  
in Topeka!

More details will be  
available in the next  
Translines edition.

If you have questions  
about the tournament,  
please call Peggy  
Hansen-Nagy at  
785-296-3285.

**Answers to word jumbles**

1. Brine tanks
2. Equipment operators
3. Tire chains
4. Motor grader
5. Flagger
6. Shoulders
7. Mowing
8. Crack seal
9. Sign post
10. Drainage pipe
11. Pavement marking
12. Bridge joints
13. Fence
14. Personal protective equipment
15. Salt shed
16. Erosion control
17. Maintenance manual
18. Concrete slab
19. Full depth patch
20. Mudjacking

**Retirements**

The following employees officially retired from KDOT in April.

**Headquarters**

**Ronald C. Brown**, Engineering Technician Senior at Bonner Springs – 33 ½ years of state service

**Ronald E. Tripp**, Engineering Technician at Topeka – 35 years of state service

**District Three**

**Roy Draper**, Engineering Technician Specialist at Atwood – 44 ½ years of state service

**Larry J. Stice**, Engineering Technician Specialist at Atwood – 16 years of state service

**District Five**

**Willard L. Harjo**, Highway Maintenance Supervisor at Wellington – 34 years of state service.

**Ronald G. Patterson**, Engineering Technician at Winfield – 25 years of state service

**District Six**

**Ralph E. Hicks**, Engineering Associate III at Liberal – 39 ¾ years of state service

**Arnold L. Lennington**, Engineering Technician Specialist at Lakin – 39 ¾ years of state service

**Victor L. Michael**, Equipment Shop Superintendent at Lakin – 10 ¾ years of state service

**Secretary**

**Continued from page 2**

- about The Partnership Project:
- 1) The process will be open and transparent.
  - 2) It will be timely.
  - 3) Stakeholders will be heard.
  - 4) Action and accountability will go hand in hand.

With these promises in mind, you are the key to the success of The

Partnership Project. The more willing you are to give us an honest assessment of where things stand, the more informed and the better able we will be to end up with the real results that will make KDOT a more effective and efficient organization. You can help us set the course. I look forward to working with you during the coming months to make what is already the best agency in state government even better.

**M I L E S T O N E S**

**KDOT salutes its employees celebrating anniversaries in April**

**10 YEARS**

David Eckart . . . . . Wamego  
James Frye . . . . . Waverly  
Allen Phillips . . . . . Tribune

**30 YEARS**

Shelley Alfieri . . . . . Topeka  
Ron Holthaus . . . . . Topeka

**20 YEARS**

Greg Bayless . . . . . Anthony

*The following employee celebrated a service anniversary in March.*

**10 YEARS**

Ron McMurry . . . . . Topeka

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



## Promotions/Transfers

### Headquarters

**Jaclyn Gillaspie**, Senior Administrative Assistant, Traffic Engineering

**Alex Hoover**, Information Resource Specialist II, Computer Services

**David Howard**, Right of Way Agent, Right of Way

**Mark Kussman**, Engineering Technician Senior, Materials and Research

### District One

**Donald Jones**, Equipment Operator Specialist, Osage City

**Gary McCamish**, Equipment Operator Specialist, Kansas City

**Michael Welsh**, Engineering Associate II, Olathe

### District Two

**Randy West**, Professional Civil Engineer II, Salina

### District Three

**Matthew Schillig**, Equipment Operator Specialist, Hoxie

**Brent Terry**, Engineering Technician Senior, Atwood

### District Four

**James Frye**, Equipment Operator Specialist, Waverly

**Marcus Leck**, Highway Maintenance Supervisor, Altoona

### District Five

**Shane Atwood**, Equipment Mechanic, El Dorado

**Brent Engelland**, Equipment Mechanic Senior, Hutchinson

**Mike Roudybush**, Engineering Associate III, Winfield

**Barry Sanlee**, Engineering Technician Specialist, Hutchinson

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

## Training Opportunities

- ◆ New Employee Orientation, May 1 and June 5, DSOB in Topeka.
  - ◆ Using E-mail to Improve Your Job Performance, May 1, Salina.
  - ◆ Leadership Basics, May 13-15, Kansas State Historical Society in Topeka; June 17-19, TBA.
- All classes, except BEST, are available to non-supervisors with supervisory permission and where space is available. A training calendar is on the KDOT Intranet.*

**Kansas Department of Transportation**  
*Bureau of Transportation Information*  
 915 SW Harrison - Room 754  
 Topeka, KS 66612-1568

PRE-SORTED STANDARD  
 U.S. POSTAGE  
 PAID  
 TOPEKA, KS  
 PERMIT No. 157