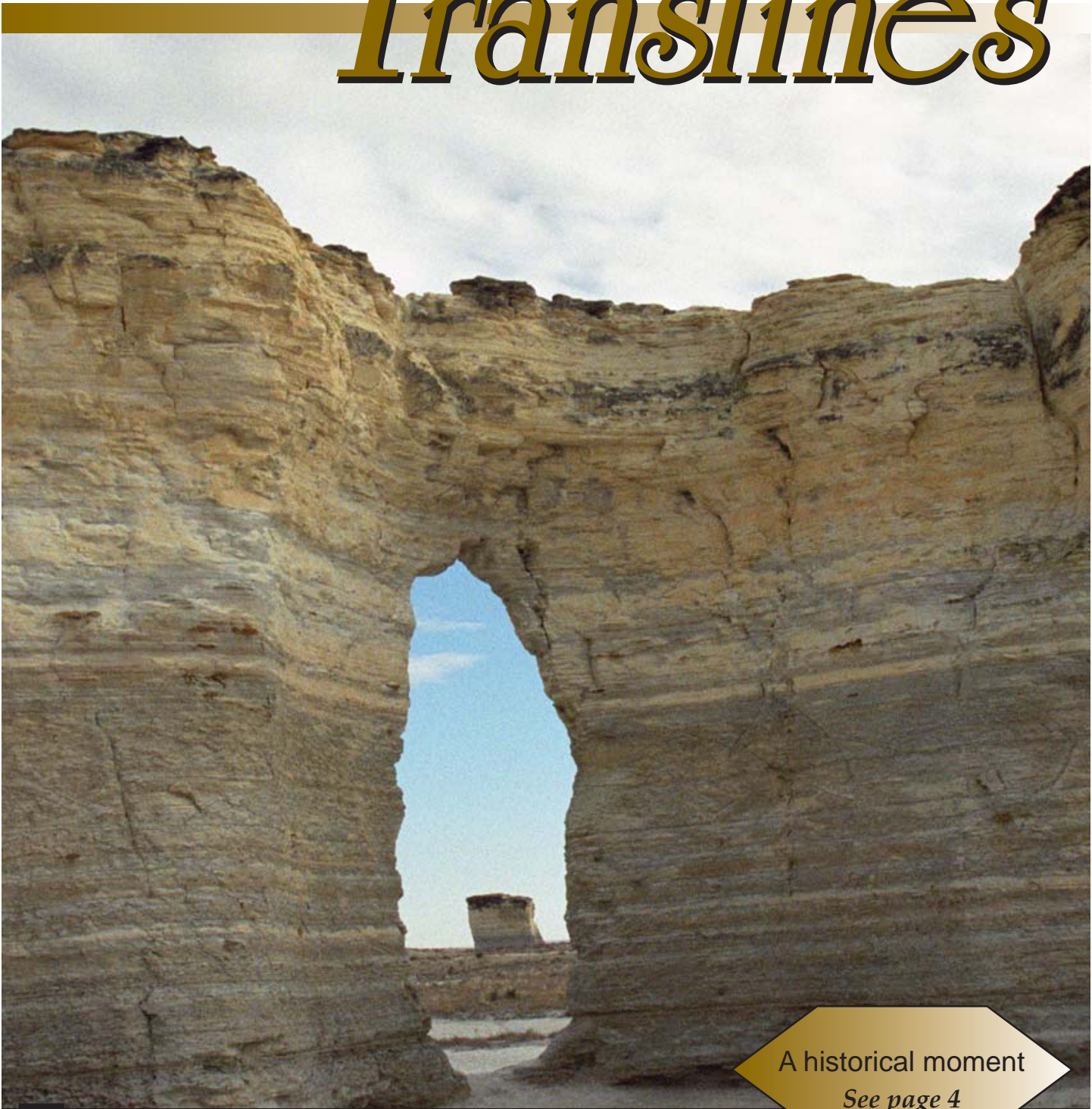


Translines



A historical moment
See page 4

Inside ...

- ◆ New standards save \$11 million on K-23 project
- ◆ Wichita hosts national aviation convention
- ◆ Benefits of primary seat belt law celebrated
- ◆ Students rock in annual sobriety competition
- ◆ Mentoring offers sweet rewards



By Secretary
Deb Miller

Mentoring offers sweet rewards

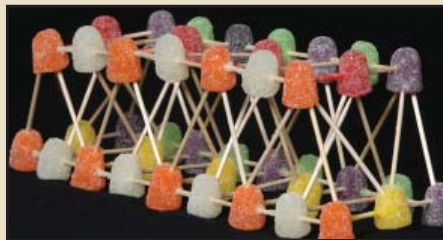
“Thank you engineers. My bridge is still at home. It was very fun!!! Now I want to be an engineer! YOU ROCK!” – Mia

A special group of KDOT employees are cultivating the next generation of engineers one gumdrop at a time.

This group of young engineers, through the local chapter of the American Society of Civil Engineers, has been visiting schools for the past few years to provide first and second-graders an engineering experience that is both fun and creative. They give the students gumdrops, toothpicks and some easy-to-follow plans and the students make bridges like the one shown on this page.

Judging from the colorful, hand-printed thank you notes the group has received (the quote above is from one of the letters), these kids liked what they learned about engineering. Or maybe they just liked the gumdrops. Either way, I’m sure that on some level they appreciated the fact that this group of young professionals visited them to share their enthusiasm for engineering at a level they could understand.

Gumdrop bridges are just one way these young engineers are getting kids to think about engineering. The ASCE members have continued the 20-year tradition of the egg drop, also. Students ranging from fourth to ninth grade design packaging and devices that protect an egg from breaking when dropped from a height of 22 feet. Last year



some 175 students on 100 teams competed in the egg drop in Topeka.

And for sixth through eighth graders, KDOT engineers help stage the Future Cities competition at which students build scale models of a city and produce a supporting paper. In the process, the students learn about the links between engineering and our actual day to day lives.

Howard Lubliner, KDOT Road Design Leader and regional coordinator for Future Cities, says he has no idea whether any of these activities have inspired students to become engineers. That would be a nice result, but it’s really not the point. It’s about being a positive role model, telling students about how you got to where you are today and giving back to both your profession and your community as a mentor.

The need for mentoring doesn’t end when we are past the age of future cities, egg drops and gumdrop bridges (are we ever really past the age for gumdrops?). We have probably all benefitted in our careers from someone who was willing to explain how to do our jobs or how to improve our work or simply how to fit in with the team.

Of course, the need for mentors extends well beyond the work place, and we should all be proud that we work in a state that recognizes that. Two years ago, then-Gov. Kathleen Sebelius signed an executive order allowing state employees to spend up to 90 minutes every two weeks mentoring young people. To view the opportunities that qualify under the Kansas Mentor’s Gold Star Program, visit <http://kansasmentors.kansas.gov/Pages/default.aspx>.

While the Gold Star Program provides great opportunities, mentoring needn’t be so structured. It can be as simple as listening and offering advice. And, we should also be open-minded about seeking out our own mentors. Later this month, we will produce a video that explores mentoring and post it on the KDOT YouTube channel. I’ll let you know when it has been posted.

In the meantime, I encourage you to look for mentoring opportunities that will help others, further the important work we do and benefit your profession and community. All you need is a willingness to be a good role model, share what you know – and maybe hand out a few gumdrops.



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

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

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

Calendar of Events

- Sept. 6** – State employees off for Labor Day holiday.
- Sept. 10** – 9:30 a.m. - Highway Advisory Commission meeting.
- Sept. 10-19** – KDOT booth at the Kansas State Fair in Hutchinson. See page 10 for more details.
- Sept. 15** - 1 p.m. Construction Bid Letting, Fourth Floor West Wing, Eisenhower State Office Building.

New standards save \$11 million on K-23 project

By Kristen Brands

District Three Public Affairs Manager

The 16-mile American Reinvestment and Recovery Act (ARRA) reconstruction project on K-23 in Gove County was opened to traffic on Aug. 13.

“A portion of the original roadway dated back to the Depression-era Works Progress Administration (WPA) and was past the point of a ‘band-aid’ treatment – we needed to replace it,” said KDOT District Three Engineer Jeff Stewart.

Using Practical Improvement standards, the cost effective approach to construction saved an estimated \$11 million. KDOT’s traditional approach to this project would have involved right of way acquisition and significant grading. The final cost of construction is tallied at \$7.8 million.

The project extends from the Lane/Gove county line to the south city limits of Gove. Surveying activities and aggregate delivery took place last year, before the road closure occurred on April 5. Travelers were routed onto an official detour using K-4, U.S. 83, U.S. 40 and I-70.

Rebuilding the roadway included removing the deteriorated pavement, stabilizing the base, and adding seven inches of new asphalt material. The new highway now has 12-foot driving lanes and two-foot-wide paved shoulders with rumble strips.

A ceremony to celebrate K-23 re-opening will be at 1 p.m. on Sept. 3 in Gove. Guest speakers will include Secretary Deb Miller, Kansas Senator Ralph Ostmeyer, Venture Corporation President Kip Spray and Gove County Chairman Bart Briggs.



Center lines are placed on the new 16-mile stretch of K-23 pavement in Gove County. Photo by Kurt Weaverling

First Historic Byway designated in Kansas

By Sue Stringer

Kansas Scenic Byways
Public Involvement Liaison

Logan, Scott and Wallace counties are home to the Western Vistas Historic Byway, the first designated historic byway in the state and the 10th Kansas byway to receive official designation.

“The state designation will create greater awareness of the historical significance and scenic beauty of this area for visitors and spur interest in the communities along the route,” said Scott Shields, Kansas State Byways Coordinator.

To be designated as historic, a byway must have resources that are significant historically, be numerous, be visible and have a setting or character that is complementary to the resources.

On the... **COVER**

Monument Rocks can be seen along the new Western Vistas Historic Byway in Logan, Scott and Wallace counties. Photo by Kurt Weaverling

“We are pleased that the addition of historic byways to our program prompted local interest to qualify for this designation,” said Shields. “Western Vistas provides visitors a visual relationship between the history, landscape and structures that define the area, to promote tourism along with natural and cultural importance.”

The 102-mile route begins in Scott County at Scott City on U.S. 83 and

ends on U.S. 40 in Wallace County at Sharon Springs. The historic byway passes through Scott Lake State Park on K-95, returning to U.S. 83, then north to the U.S. 83/U.S. 40 intersection at Oakley in Logan County and west on U.S. 40 to Sharon Springs in Wallace County.

The byway offers opportunities for visitors to experience the El Quarteljo Pueblo ruins, view unique rock formations such as Monument Rocks and “Little Jerusalem.” Western Vistas features seven National Historic sites and six museums. Visitors can also experience the open vistas, the sighting of turkey, prairie dog, deer, buffalo or pronghorn and the scenery of Scott State Lake.

For more information, contact Shields (785) 296-4149 or Sue Stringer, at 800-684-6966.



Secretary Deb Miller, third from left, poses with members of the Transportation Safety and Technology Team at an event recognizing them as an Example of Excellence.

Team strives to do more with less

By Kim Stich

Administrative and accounting staff members have taken on a large amount of work recently due to staff reductions in the Bureau of Transportation Safety and Technology.

Their efforts to absorb work from recently vacated positions in addition to their regular duties were recognized as an Example of Excellence for the second quarter of 2010. Secretary Deb Miller attended the ceremony on Aug. 11 in Topeka.

The Transportation Safety and Technology Team members include Catherine Gorman, Crystal Brown, Karen Rahberg and Debbie Weiler. Required tasks for the five units that make up the bureau have been reorganized, according to Bureau Chief Mike Floberg. Together they have increased responsibilities for entering timesheets, processing purchase authorities, taking care of various correspondences, updating position descriptions, organizing interview folders, dispersing mail and other duties as necessary.

They have also created systems to back each other up on these additional duties to ensure that all the units are covered. These changes have

allowed the bureau to continue to run efficiently while having less staff to handle the work.

“This group of Administrative staff and others have accepted the challenges of taking on extra duties caused by staff reductions currently in our bureau,” Floberg said. “They have learned new

processes, completed the transition for the new bureau and really worked hard to make it happen. Without this group and the efforts that they have made, the transition would have been much harder to accomplish. I am so proud of what they have done during this time of tight budgets and that they work in our bureau.”

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.

The award is given quarterly. Nominations are due for the third quarter by Sept. 30.

KDOT
Employee
Recognition
PROGRAM

Benefits of primary seat belt law celebrated

Seat belt use is on the rise in Kansas – a fact that Gov. Mark Parkinson celebrated at a news conference in Topeka Aug. 10 where Kansas received nearly \$11.2 million in connection with passage of the primary seat belt law.

“It is an indisputable fact that using seat belts saves lives and reduces injuries in vehicle crashes,” said Parkinson. “While we look forward to the benefits these federal funds will provide our state budget and our public safety programs, more importantly, we look forward to the Kansas lives that will be saved as a result of this legislation. I appreciate the hard work and persistence of the legislature in finally getting this law passed and for giving our law enforcement officers an important tool on the road.”

The new Kansas law enables law enforcement to stop and ticket the driver of any passenger vehicle if either the driver or front seat passenger is observed not wearing a seat belt. This law also applies to anyone under the age of 18. Previously, officers could only ticket violators if the driver was stopped for another traffic infraction.

Gov. Parkinson and Secretary Deb Miller were presented the federal funds by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration’s Deputy Administrator Ronald Medford. State legislators, various first responder organizations and other public safety leaders also attended.

“First Responders are at the scene and all too often see the tragic consequences when seat belts are not used,” said Secre-



NHTSA Deputy Administrator Ronald Medford presents Gov. Mark Parkinson a check for nearly \$11.2 million - a financial incentive for passing a primary seat belt law in Kansas.

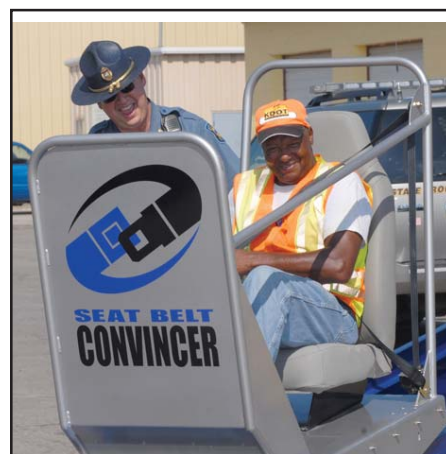
tary Miller. “Buckle up when you get in a vehicle – everytime you get in a vehicle – as we want to increase safety one click at a time across Kansas.”

The Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU) guaranteed funding for highways, highway safety, and public transportation, including a financial incentive for states to pass a primary seat belt law. States must allocate \$1 million of this funding towards behavioral traffic safety activities while the remainder can be spent on highway improvement projects across Kansas.

Traffic crashes cost Kansas about \$1.9 billion each year in medical expenses, lost productivity, property damage and related costs. This amounts to about \$700 for every resident of the state, each year.



Secretary Deb Miller talks about the benefits of Kansas’ new primary seat belt law at the Aug. 10 event. Also on stage are several first responders from the Topeka area (left) and on the right, Gov. Mark Parkinson and Ronald Medford.



Kansas Highway Patrol Trooper Tim McCool watches as KDOT employee Leonard Harding rides the convincer, a machine that shows the importance of wearing seat belts.

District News...

U.S. 69 takes shape

Work on the U.S. 69 American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) reconstruction project is taking shape and commuters can now see visible results as they travel through the project. Currently, the new northbound U.S. 69 lanes are 65 percent complete and the rebuilding of Lenexa Drive is 90 percent complete. These sections should be completed in November.

District One

In mid-August, crews completed and opened the newly reconstructed exit ramp from northbound U.S. 69 to 95th Street. In addition, crews have started construction on the noise walls located between 95th Street and 87th Street along northbound U.S. 69. Noise wall construction will take place over the winter months as weather permits.

In spring 2011, crews will give the existing “tunnel to nowhere” connectivity to somewhere...to the new 75th Street exit lanes. Crews will construct a new separate tunnel just south of 75th Street under the existing U.S. 69 roadway and the two tunnels will then connect together to serve I-35 and U.S. 69 traffic going to 75th Street.

Construction for the U.S. 69 project began in 2009 and is scheduled to be completed in the fall 2011.

U.S. 36 improvements

A road construction project to mill and overlay a portion of U.S. 36 in Smith County began on July 27, from the Phillips/Smith county line through the town of Smith Center.

Contracting firm Venture Corporation, of Great Bend, is the prime contractor for the 16 mile project.

District Three

“The construction began with a 1 ½-inch cold mill, followed by a 1 ½-inch inlay of hot mix asphalt,” explains Area One Construction Engineer Jim Riener – of the Phillipsburg



Workers prepare the foundation for a stretch of 91st Street as part of the Recovery Act project taking place along and near U.S. 69. Photo by Kurt Weaverling

office. “Once that process is finished, an additional 1 ½-inch surface lift will complete the process.”

Work is being performed under a pilot car operation, and will be done by mid September – weather permitting.

The total estimated cost of construction for this project is \$2.8 million.

ITS sees upgrades

In late 2008, an Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) was initiated in Wichita with a “test project.” Six closed-circuit cameras were installed at three interchanges: I-135/I-235/K-96/K-254 (the North Junction), I-135/U.S. 54 (E. Kellogg) and I-235/U.S. 54 (W. Kellogg). Plus, six portable variable message boards were placed near these interchanges to advise drivers of traffic problems.

District Five

The test project also created the Wichita Traffic Management Center (TMC). The TMC houses the technology that processes the data from the field and eventually will send that information to the public on a website. It is managed by KDOT with staffing from Sedgwick County Emergency Communications 911 operators. Cameras are monitored Monday – Friday, 6 a.m. – 7 p.m.

Bids for Phase 1 of the Wichita ITS project (the next step), were opened in August and work will begin soon. Covering about 20 miles of Wichita’s freeway system, the new project includes 28 cameras, 14 permanent dynamic message signs (on butterfly structures) and 36 vehicle detectors providing traffic density and speed information. The system uses a mix of wireless and fiber optic technologies to transmit information to and from the TMC. Because the TMC is up and running, immediate activation of equipment should be possible as they are installed along Wichita’s highways.

Local project celebrated

Secretary Deb Miller joined Halstead City Administrator J.R. Hatfield and Halstead Mayor Kevin Pyle on July 22 in a ribbon cutting ceremony celebrating the completion of the bridge rehabilitation project on the Little Arkansas River bridge located on the north side of the city.

This bridge is the main entryway into the City of Halstead and connects K-89 to Main Street and the Halstead central business district. The ARRA funding that the City of Halstead applied

Continued on page 7

District News

Continued from page 6

for was instrumental in moving this project forward and completing the work to patch the bridge deck, which was in poor condition, and place a silica fume surface overlay.

District Five

Wildcat Concrete Services Inc. was the general contractor for this \$290,000 ARRA project. Also attending the ceremony from KDOT was District Engineer Bob Cook, El Dorado Area Engineer Mike Longshaw, El Dorado ET Specialist Richard Milner, Chief Counsel Vicky Johnson and Public Affairs Manager Martin Miller.

Signs honor Capper

Working in partnership with KDOT, the City of Garnett has installed three signs along state routes that designate Garnett as the birthplace of Arthur Capper, first Kansas born Governor.

District Four

City officials and KDOT representatives unveiled the signs during a July 13 ceremony at Garnett City Hall. Lee Holmes, State Traffic Signing Engineer, spoke at the dedication. The Capper birthplace signs were subsequently posted along U.S. 59 and U.S. 169 at the Garnett city limits.



State Traffic Signing Engineer Lee Holmes (second from right) and Garnett Area Engineer Hugh Bogle (right) join Garnett city officials in unveiling signs designating the community as the birthplace of Arthur Capper, the first native-born Kansas Governor, during a July 13 ceremony.



Secretary Deb Miller, third from right, participates with other officials in a ribbon cutting ceremony celebrating the completion of rehabilitation on the Little Arkansas River bridge.

Arthur Capper was born on July 14, 1865, in a home near the railroad tracks at 5th Avenue and Cedar Street in Garnett. He created the Capper Publishing Company and the Capper Foundation for Crippled Children. Capper became the state's 20th governor and was the first native-born Kansan to be elected to that office, serving two terms (1915-1919) as Governor and then five terms as a U.S. Senator (1919-1949).

Projects completed

Secretary Deb Miller and State Transportation Engineer Jerry Younger visited southwest Kansas for two ribbon cutting ceremonies in August.

KDOT, along with partners, cel-

ebrated the completion of the U.S. 160 (Oklahoma Avenue) project in Ulysses. It was funded by a combination of local funds, KDOT Local Partnership funds and the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. Mayor Thadd Kistler and Grant County Commissioner Chairman Carl Higgs spoke as well.

This highway improvement project consisted of the contractor replacing five inches of asphalt pavement with five inches of concrete pavement, beginning just east of the K-25 junction east to Missouri Street in Ulysses. This included replacing the railroad crossing near the U.S. 160/K-25 junction on Oklahoma Avenue. The improvement provides better access to businesses and enhances the appearance of Oklahoma Avenue

Secretary Miller then traveled to Dodge City for a ribbon cutting ceremony to celebrate the completion of the Wyatt Earp Boulevard project. The project, was funded by a combination of local and federal funds and completed the improvement of Wyatt Earp Boulevard across Dodge City. Secretary Miller was joined by Mayor Kent Smoll and Rep. Pat George at the event.

District Six

This project consisted of reconstructing Wyatt Earp Boulevard to a five-lane street from the west city limits of Dodge City east to 14th Street.

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

Mehl's son, friend stop brutal attack

By Stan Whitley

LAWRENCE - June 16, 2010, is a day that 19-year-old Nathaniel Mehl and his buddy Aidan Waugh would just as soon forget. Unfortunately, it will forever be etched in their minds.



Nathaniel Mehl

The two friends were on a bike path near Clinton Lake at Lawrence when they saw a man stabbing a 23-year-old woman. The two chased the suspect away and helped the woman. Police have said they likely stopped a rape and may have saved the woman's life.

If not for two strangers who fought with the suspect, the woman's injuries would have been worse, police said. The woman suffered serious injuries but will survive.

Nathaniel is the son of Ray Mehl, an Estimator in KDOT's Bureau of Construction and Maintenance in Topeka.

"He was just stabbing the girl and she was just screaming, 'Help me, help me.' So we charged him," said Nathaniel. "She is a really, really brave girl."

The man was straddling the woman and appeared to be preparing to slice her throat with his knife. After the suspect saw Mehl and Waugh, they said he fled. He then came back, kicked the victim hard in the head breaking her jaw and then ran into the nearby woods.

Mehl and Waugh called law enforcement and medical personnel to the scene. The man was captured a short distance away in a wooded area.

The men said they were moved to see that the woman had a smile on her face as she was carried from the scene. After the woman recovers, they said they would like to meet her.

On Aug. 10, the city and the Lawrence Police Department presented Mehl and Waugh with the department's commendation awards for their actions that day. An area businessman also presented them \$1,000 to go toward their educational expenses.

The suspect, William Nichols, 30, faces a September trial on charges of aggravated kidnapping, attempted rape and aggravated battery in the attack. Police said they believe Nichols is responsible for groping at least two other women in recent weeks on bike paths. *-Photo courtesy of Creative Images Photography*

Welcome
new KDOT
employees!

Headquarters

Tammy Torrez, Human Resources Professional II, Personnel Services

Benjamin Ware, Engineering Associate I, Rotational Training Program

District One

Linda Hoover, Administrative Assistant, Materials and Research

District Four

Michael A. Neria Equipment Operator Trainee, Erie

Chas Willie, Equipment Operator Trainee, Erie

District Five

Gwen Culp, Administrative Assistant, Great Bend

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

Kansas Economic Recovery Jobs Report

The three-month numbers at right illustrate the steady growth in jobs thanks to the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.

July 2010		Non-KDOT	KDOT Only	Total
Employees		4,453	353	4,806
Hours		233,088	13,615	246,703
Payroll		\$6,110,083	\$210,771	\$6,320,854
June 2010		Non-KDOT	KDOT Only	Total
Employees		4,022	230	4,252
Hours		172,611	2,878	175,489
Payroll		\$4,752,537	\$53,693	\$4,806,230
May 2010		Non-KDOT	KDOT Only	Total
Employees		3,375	362	3,737
Hours		143,680	10,448	154,128
Payroll		\$4,396,757	\$194,097	\$4,590,854



Step Back in Time

*Participants
learn the
latest in IBM
technology
during a state
meeting in July
1957.*

Students rock in annual sobriety competition

Three Kansas high school students were named winners in KDOT's fourth-annual Sobriety Rocks competition that encourages Kansas youth to resist pressure and abstain from drinking alcohol.

Jeremy Edwards, a 2010 graduate of Wellington High School, won the music category for his song, "Superhero," which is about a boy whose older brother is his hero until he loses him to a drunk driver.

Erin Morris, a 2010 graduate of Clearwater High School, won the writing category for her short story, "I Loved My Sister," a tale about a girl's grief after her troubled older sister died from a struggle with alcohol.

Sarah Owens, a 2010 graduate of Lansing High School, won the art category for her mixed media work, "Goodnight, Love," which focuses on the pain of past experiences and the destruction of trying to find closure in alcohol.

Entries were judged by Kansas teachers, KDOT representatives and other professionals as well as student advocates. Judging was based on creativity, originality, passion and craftsmanship of the message.

Almost 150 Kansas youth entered this year's Sobriety Rocks competition. Three \$1,000 scholarships were awarded for best music, best art and best writing. Learn more about the winners and their work at www.sobrietyrockskans.net. -K.S.

Wichita hosts national aviation convention

Aviation officials from across the nation will gather in Wichita, Sept. 11-14 for the 75th annual National Association of State Aviation Officials (NASAO) convention and tradeshow.

KDOT's Aviation Division will host the event titled "Aviation 2020 and Beyond: A Clear Vision for the Future."

"We expect the event to draw around 500 people, including state aviation directors, airport officials and Federal officials," said Ed Young, KDOT Director of Aviation. "There are numerous topics of discussion but the Next Generation (NextGen) Air Transportation System will be the highlight."

Young said that NextGen is the name given to a new National Airspace System due for implementation across the United States in stages between 2012 and 2025.

"The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) is implementing a computer and satellite driven air traffic control system that will replace the current radio and radar based system," he said. "The result should be better access to remote locations in virtually all weather conditions and reduced fuel consumption through direct routing."

Vicki Cox, FAA Senior Vice President of NextGen, will lead a discussion on the topic on "The Flight Path to 2020."

The FAA and NASAO are collaborating to promote the security, safety, efficiency and environmental enhancements that NextGen promises.

"The goal is to move away from the grounded based technologies to new and more dynamic satellite based technology," said Young. "There are places in Kansas that on bad weather days depend on the same technology used in the 1920s for 'blind flights.' NextGen is 21st Century technology."

Special guest speaker at the event will be George Whitesides, Virgin Galactic CEO. Bob Dixon, Mayor of Greensburg will discuss "A Partnership to Build Green." - S.W.

*Fun Facts
and Trivia*

Do you know?

**Kansas Fun Facts
Part One**

- ♦A ball of twine in Cawker City measures more than 38 feet in circumference, weighs more than 16,750 pounds and is still growing.
- ♦A grain elevator in Hutchinson is 1/2 mile long and holds 46 million bushels in its 1,000 bins.
- ♦South of Ashland the Rock Island Bridge is the longest railroad bridge of its kind. It measures 1,200 feet long and is 100 feet above the Cimarron River.
- ♦At Kansas State University College of Veterinary Medicine waterbeds for horses are used in surgery.
- ♦Kansas won the award for most beautiful license plate for the wheat plate design issued in 1981.
- ♦Dodge City is the windiest city in the United States.
- ♦At one time it was against the law to serve ice cream on cherry pie in Kansas.
- ♦The first woman mayor in the United States was Susan Madora Salter. She was elected to office in Argonia in 1887.
- ♦Source: <http://www.50states.com/facts/kansas.htm>



District Engineer Bob Cook and Technology Consultant II Cindy Hale talked with visitors at the KDOT booth at the Kansas State Fair in Hutchinson. (File photo)

New laws, jobs highlighted by KDOT

Looking for a summer road trip in the state of Kansas head - no further than Hutchinson for the 97th annual State Fair.

A Kansas tradition since the first official fair opened in 1913, this year rides, foods, entertainment and a host of vendors will be on display Sept. 10-19. KDOT will again have a booth at the fair to help promote agency programs, issues and answer questions from the public.

The agency booth will be located in the middle of the Eisenhower Building along with the Kansas Safety Belt Education Office and the Kansas Drunk Driving Prevention Office.

“One of the new laws we will strongly be educating the public about is the state law banning all drivers from reading, writing or sending text messages,” said KDOT Chief of Transportation Information Steve Swartz.

“Distractions such as texting while driving create a serious hazard for all motorists.”

The text law went into effect July 1 and officers will issue warnings for the first six months. Beginning Jan. 1, 2011, drivers caught texting can be fined \$60, plus court cost.

Note pads titled Texting And Driving Is No Laughing Matter will be the featured promotional item. Kansas State maps, Scenic Byways brochures and small rulers will also be offered as promotional items.

Career opportunities at KDOT will also be highlighted with information available on how to apply for positions.

Operational hours of the booth will be from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. on opening day, 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Sunday through Thursday and 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays. – S.W.

Deaths

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

Herbert C. Nunemaker, 94, died July 19 in Topeka. He was a retired Civil Engineer and was the Paving Inspector on the first stretch of Interstate 70 built in Kansas.

He is survived by his wife, Helen, two sons, five grandchildren and four great

grandchildren.

Memorial contributions may be made to the First Lutheran Church, 1234 SW Fairlawn Road, Topeka, Kansas 66604.

Freda Z. Addy, 103, passed away on May 18 in Laguna Niguel, Calif. She was employed as an artist/draftswoman. Survivors include two daughters, 10 grandchildren and 20 great-grandchildren.

Retirees

The following employees officially retired from KDOT in August.

District One

Ronald L. Duryea, Equipment Operator Senior, Seneca

Robert E. Jahr, Engineering Technician, Bonner Springs

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

Upcoming KDOT Training Courses

Classes at Headquarters

- ♦ Business Writing I & II, Sept. 14
- ♦ ART Day 1, 2, 3, Sept. 28-30
- ♦ Transition to Leadership/Ethics, Oct. 5-7
- ♦ BEST Week 1, 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
- ♦ You'll Catch On, Nov. 2-3
- ♦ New Employee Orientation, Nov. 4
- ♦ ART Day 1, 2, 3, Nov. 8-10
- ♦ BEST Week 2, Nov. 29 - Dec. 2

Classes at District Offices

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

18 projects selected for Transportation Enhancement

KDOT has selected 18 projects for inclusion in its Transportation Enhancement program for Federal Fiscal Years 2011 and 2012.

KDOT received 55 applications from local units of government for funding consideration totaling over \$42 million. The applications for Federal Fiscal Year 2011 and 2012 projects were accepted during an application period of August 2009 through December, 2009.

Transportation Enhancement projects under this federal program include facilities for pedestrians and bicycles; pedestrian and bicycle safety and education activities; acquisition of scenic or historic easements and sites; scenic or historical highway programs; landscaping and scenic beautification; historic preservation; rehabilitation and operation of historic transportation buildings, structures or facilities; conversion of abandoned railway corridors to trails; control or removal of outdoor advertising; archaeological planning and research; and establishment of transportation museums.

Total cost for the 18 selected projects is \$14.8 million. A minimum of 20 percent of the project cost must come from the applicant. Below is a list of the selected projects.

Historical Projects

Atchison County – Rehabilitate historic Warren Truss Bridge on Haskell Road over Stranger Creek near Farmington; **Garden City** – Exterior preservation and structural stabilization of Historic Windsor Hotel; **Leavenworth** – Replacement and restoration of all structural stonework on the exterior of the historic Union Pacific Railroad depot building; **Seneca** – Historic brick street restoration including ADA compliant sidewalks along Main Street from 3rd

to 6th Streets; **Goodland** – Restoration of historical brick street on Main Street between 11th and 13th.

Scenic/Environmental Projects

Alma – Downtown Streetscape with concrete sidewalks, pavers, pavement marking, structural glass portal and streetscape amenities; **Lyons** – Extension to a previous streetscape project with sidewalk repair/replacement, lighting and landscaping; **Manhattan** – Construction of phase III and IV of the drainage improvement and landscaping project along Tuttle Creek Boulevard from Bluemont Avenue to McCall Road; **Minneola** – Downtown Streetscape with concrete sidewalks, lighting, pavement marking, ADA improvements on Main Street from Ash Street to U.S. 54; **Logan County** – Construct a Buffalo Bill Visitor/Cultural Center; **Hiawatha** – Construction of Phase II of Downtown Streetscape which includes sidewalks, lighting, planters and some utility adjustments.

Pedestrian/Bicycle

Marysville – Pedestrian/bicycle path on rail banked Union Pacific Railroad railbed; **Derby** – Pedestrian/bicycle path with signage, pavement markings and landscaping; **Wichita** – Redbud Trail pedestrian/bicycle path, Segments 1, 2 and 3, along the rail banked Burlington Northern Santa Fe corridor; **Iola** – Extension of the Prairie Spirit Trail pedestrian/bicycle path within the city limits; **Ottawa** – Pedestrian sidewalks and bicycle lanes on west 15th Street; **Tonganoxie** – Tonganoxie Trail, Phase II, pedestrian/bicycle path connecting to the existing Chieftain Trail; **Shawnee** – Clear Creek Trail pedestrian/bicycle path, Phase III, connecting to the Gary Haller Trail pedestrian/bicycle path.

KDOT Computer Training

– from the KCTC

Increase your efficiency!

KCTC Free Seminar Days!

Our session Aug. 4 was such a success we are promoting our repeat date of Sept. 9. There have been several requests from employees in the Eisenhower building and in the districts inquiring about the session. Attendance is optional and there is no charge back. We look forward to you joining us!

Live meeting/office communicator will make these sessions available to those who cannot attend in person.

“KDOT Programs & Tools You Should Know More About”

(Class times, topics and instructor for Sept. 9 in the 4th floor of Eisenhower are listed below)

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

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

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

11:15- Noon, **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
Bureau of Transportation Information
 Eisenhower State Office Building
 700 SW Harrison, Second Floor, West
 Topeka, KS 66603-3754

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NOTE: This information is available in alternative accessible formats. To obtain an alternative format, contact Transportation Information, Eisenhower Building, 700 SW Harrison, 2nd Floor West, Topeka, KS, 66603-3754, or (785) 296-3585 (Voice)/Hearing Impaired - 711.

M I L E S T O N E S

KDOT salutes employees celebrating state anniversaries in September

10 YEARS

Kenneth Franklin Weir
 Everett Johnson Ellsworth
 Eddie Rixon Sublette
 Felix Salazar Satanta

20 YEARS

Brian Beard Syracuse
 Steven Eis Hillsboro
 Randall Hutchinson Falun
 Rexford McCommon Topeka
 Michael Trower Valley Falls
 Jerry Watkins Larned

30 YEARS

Ronald Hoehn Lenexa
 Ronald Munyan Sr. Syracuse

40 YEARS

Ronald Parrett Circleville
 Larry Smatla Oskaloosa

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