

Translines EXPRESS

Feb. 21, 2018

General

Transit and aviation in Kansas: Transit and aviation will be highlighted with activities at the State Capitol next week with Secretary Richard Carlson speaking at both events.

Transit Day at the Capitol will take place from 8 a.m. to noon on Feb. 28. "Attendees can learn more about how public transit is growing the state's economy and connecting people to where they need to go," said KDOT Public Transit Manager Mike Spadafore.

Numerous displays will be inside the Capitol and several vehicles will be outside the building with drivers on hand to answer questions and give tours. KDOT's Division of Aviation, in partnership with the Kansas Commission on Aerospace Education (KCAE) will have their fourth annual Aviation Day event from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on March 1.

The event was created to provide networking opportunities and industry exposure. To kick off the event, the Aviation Division will host economic



The Capitol will be hosting Transit Day on Feb. 28 and Aviation Day on March 1 to highlight alternate modes of transportation.

development training for city officials at Memorial Hall from 9 to 10 a.m.

"This event highlights strong partnerships that Kansas manufacturers enjoy as a globally recognized aviation team," said Aviation Director Bob Brock. "We are honored by the enthusiastic response to this event, and look forward to a year of growth for this industry."

Trivia!

Kansas connections to the Olympics

1. This Wichita native was the youngest American male track athlete ever to qualify for the Olympics.
2. This Marysville native was a college teammate of Alex Gordon's at the University of Nebraska and played for the U.S.A. baseball team in the 2008 Olympics.
3. As a marathoner who attended Leavenworth High School, she participated in the 2012 and 2016 Olympics.

4. This speedster born in Kansas City, Kan., appeared on Dancing with the Stars in 2009.
5. Veronica Campbell Brown, who ran track for Barton County Community College, has participated in five Olympics representing what country?
6. Rolando Blackmon, an All-American basketball player for K-State, was selected as a starter for the 1980 Summer Olympics but he never got to play. Why not?

District Three

When it comes to preparing employees for their commercial driver's tests, Equipment Operator Tony Worek from the Colby Subarea, has risen to the challenge.

Worek has been with KDOT for six years and has helped numerous new KDOT employees obtain their commercial drivers' licenses. KDOT recently received the following email recognizing his efforts:

Dear Lisa Mussman (KDOT Public Affairs Manager in Norton):

My name is Susan McDaniel, Kansas Driver License Specialist Traveler. I would like to recommend an award for Tony Worek Equipment Operator serving out of your Oakley department office. I met Tony this week in Colby while conducting

a CDL drive test for one of your new employees. I was very impressed with this young man and his knowledge of his truck and trailer. I said, "you studied!" He told me, "Tony, the man who brought me here today, taught me." Well, I must say I introduced myself to Tony! You can tell Tony cares and is a true team player [and] leader. I conduct many CDL drive tests



KDOT Equipment Operator Tony Worek was commended for his efforts to help employees obtain their commercial drivers' licenses.

all over western Kansas and have seen struggling drivers. Tony is very impressive and must be a patient gentleman to work [with] and teach good truck drivers. Sometimes in life we need to stop and say nice things that touch our lives. Tony made my job easy :)

Happy Friday
Susan McDaniel, Garden City

Work Zone Contest

The KTA is hosting its third annual design contest for National Work Zone Awareness Week, which is April 9-13. Students in grades 8-12 can submit their design for a chance to win a Wacom tablet or \$200 gift card. Also, their work will be featured in VYPE Magazine, the high school sports magazine for central and northern Kansas including the Wichita and Salina surrounding areas. Full contest rules and details can be found at www.kturnpike.com/contests

2018 NATIONAL WORK ZONE AWARENESS DESIGN CONTEST!

kturnpike.com/contests

Kansas Turnpike Authority

Kansas
Department of Transportation

District Five

Progress on U.S. 56: Crews hope to finish a grading, bridge and surfacing project along 1.54 miles of U.S. 56 in Ellinwood by early March.

The \$12.25 million project started on Aug. 15, 2016. During a visit to the job site Feb. 14, crews were working on the last mainline paving pour. Engineering Technician Specialist Neisha Vetter said curb and gutter was next as well as a few entrances.

The project stretches from the west city limits of

Ellinwood to just east of the east city limits. Part of the project involved replacement of a reinforced concrete box bridge.

A related project, relocation of the water and sewer main in the City of Ellinwood, had a total cost of \$2.48 million. Smoky Hill LLC of Salina is the prime contractor. Stephen Bass' road squad and Mark Hurt's bridge squad designed the project.

At right, crews finish the last mainline concrete paving pour on U.S. 56 in Ellinwood. Below, workers test concrete to make sure it complies with KDOT standards.



Molds are made to test the strength of concrete.



At left, results of concrete tests are noted.

District Two

Interchange to open: The K-18 and U.S. 77 interchange is due to be completed and will open to traffic in March, weather permitting. The forms are complete on the K-18 box culvert and concrete was recently poured. Approximately three weeks after the concrete was placed, work will begin to backfill the hole. Then the asphalt will be placed to connect K-18 on the west side of U.S. 77 to the east side.

On and off ramps are complete on the east side of U.S. 77. Work is underway on the ramps on the west side but they won't be completed until the work on K-18 is complete.

The work currently wrapping up is the third stage of the project with Hamm, Inc. of Perry as the contractor at a cost of approximately \$15 million. The first and second stages began from the diverging diamond at the interchange of I-70 and U.S. 77 to the south, to Rucker Road and U.S. 77 to the north. The first and second stages of this project were completed last September.

KDOT partnered with the city of Junction City in putting in a walk/bike path, which crosses U.S. 77.

Debbie Tanking's road squad and Mark Hurt's bridge squad designed the project.



Above is an eastbound view of a K-18 box culvert where concrete was recently placed. Below is a westbound view of the remaining K-18 work to be finished.



Below is a view south on U.S. 77 from K-18.



A walk/bike path will cross U.S. 77.



District Five

Clearing the way: The Hutchinson Subarea has been busy clearing 20 lane miles of ditches on K-14 from south of Hutchinson to Pretty Prairie Road.

"The crews have done a great job," said Area Two Superintendent Tom McCartney.

The crews started the job — aimed to improve drainage — on Jan. 23. McCartney said he expects crews to be done in mid-March, depending on weather.

Crews are removing excess dirt, which had covered culverts in some areas, and clearing debris when necessary.



Drainage had become a problem on K-14 because of excess dirt in ditches.



Above, the Hutchinson Subarea has been working since Jan. 23 to clear ditches on K-14. At left, crews are clearing 20 lane miles of ditches on K-14.

TRIVIA ANSWERS

1. Jim Ryun, a silver medalist in the 1968 Mexico City Games in the 1,500 meters. The KU grad also participated in the 1964 and 1972 games.
2. Brian Duensing
3. Amy Hastings Cragg. She finished 11th in 2012 and 9th in 2016.
4. Maurice Greene, who won a gold medal in the 100-meter dash at the 2000 Sydney Olympics.
5. Jamaica. Campbell-Brown has won eight medals, including three golds.
6. The United States boycotted the games, which were in Moscow.

KTA

KTA briefs:

The Kansas Turnpike Authority crash log provided by Kansas Highway Patrol Troop G, assigned to the Turnpike, is now on the KHP website. The new crash log can be found at www.kansas.gov/khp-crashlogs/.

Construction season will be ramping up soon, so take a minute to check the KTA construction page to be in the know of what construction you may expect during your travels - www.kturnpike.com/travel/construction.

Kansas Transportation

Wednesday, Feb. 21

#IAMKDOT - Melissa Poe

When Melissa Poe arrived in the District Five office on Oct. 21, 1996, to start work as an Office Assistant II, she never would have thought she'd still be working for KDOT 21 years later. But the people – and the opportunity to move up in her career – keeps her in the Hutchinson office.

"I like the camaraderie between all of us in the office," Poe said. "I enjoy what I do and like to help others."

Poe, a diehard Broncos fan, has been the District Accountant for the past three years. In that role, she audits and approves payment vouchers, creates purchase orders, ensures policies and procedures are followed and answers questions from District Five employees.

Poe and her wife, Kara, married on New Year's Day. They have three teenagers.

Known for belting out tunes to beat the mid-afternoon blues, Poe enjoys singing karaoke and dancing. But she spends most of her time outside work with family – just the way she wants it. She describes herself as hard-working, caring and



understanding – just the way KDOT wants it. #IAMKDOT is an illustration project that recognizes KDOT employees who work hard to keep Kansans moving. This series also serves as a reminder for travelers to slow down and remember that underneath those neon vests are individuals with families, friends and hobbies waiting for them at home.

Do you know a KDOT worker that deserves recognition? Nominations are open - email Mallory.Goeke@ks.gov today to get started.

To see more stories on transportation topics, check out the regular posts on the Kansas Transportation blog at <http://kansastransportation.blogspot.com/>

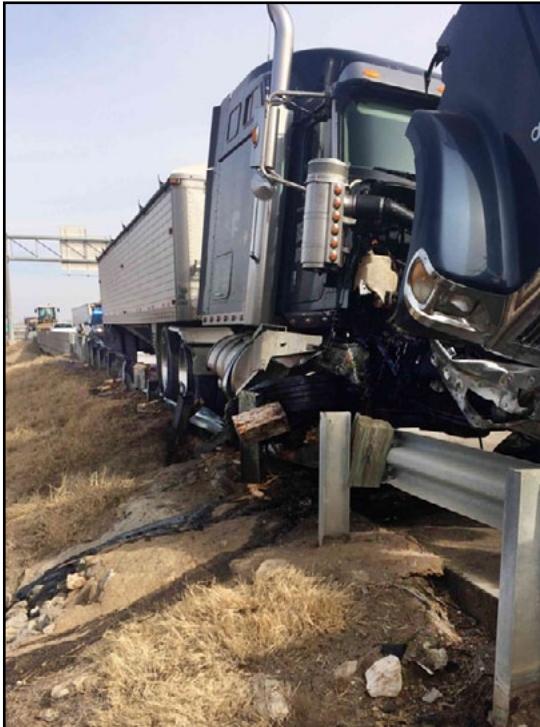
Have an idea for a news brief or picture that could be featured in an upcoming edition of Translines Express?

Please e-mail your suggestions to Kim.stich@ks.gov

Crazy Bowl



Seven teams participated in the annual Crazy Bowl tournament on Feb. 11 in Topeka. Teams bowl two regular games, then on the third game do things different each frame like bowling with a team member at the foul line or two team members having all four hands on the ball before bowling. The event is sponsored by KDOT's Employees Council.



District Five



Above, a semitrailer driver crashed Feb. 14 into the hub rail on a bridge on I-135 in Newton, ending up on top of the guard rail. The Newton Subarea crew spent three days making repairs (top right). Right, about 150 feet of guardrail was repaired or replaced.



Weather



Varying amounts of snow, ice and rain fell across about half the state on Tuesday. At left, a tree outside the District Four office is covered in ice. Middle left, Equipment Operator Senior Mike Hays clears highways in Topeka. Below and bottom left, lots of ice and slush can be seen being pushed off the highway in Topeka by Hays' plow. Bottom right, crews load sand and salt in Hutchinson.



COATS AND CAR SEATS

KEEPING YOUR CHILD **SAFE** AND **WARM** AS YOU TRAVEL



As a general rule, winter coats shouldn't be worn underneath the harness of a car seat. A bulky coat can result in the harness being too loose to be effective.

Here are a few suggestions to keep your child safe and warm in a car seat:

- After the child is secure in the car seat, turn the coat around and pull their arms through the holes, like a blanket!
- Consider a lightweight sweater and a stocking cap
- After fastening the safety harness, simply tuck a blanket over him to keep him warm.