

Translines EXPRESS

Sept. 4, 2013

Transportation Summit

The first ever Transportation Summit will take place in Emporia on Emporia State's campus on Thursday, Sept. 5. It is the first jointly-hosted event by KDOT and KTA since the new partnership began on July 1.

The summit features a discussion led by Gov. Sam Brownback and will have panelists from AASHTO, AgCo North America, CHS, Watco and others. Garry Golden, a transportation expert and futurist, will be the keynote speaker. They will be discussing how private and public sectors can work together for growth within Kansas. The registration quickly filled up and as many as 350 people are expected to attend.

In Memory

Condolences to the family and friends of KDOT retiree Benjamin C. Middleton who died Aug. 20 in Iola. He retired in 1996 after 40 years as an Engineering Technician in District Four. His son, Ben, is an Engineering Technician Specialist in Iola.

Letter to the Editor

Kristen Brands and Kirk Hutchinson (District Three and District Six Public Affairs Managers),
A note to let you know that I did my bicycle ride on Aug. 24. I wanted to thank you both for advising me on the work projects, and to let you know that the northbound shoulders on U.S. 83 from Oklahoma to Nebraska are in pretty dang good shape! The new section was smooth as butter, but all sections are very bicycle friendly, the signage was very easy to understand, and the traffic through Liberal and Garden City was fairly light when I took the bypass, so lane changes were easy and traffic was easy to avoid. A further note, the western side of Kansas is just immensely beautiful. I don't remember the prairie being so green this late in August. The diversity from south to north is tremendous, just wish more people could see this land on a bicycle. It is really an incredible journey.

Joe Hickert
Thomas County EMS

District Three



Equipment Operator Senior Todd Kenyon, Hill City Subarea, controls the weeds adjacent a box-bridge structure along K-18 in Rooks County. Recent rainfall has helped restore green to the northwest Kansas landscape, but this week's higher temperatures have contributed to recurring dry conditions.

Kansas State Fair

Celebrating 100 years: Seat belts, highway signs, passage of various safety laws and the first use of asphalt, a snow plow, liquid brine or rumble strips. These are just a few of the topics featured on the backdrops at the KDOT and Kansas Traffic Safety Resource booths to celebrate 100 years of transportation safety in conjunction with the 100th anniversary of the Kansas State Fair. The fair runs from Sept. 6-15 in Hutchinson.

Stop by the booths located in the middle of the Eisenhower Building. State maps and brochures on various transportation topics will be distributed. For more information on the Kansas State Fair, visit www.kansasstatefair.com.

Trivia!

1. What did the largest pumpkin in Kansas State Fair history weigh?
2. What did the largest watermelon in Kansas State Fair history weigh?
3. In 2011, how many competitive entries were entered?
4. How many acres does the Kansas State Fairgrounds encompass?
5. When was the Old Mill opened?
6. Was a sand pit located on the fairgrounds? If so, where?
7. How many commercial booths (booths in the buildings and outside on the grounds) are at the Fair?
8. How much used animal bedding was removed from the barns on the fairgrounds during the 10 days of the 2011 fair?
9. A dairy cow can produce about how many glasses of milk a day?
10. About how many pounds of wool can a sheep produce in a year?

District One



Vandalism to signs can be costly to repair.

Vandalism: KDOT's Kansas City area maintenance crews will be removing graffiti on highway signs on I-35 near Southwest Boulevard/ Mission Road/37th Street. This will cost about \$6,500 to repair and create delays when the work takes place.

The signs will be covered with a "new skin" applied over the existing sign, which will completely hide the graffiti.

In 2012, the Kansas City metro area in Kansas had 10 incidents of graffiti vandalism on highway signs, costing \$18,400 to repair.

Headquarters



Jon Holley

More than \$1,400 was raised on Aug. 21 at a bake sale at the Eisenhower Building in honor of KDOT retiree Jon Holley, who died Sept. 22, 2012, after a battle with Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS). The money will be given to the ALS Association. Friends and family will also participate in The Walk to Defeat ALS on Sept. 28 at Kauffman Stadium in Kansas City, Mo. To learn more and find dates where walks will take place in other locations, go to www.alsa-midwest.org.

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

translines@ksdot.org

AASHTO

Celebrating 100 years: AASHTO has launched its new website to honor and recognize the association's 100th anniversary.

Centennial.transportation.org will serve as the place for all things AASHTO centennial through the next year.

The multi-media site includes:

- A narrative of how AASHTO began in 1914;
- A media archive, including old maps, photos of past meetings and other useful information;
- Dozens of quick facts, including milestones hit by the organization and its members;

- A trivia section, allowing site visitors to test their knowledge on all things transportation;
- "Today in history," which highlights transportation news that occurred on a particular day in history;
- A blog, updated periodically with insight from members and other guests; and
- A monthly online newsletter.

AASHTO's centennial celebration will officially kick off at the AASHTO Annual Meeting in Denver this October and will run until AASHTO's 2014 Annual Meeting

Aviation

Aviation Appreciation Month: Gov. Sam Brownback signed a proclamation Aug. 23 declaring September as Aviation Appreciation Month. The proclamation celebrates Kansas' aviation history and recognizes the inaugural Kansas Aviation Expo that takes place at the National Center for Aviation Training in Wichita on Sept. 26 and 27.

Kansas is home to one of only five aviation clusters in the world, the air capital of the world and is considered the birthplace of general aviation. That rich aviation history began in September 1911 when Albin K. Longren was the first Kansan to fly a Kansas-made aircraft. September is also the month when KDOT's Division of Aviation, in conjunction with several industry partners, will host the first-ever Kansas Aviation Expo. Scott Ernest, CEO of Cessna, will be the featured speaker on the first day of the expo. The second day will feature guest speakers from the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association, the Federal Aviation Administration, the National Weather Service and more.

For more information on the expo, go to <http://ksaeroeducation.com/KCAExpo.html>.

Alerts

Being informed: Various local public safety agencies use the Nixle system to send alerts. If you are interested in receiving alerts, you can sign up for text messages, e-mails, web page or mobile application notices. In Topeka, you can sign up for alerts just for the capitol complex with the Capitol Police. To see what agencies participate in this alert system and for more information, go to <http://www.nixle.com>.

District One



Two empty vehicles plummeted off the side of the southbound U.S. 75 to eastbound I-70 ramp on Aug. 28 causing a complete shutdown of the ramp and all eastbound I-70 lanes in Topeka for about an hour. A diesel pickup truck towing a vehicle cargo trailer lost control on the flyover ramp sending the two vehicles over the side of the ramp to the grassy median below on eastbound I-70 and a third vehicle hangs on the flyover ramp barrier wall. There were no injuries. Photo by Mike Carmona via WIBW-TV



Secretary Mike King works behind the counter at the new Matfield Green Dunkin' Donuts recently. "It's fun seeing our customers and interacting with the employees of these two restaurants," said Secretary King, "but I think I'll keep my day job!"

Open for business: Hardee's and Dunkin' Donuts are open for business at the Matfield Green Service Area giving those traveling the Kansas Turnpike new food choices and a new place to stop for a break. Secretary Mike King, who is also Director of the

Kansas Turnpike, welcomed restaurant leadership earlier this week.

"Turnpike travelers win with more food options," said Secretary King, "and so does Kansas as another new business opens its doors in our state."

District Two

Traffic on I-70 from Chapman to Abilene will be restricted to one lane in each direction until November as reconstruction work continues. This could cause delays at times, particularly on Kansas State University home football game days. Access to eastbound I-70 from K-15 is closed during this time. Motorists will need to follow the signed detour west on I-70 three miles to the Fair Road exit, then re-enter I-70 eastbound. Construction work is also taking place on K-18 west of Manhattan - this could lead to increased traffic on K-177 at times. Motorists are encouraged to add extra time to their travel schedules and be prepared for possible delays.

Traffic Safety

It Can Wait: KDOT and the KTA will be participating in a nationwide social media effort to discourage texting and driving on Sept. 19. The campaign is called "It Can Wait," and is sponsored by AT&T. On that day the KDOT and KTA social media accounts will include messages about the dangers of distracted driving. Both organizations participated in the effort last year as well. Several of the text messages will encourage people to watch the "It Can Wait" documentary - Don't text and drive. This film by Werner Herzog can be viewed at - <http://bit.ly/16DiUJU> The messages will also be on the DMS message boards in order to get drivers the message. The message on the boards will be "Please Do Not Text and Drive It Can Wait."

District Five



Truesdell Corporation of Jefferson City, Mo., is applying a polyester concrete bridge overlay on K-14 in Kingman County. It's the first time that this material has been used on bridge decks in Kansas. The process is similar to polymer bridge overlay, but the polymer resin and aggregate is mixed together in a mobile mixer and applied to the bridge deck similar to a standard concrete overlay.

TRIVIA ANSWERS

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| 1. 976.2 pounds in 2007 | developed in 1944 from a |
| 2. 184 pounds in 2002 | neglected sandpit |
| 3. 26,537 entries | 7. 1,100 booths |
| 4. 280 acres | 8. 155 tons |
| 5. September 18, 1915 | 9. 100 glasses |
| 6. Yes. Lake Talbott was | 10. 30 pounds |