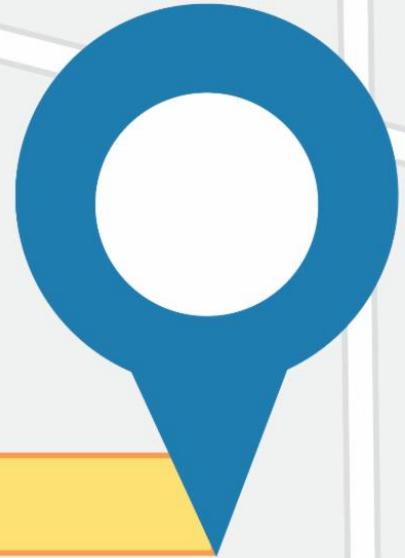
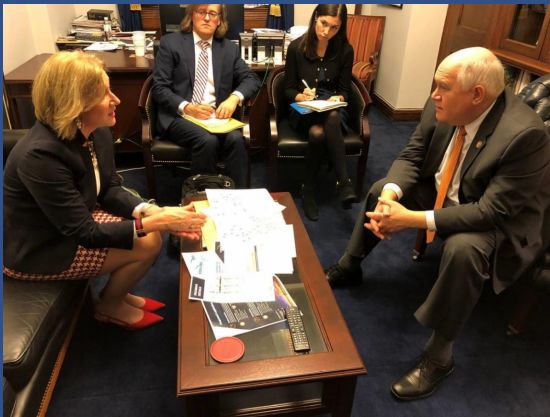


Friday, Feb. 28, 2020

EN ROUTE TO FRIDAY



Welcome to Friday!



Secretary Lorenz meets with congressional delegation

This week, Secretary Lorenz met with members of the Kansas congressional delegation to brief them on key elements of FORWARD.

Pictured on the left is the Secretary's visit with Rep. Ron Estes, who represents Kansas' 4th Congressional District in south central Kansas.



KDOT employees attend MO/KS ACPA PCC Conference

State Transportation Engineer Burt Morey met with the MO/KS Chapter of the American Concrete Pavement Association on Wednesday at the 40th Annual Portland Cement Concrete Pavement Conference.

He told the group that KDOT is committed to finishing the remaining T-WORKS projects, working with our industry partners and moving FORWARD to meet transportation



needs in Kansas.



KUDOS to KDOT

"I've been a truck driver for 30 years now, and I would like to give your road crews out there an atta boy!!!.

I've been driving the same route — U.S. HWY 54 for four years now, from Oklahoma border to Wichita every night five days a week.

And 95% of the time when bad weather, I've always seen your guys or girls out there working those roads, doing a great job. In return it allows me to do my job without having to shut down.

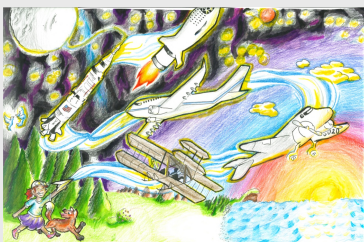
Last week and this week they've done a darn good job!"

-Mark P.
Facebook User



Aviation Art Contest Winners

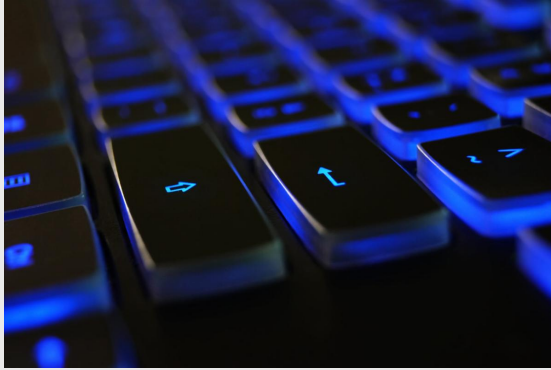
You voted for your favorite aviation art contest entries and the results are in! The first place winners of the Aviation Art Contest are:



1st Place- Intermediate Category
Siena Masilionis,



1st Place- Junior Category
Lily Weidemier,
McPherson



Tech Tips: Beware of coronavirus “safety measures” phishing email

Cybercriminals are starting to exploit the coronavirus epidemic in their attacks. In the last week, Sophos security experts have seen phishing emails purporting to be from the World Health Organization (WHO).

These emails prompt you to enter your email address and password to get safety advice – and in doing so, you inadvertently give the crooks access to your email account.

Severe Weather Awareness Week



If you find yourself visiting the Eisenhower State Office Building (ESOB) there are things you should know if severe weather strikes. Conditions may dictate moving to safe areas within the ESOB and avoiding windows and outside walls.

If the National Weather Service issues a weather warning (such as for a tornado or severe thunderstorm), Capitol Police will notify employees to move to a designated safe area. This also will be broadcast throughout the building. Capitol Police will continue to monitor the situation for information regarding expiration or extension of the warning.

You should check into your predetermined safe area with your Emergency

Floor Personnel. Do not leave these areas until the all-clear has been announced.

Safe areas in the Tower:

basement, elevator lobbies (not first floor), stairwells, work rooms without windows

Safe areas in the West Building:

interior hallways, stairwells, restrooms, old vault areas

Check out [this link](#) for more information on emergency procedures, including the Emergency Procedure for ESOB online course and a list of floor monitors and safety captains, which is updated twice a year. Note: Some vacancies in the list may exist.



Yoga coming to Eisenhower State Office Building

KDOT and the Topeka Yoga Network will be offering four free trial yoga classes during the lunch hour in the month of April. The classes will be appropriate for all people, even those with no yoga experience.

Class Descriptions

- **Basic Yoga:** Foundation yoga postures are practiced to align, strengthen and promote flexibility in the body. Full-body relaxation and balance are the goals.
- **Restorative Yoga:** Postures focus on relaxing, calming and healing effect. It is considered ideal for those recovering from injuries or illnesses.
- **Power Yoga:** This class strengthens and stretches your muscles and builds core strength, and focuses on physical postures, certain cardiovascular activity and breathing exercises.

If these trial classes are a success, we hope to continue offering the classes at a low rate for employees. More information about dates and class schedules coming soon!

KDOT supports STEM opportunities for students



Last week we shared that students from Lawrence received second place at the national Future City competition. But did you know that KDOT actually has a major role in the regional event?

Kevin Koester, Professional Engineer in Transportation Planning and the regional coordinator for the Great Plains region, said the event is important because while it may be labeled a competition, it's really a great learning experience.

"It helps to get middle school kids involved (and hopefully ultimately interested) in careers in the Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) fields," Koester said.

"We all aspire to be able to retire someday, we need to recruit the best candidates we can as early as we can by providing opportunities to 'think outside the box' and find out all the cool things that STEM careers have to offer!"

"I think that the future can be built by those in high school now if they utilize the skills learned from experiences such as Future City."

Crews fight winter weather



02/25/2020 09:14AM CST

KDOT crews have to be ready for anything, and that includes unexpected snowstorms.

On Tuesday, north central Kansas received extremely sporadic snowfall across the region. According to Steve Schmidt, District Special Crews Supervisor in Salina, the freak storm threw some workers off guard when they got the early phone call to come in because when they looked out their windows in Salina there was no sign of snow.

This was due to a narrow band of heavy snow drifting across parts of Marion, McPherson, Saline, Ellsworth and Lincoln counties. Crews had to battle the quick band of heavy snowfall, which created low visibility to clear the roads. I-70 was closed from Salina to the Ellsworth/K-156 exit for about 90 minutes due to crashes blocking the roadway.



K-126 Cow Creek Bridge

In spite of snow, rain and otherwise dreary February weather, work continues on the K-126 Cow Creek bridge replacement project west of the U.S. 69 bypass at Pittsburg. Last week the first beams were set on the north half of the new bridge, according to Inspector Doug Pulliam of the Pittsburg KDOT office. KDOT awarded the \$2.8 million construction contract to B&B Bridge Company of St. Paul.

There will be no En Route to Friday next week,

**please watch for our next edition of Translines
on Wednesday!**