

Translines EXPRESS

Oct. 4, 2017

Aviation

Fly Kansas Air Tour highlights STEM careers:

The 2017 Fly Kansas Air Tour traveled to 10 cities in three days to celebrate Kansas aviation from Sept. 28-30.

This year's tour, presented by the Kansas Commission on Aerospace Education and the Kansas Department of Transportation, promotes STEM (science, technology, engineering, math) education and highlights the benefits

of local airports to their communities, Kansas, and the nation. The tour focuses on raising awareness on the importance of community airports and introducing aviation to young people.

[More photos on following page](#)



Students come to the Wellington Municipal Airport on Sept. 28 to see some of the different planes participating in the annual Fly Kansas Air Tour. A total of 10 stops were made around the state.

More than 50 pilots, along with their aircraft, participated in the tour and an estimated 1,200 students and community members visited their local airports.

Story continued on next page



District Four

Work continues on a project that will add left turn lanes and a traffic signal at the intersection of K-68 and Metcalfe Road in Louisburg. VF Anderson Builders LLC of Peculiar, Mo., is contractor at a cost of \$2.2 million. Steve Rocker's road squad designed the project.

Aviation

Story continued on next page

This is the fourth consecutive year for the revived tour, which first took place in 1928. The goal of that first tour was to promote the fledgling aviation industry in Kansas. “The air tour is an opportunity to promote Kansas aviation and share the message that aviation is open

to all,” said Ed Young, President of the KCAE and Fly Kansas Foundation.

“This is a great opportunity for us to connect students with aviators,” said Merrill Atwater, KDOT’s Director of Aviation. “Kansas has such a rich history of aviation and it is important for us to celebrate this industry and who we are as Kansans.”



Some of the towns in the Kansas Air Tour stops this year included Concordia (top left), Wellington (top right and middle left) and Liberal (left). Above, Lt. Gov. Jeff Coyer speaks at the New Century AirCenter in Johnson County about the importance of the aviation industry in Kansas and its impact in multiple ways.

Trivia!

Put the Brakes on Fatalities Day

1. What year did the national safety campaign Put the Brakes on Fatalities Day begin?
2. What day is it on each year?
3. Who is the creator of the safety campaign?



4. On average, how often each day does someone die on a roadway, whether they are in a vehicle, on a motorcycle or bicycle, or walking?
5. What were about two-thirds of all people killed in vehicle crashes last year in Kansas not doing?

District Six



The Garden City Subarea Crew recently installed the National Championship sign for Garden City Community College. Pictured are Jesse Condo, Juan Aldana, Hector Terrones and Jesse Casanova.

In Memory

Condolences to friends and family of KDOT retiree Jack Fluke who passed away on Sept. 7 in Topeka. He retired after many years at the agency in 1992 as an Engineering Technician Specialist.

Condolences to friends and family of KDOT retiree William Trueblood who passed away on Sept. 17 in Osage City. He retired in 2001 after 40 years of service.

KTA

Assisting motorists: Kansas Turnpike Authority's State Farm Safety Assist program had a successful summer season. During the summer program's 2017 tenure, more than 1,300 travelers were assisted. Read the full release [here](#).

Service Awards



Below, Gov. Sam Brownback congratulates George Dockery for his 50 years of service to the State of Kansas.

From back row, left to right, State Transportation Engineer Catherine Patrick, District Four Engineer Wayne Gudmonson, Director of Operations Larry Thompson and Beloit Equipment Operator Specialist Doug Newquist are pictured with (front row, left to right) Environmental Administrative Assistant Sherri Bain, Pittsburg Area Engineer George Dockery and Beloit Equipment Operator Thomas Wendell at the Governor's Pin Ceremony on Sept. 22. The event took place at the State Capitol for employees celebrating 40 or 50 years of service in Fiscal Year 2017. Bain and Wendell celebrated 40 years of service, and Dockery celebrated 50 years of service.



Kudos

Below is a letter sent to District Four -

My name is Mark Cromly from Whitehouse, Ohio. On Sept. 15, I was riding my motorcycle on Rt. 54 near the Kansas town of Iola. I hit a dog that ran in front of my motorcycle and was thrown from the bike and I rolled down the highway, breaking several ribs.

I am writing this letter to give thanks and recognition to two of your employees. They both were on the scene of the accident and provided an instant response to my situation. Their quick actions to control traffic and alert local law enforcement and emergency medical teams helped ease a bad situation into a manageable accident.

I wish to give a special thank you to Mike Hedman who went the extra mile to show concern for my care and recovery.

Thanks to Mike and Derek Raney for going to another man's aid in time of need and helping to ease his burden.

Mark Cromly

TRIVIA ANSWERS

1. 2001
2. Oct. 10.
3. Larry Emig, who retired from KDOT in 2006.
4. About every 16 minutes.
5. Wearing their seat belts.

District Six



Bridge repairs keep crews busy: KDOT is responsible for maintaining 5,137 bridges in Kansas, according to Paul Kulseth in the Bureau of Structures and Geotechnical Services. The District Six Bridge Crew is responsible for maintaining approximately 360 of these structures, a relatively small number compared to other Districts, but it's still a big job. While traffic is reduced to one lane with a pilot car for these repairs, this work is usually done with KDOT crews in close proximity to live traffic. ***Pictured here are District Six Bridge Crew members and the Meade Subarea crew who worked to repair two bridge decks on U.S. 54 in Meade County.***

Top left: Joe Boyles and Jeff Lathen remove damaged concrete from area to be patched. Top right: David Dye removes loose debris and concrete from the area to be patched. Middle: Aaron Ortega-Arzate, Lorenzo Rivas-Avila and Joe Boyles mix concrete to fill the patch. Bottom left: Dwain Murphy and Jeff Lathen spread and smooth concrete to complete the patch.



Kansas Transportation

Thursday, Sept. 21

One of many near-misses

By Kevin Crain

Working in a highway work zone can be a dangerous job, and being a flag person is one of the most important jobs in the work zone. As a flagger you bear a lot of responsibility for the safety of your coworkers and the traveling public. I remember an incident that occurred on a U.S. 169 patching operation. The work zone included all the required signs, and each flagger wore a high visibility vest and orange hat. At that time, KDOT did not place lead-in cones on the centerline as we now do. I had just cleared my traffic and was watching a car coming at me at a high rate of speed. I was beginning to wonder if the driver even saw me standing there holding the flagging paddle. As the car came closer, it still was not slowing down so I started moving the paddle, hoping to get the driver's attention.

An experienced coworker once told me that a flag person needs to take control of a potentially dangerous situation. My colleague said that people in the vehicles could be like sharks in that if they sense fear they will not respect you. I also thought about the crew operating the patching equipment and realized that I was the only defense between



Kevin Crain

them and this car.

I just stood there waving the flagging paddle, hoping I would get this car to stop before it hit me. At the last moment, the car did stop about five feet from where I stood. The driver rolled down the window and stated that he could not see me standing in the roadway. That was hard to believe. I asked if he had seen the signs telling him there was roadwork ahead and he responded that he had not. Then I requested that he look into his rearview mirror – and finally, he could see the signs.

He wanted to know what was going on. These folks were not happy about being stopped, but I explained to the driver that we were doing road repairs and that they would have to wait a few minutes before they could proceed. Once we cleared the traffic from the other end of the work zone, I turned my flagging paddle to SLOW and let them go on their way. This is one of many near-misses that I have witnessed throughout my nearly 20 years of working at KDOT. I ask people to pay attention to their surroundings while driving. People in work zones also have families that we want to go home to every day.

Kevin Crain is the Supervisor at the KDOT Altamont Subarea office.

KTA



KTA crews lay the new ramp to the east Topeka toll at Plaza 177.

Put the Brakes on Fatalities

Gov. Sam Brownback, seated, signs the proclamation designating Oct. 10, 2017 as Put the Brakes on Fatalities Day in Kansas during a ceremony at the Capitol on Sept. 22. Attending the ceremony were, from left to right, Communication Specialist Mallory Goeke, KDOT retiree Larry Emig, District Two Public Affairs Manager Donna



Tollerton, Federal Highway Division Administrator, KHP Officer Stephen LaRow, KHP Officer Adam Winters, Jamie Lane with the Kansas Contractors Association, Mary Jane King with the KHP and Communications Director Brianna Landon.

District Six



Above, Kray Adams spreads cold mix using the spreader. At right, Adams also mills the top layer of asphalt using the zipper while Jesus Rocha stands by.

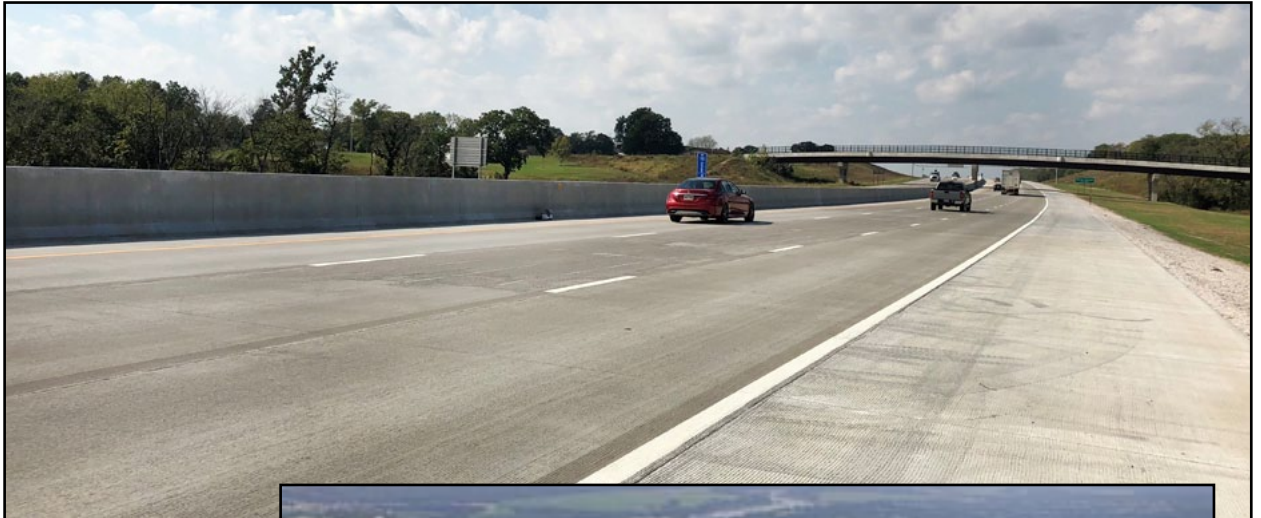


Extending the surface life: The Garden City Subarea Crew, with help from the Lakin Subarea Crew, began patching U.S. 50 and the U.S. 50 Bypass in Finney County. Larry Casey, from the Hutchinson Subarea Crew, spent a week in District Six assisting on the project.

This project included milling the top layer of asphalt using a zipper which breaks up the top layer of asphalt so that it can be removed. It was then replaced with cold mix asphalt in the milled area which was spread over the roadway using a motor grader and then compacted with a roller. The process and finish is designed to prolong and maintain the roadway's surface until additional resurfacing can be completed.

District One

A three-year project to improve I-70 between K-7 and 110th Street will wrap up later this year.



I-70 improvements: KDOT will soon complete an almost three-year project on I-70 between K-7 and 110th Street in Kansas City and Bonner Springs. Grading was done for future expansions of the interstate and deteriorated pavement was replaced. It also added a third lane in each direction on I-70 in an area that sees high volumes of traffic during peak hours.

The project began in February 2015, when work began to shift the alignment of I-70 eastbound to the south to allow for the construction of new lanes. Then all traffic was carried on the new westbound lanes while the eastbound lanes were constructed.

This project was part of a larger scale plan for the K-7 and I-70 interchange. The design for this interchange will include expanding I-70 to six lanes, adding collector and distributor roads and a possible determination that



the area is an appropriate location for a park-and-ride. The phases of this plan will allow for the accommodation of high volumes of traffic and access to local roads like 130th Street and Kansas Avenue.

This project will finish after seeding and pavement marking is completed later this year. Aaron Frit's road squad designed the project.

Transportation Alternatives

KDOT Awards \$18 Million in Transportation Alternatives projects: KDOT has selected 34 projects for inclusion in its Transportation Alternatives (TA) program for Federal Fiscal Years 2018 and 2019.

"We were thrilled to see so many quality applications for projects that will improve transportation networks throughout the state. There was a lot of public support illustrated in the project applications, which means these are projects that the people of Kansas find valuable within their communities and want to have access to," said Matt Messina, TA Program Coordinator. "Investments made through our TA Program help us make transportation connections no matter how people

choose to travel. It's all about providing people with multimodal transportation options," said Messina. KDOT evaluated each application and made selections based on criteria developed using input from various departments and external partners, such as safety and network improvements, cost estimates, project readiness, public support, and other factors. The total estimated costs for the 34 selected projects is \$24 million. Each project sponsor must commit to providing at least 20 percent of the cost of the project as a local cash match.

To see the full release with all the selected projects, click [here](#).

District Five



These photos were taken at the end-of-the-day camp in Sumner County, south of Clearwater. It had been a hot, dry and dusty ride that day and cowboys, horses and cattle were resting up for two more days on the trail.



150th anniversary: In recognition of the 150th anniversary of the Chisholm Trail, the O-K Chisholm Trail Cattle Drivers Association recreated a part of history and organized a cattle drive from Pond Creek, Oklahoma to Wichita. The historic Chisholm Trail was the route used to move hundreds of thousands of Texas longhorn cattle northward across Indian Territory (what is now Oklahoma) to Kansas railheads in Abilene.

During the event, 15-20 drovers in authentic gear rode on horseback, while chuck wagons and support crews drove 100 head of cattle along the trail. The drive began on Sept. 12 at Pond Creek and entered Kansas on the morning of September 16 on U.S. 81 south of Caldwell. They reached Wichita on the Sept. 23.

District Four

KDOT Chief Geologist Kyle Halverson acts as rod man for drilling activity on the K-7 mine grouting operations. KDOT is filling mine voids along the corridor as part of the reconstruction of K-7 from Columbus north to Cherokee. Also shown is Engineering Technician Kyle Leistikow. Engineering Technician Senior Sean Hudson was the drill rig operator. Thomas Rhoad's road squad and Chris Meyer's bridge squad designed the project.





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