

Translines EXPRESS

Nov. 2, 2016

General

Carlson appointed: Gov. Sam Brownback named Richard Carlson Acting Secretary of KDOT and Director of the KTA on Oct. 24. Carlson has served as Interim Secretary of KDOT since July 15. Carlson served in the Kansas House of Representatives for 10 years beginning in 2004, representing the 61st District of Pottawatomie County and northern Wabaunsee County. He was the Chairman of the House Taxation Committee for six years and served on the Appropriations



Richard Carlson

Committee and Commerce and Labor Committee. Most recently, Carlson was the legislative liaison for the Kansas Department of Revenue.

“I appreciate Gov. Brownback’s confidence in my management abilities,” Carlson said. “I look forward continuing to oversee our outstanding Kansas transportation system, recognized as one of the best in the nation.”

This appointment will require confirmation by the Kansas State Senate.

District Three



Getting ready: In preparation for the winter season, District Three had its third Snowfighter Basic Training Oct. 19-20 at the WaKeeney Subarea office. More than 40 new and experienced equipment operators participated in the training, which consisted of both hands-on and classroom sessions. Topics covered included winter safety, plowing procedures, spreader control and maintenance, front and wing plow usage, equipment recovery and decision making.



Above: Randy Chester (left), EO Senior in Phillipsburg, and Jonathan Mora, EO Trainee in Goodland, demonstrate how to properly attach chains for equipment recovery. **Left:** PJ Weinhold (right), EO Specialist in Russell, explains the features on a spreader control to Eric Hendrickson, Hill City Subarea Supervisor.

Trivia!

Pumpkins

1. Where is the self-proclaimed pumpkin capital of the world?
2. What percentage of a pumpkin is water?
3. What country did the tradition of carving pumpkins come from?
4. What food group do pumpkins belong to.
5. About how many seeds does a pumpkin have?
6. How big was the largest pumpkin pie made in 2010?

Kudos

Dear Dustrol Inc.,
As the owner of Brown-Bennett-Alexander Funeral Home, I want to thank your supervisors and crew for the respect which they showed to the family of Eugene Talkington. Several members of the family had talked with them concerning the road work on U.S. 177 south between Cottonwood Falls and Matfield Green, which was causing delays in traffic. When the funeral procession arrived at the work area, one of your supervisors led us through the area and every person stopped, stood, and removed his/her hat. It was extremely impressive to all of us.

Please relay our appreciate to your crew. Thank you for caring.
Sincerely yours,
Susan Alexander,
Cottonwood Falls

District One



A chemical spill in the city of Atchison caused the closures of K-7, U.S. 73 and U.S. 59 the morning of Oct. 21. The roadways were re-opened to traffic later that morning. An aerial photo taken by Corie Dunn of Atchison showed the chemical cloud.

KTA

KTA has recently completed several construction projects along the roadway - most notably, the Bazaar Cattle Pens. The grand opening ceremony took place at mile marker 111 on Oct. 27 with CEO Steve Hewitt, Gov. Sam Brownback, Secretary/Director of KTA Richard Carlson and other transportation officials. The project included safety enhancements to the ramps and a new scenic overlook. Additionally, the paving project near Belle Plaine has been completed and the northbound Osage County bridge is now open.



Scenic



KDOT employee Neil Croxton took photos of a gas station in Cawker City along U.S. 24 that was built in the 1920s and has been restored. Croxton said the station was converted to an ice cream drive-in during the 1960s.

Highway Highlights

Upcoming celebrations for highway projects -

SLT – this Friday, Nov. 4, at 10 a.m. in Lawrence on the new eastbound K-10 just east of E. 1750 Road (rain location is at the KDOT Lawrence office, 3775 E. 25th Street). At noon, there will be a public walk/bike celebration on a half-mile of the new

K-10 through the scenic wetlands. Enter K-10 from Haskell Avenue and head west to the parking area. In case of rain, this part will not be rescheduled.

Gateway – on Tuesday, Nov. 29, at 11 a.m. at the Crowne Plaza Lenexa Ballroom, 12601 W. 95th Street, in Lenexa.

Kansas Transportation

Wednesday, Oct. 26

Oh deer: A love story about improving driving safety

This is Buck. He just moved out of his parent's den and is eager to start his life.

Buck has a huge crush on Doelene.

He will do crazy things to impress her.

Tonight Buck was careless. While on his way to ask Doelene out, he jumped into the roadway without looking.

Buck is in trouble!

Let's pause the story and look at a few ways you can look out for Buck so he can win Doelene's heart.

◆ Look out for deer like Buck at dusk and dawn. Deer like to party at night ... and into the early morning hours.

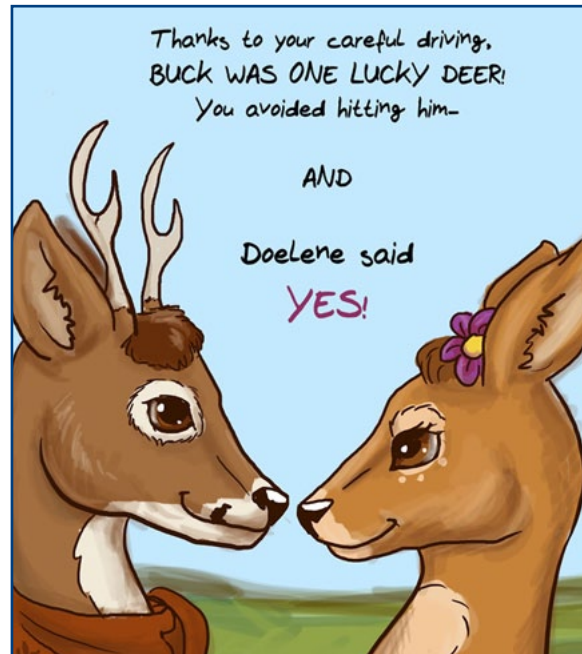
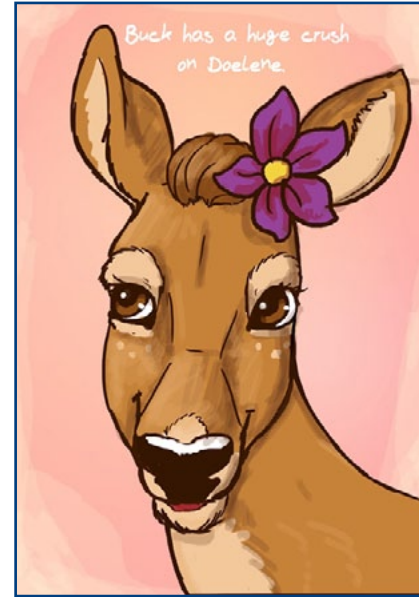
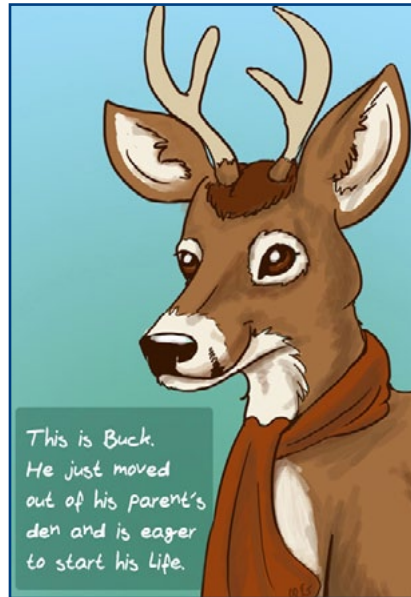
You like to hang out with friends, right?

Deer do too. If you see one deer, look out, there are likely more nearby.

◆ Slow down near wooded areas and open fields. Parks, golf courses and rural areas are great deer hangouts.

◆ When you see deer crossing signs, stay alert. These signs indicate where deer are likely to hang out. Sometimes deer crave adventure and excitement. They can travel anywhere, even in cities.

◆ If you see a deer near the



road, slow down safely.

◆ Never try to swerve out of the way. Overcorrecting can lead to a more serious crash. Turn on your emergency flashers to alert other drivers.

Thanks to your careful driving, Buck was one lucky deer. You avoided hitting him, and Doelene said yes!

Although this story has a light-hearted feel, deer crashes are expected to be on the rise this year and should be taken seriously. Check out more safety tips [here](#).

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

TRIVIA ANSWERS

1. Morton, Illinois
2. About 90 percent.
3. Ireland.

4. They are fruit, as are melons and cucumbers.
5. About 500.
6. The pie was 20 feet in diameter and weighed 3,699 pounds



Several passing lane expansions on U.S. 400 are nearing completion this year. At left, two-way traffic winds its way through cones east of the Butler-Greenwood county line. Bettis Asphalt & Construction Inc. is contractor on the \$3.8 million project. Steve King's road squad and Chris Meyer's bridge squad designed the project.

Right, U.S. 400 traffic takes advantage of the completed passing lanes east of Parsons. Shilling Construction is the primary contractor on this \$4.3 million project. Steve King's road squad and Chris Meyer's bridge squad designed the project.



General

Stubborn bridge: According to an article in Better Roads, the demolition of a nearly 100-year-old bridge in Little Rock that should have taken less than a minute ended up taking Arkansas Highway and Transportation Department (AHTD) crews more than five hours to bring down on Oct. 11. A KATV 7 report said the Broadway Bridge was decommissioned in September after it was deemed structurally deficient. "It has survived the 1927 Flood, The Great Depression and WWII," said Little Rock Vice Mayor Lance Hines. And on Oct. 11, the bridge survived this explosion. Following an inspection of the bridge after the failed explosion, AHTD said everything but the

outcome went as planned, noting that the charges made all the cuts they were supposed to. Officials said the bridge remained standing because it fell into itself. So, AHTD crews rigged up cables and began trying to pull the bridge down via tugboat. It took eight attempts before the bridge finally caved: With the old bridge down, AHTD will now start the process of replacing it with a new span. That project, KATV reports, is expected to be complete in six months. To see a video of the bridge explosion fail, click [here](#).

Put the Brakes on Fatalities Day

A few of the presentations for poster contest winners across the state are featured.



Six-year-old Cadence Sherman of Meade is pictured with her mom, Samantha Benear, after receiving her bicycle and helmet. Drawing runs in the family - her older sister, Dallas, won in her age category two years ago.



Malee Dunn, left, and Brooklyn Green-Lawson receive their prizes at their school in Riverton. Green-Lawson was also a statewide winner in her age group.

Below, Jaydrian Jackson, center, is recognized for her efforts in the poster contest at the Clay Center KDOT office in front of many employees. Also pictured are her parents, left, and Public Affairs Manager David Greiser.



Below, KHP Trooper Ben Gardner, left, presents Natalie Williams her bicycle in Great Bend.



Makenzie Storz, center, is joined by her father, Ron, for the prize presentation at her school in Phillipsburg by KHP Trooper Tod Hileman.

District Six



Above, Larry Fears, Equipment Mechanic Senior at the District Six shop, talks to a group about troubleshooting mechanical issues on the road. At right, Curtis Simpson, Equipment Operator in Syracuse, puts on a tire chain as Willy Phelps, Highway Maintenance Supervisor in Dodge City, looks on.



Are you ready for some snowfall? District Six conducted two days of winter training at the district complex in Garden City recently for both new Equipment Operators and veterans getting some refresher training. Instructors covered KDOT's SNICE policy, dump truck operations, plowing procedures, using brine and other materials, putting on tire chains and several other classes.

Aviation

Air ambulance service more accessible: The percentage of Kansans living within 30 minutes of an airport that is accessible to air ambulance service has risen to 90 percent. The increase, which is up from 86 percent in 2010, is documented in the Kansas Aviation System Plan Update of 2016. Increasing the number of airports accessible to air ambulance service is a goal of KDOT's Division of Aviation. Current airport projects scheduled for completion through 2017 will bring coverage to 92 percent. The ultimate goal is 94 percent coverage.

"These studies are important to fully understand the whole concept of where we're at and where we need to go to improve overall the aviation plan," said Aviation Director Merrill Atwater.



Air ambulance service accessibility continues to increase across Kansas.

Another finding of the 2016 study shows that 55 percent of Kansans have access to commercial service in their cities, up from 32 percent in 2010.

KDOT Employee Council Holiday Ornament Order Form

2016

Headquarters: Contact your Council Rep.

Districts/Retirees: Mail form to -
Ruby Hilton, ESOB - 13th Floor,
700 SW Harrison, Topeka, KS 66603

Year	Quantity	Cost	Total
2016		\$5.00	
2015		\$3.00	
2014		\$3.00	
2013		\$3.00	
2012		\$3.00	
2010		\$3.00	
Total Paid:			



Don't miss out - they are going fast!

Please Print -
Name: _____

Address: _____

Retirees only - home address)

Work phone: _____

Make checks payable to
KDOT Employee
Council

For more details, call
Ruby at (785) 291-3980

----- Past Ornaments Still Available -----

2010



2012



Supply is limited
on ornaments
from previous
years - first
come, first serve

2013



2014



2015

