

Translines EXPRESS

Dec. 2, 2015

Employee Recognition



Congratulations to members of the Hays Subarea and District Bridge crews for being selected as the Example of Excellence for the third quarter of 2015. The team worked together to patch the bridge decks of two Ellis County I-70 bridges to keep them in good condition until they can be replaced next year. Team members include, first row, from left to right, Kevin Lacy, Ryan Urban, Tim Weigel, Terry Augustine, Rick Rowilson, Michael Terrell, Roland Washburn, LeRoy Werth Jr., second row, Deputy Secretary Jerry Younger, Daniel Zordel, Kevin Zimmer, Gerald (Hammer) Hammerschmidt, Joe Unrein Jr., Bruce Arnhold, Jason Gerstner and Cole Peterson.

Equal Employment Opportunities/Americans with Disabilities Act

Informing KDOT employees: Traci Ward, KDOT's EEO/ADA Coordinator, will be hitting the road starting in January. She will inform employees across the state on who to contact and what to do if they ever need to file a grievance, are discriminated against or harassed, have hostile environments/workplace violence, or have questions regarding these issues.

Ward and staff from Contract Compliance will be conducting numerous training sessions in 2016 on KDOT policies, civil rights affirmative action, how investigations are handled, etc.

"My goal is that we all uphold respect in the workplace for each other and that diversity is embraced," Ward said. "We want to get out there and recruit, educate and empower people to do the best job they can do."

Ward said that some people don't understand what

is appropriate and what is not at work.

"There are certain things that are no longer okay in the workplace," she said. "We owe each other respect." Oftentimes resolving the issues just requires mediation.

"Sometimes I'm finding that communication is the breakdown," Ward said. "Someone may not even know you're offending them, and a conversation can help get everything back on track."

The Diversity Inclusion Network team will start meeting again soon. The focus is finding new ways to recruit and retain minorities. For more information about Equal Employment Opportunities or Americans with Disabilities Act, contact Ward at traciw@ksdot.



Traci Ward

Royals Trivia!

The third Royals trivia set is a charm

This features retired Royals third baseman George Brett

1. How many years did Brett play Major League Baseball?
2. How many career hits did he have? For these, where is he in the all-time standings?
3. Brett is one of four plays in MLB history to have accumulated 3,000 hits, 300 home runs and a career .300 batting average. Who are the other three players?
4. When did the Pine Tar Incident take place? Against what team? When did the game resume?
5. In 1990, Brett was the first MLB player to accomplish this feat.
6. When was Brett elected to the Hall of Fame?

District One



Senior Administrative Assistant Tristan Berends, District One office, took this photo of the Capitol with the accompanying flag at the Veterans Day Parade in Topeka.

District One



Before and after photos of the bridge expansion joints on the southbound I-435 bridge show a few of the improvements on the bridges since the project began in April.



Repair work wraps up: A bridge repair project on the northbound and southbound I-435 bridges over the Missouri River in Wyandotte County was completed and the bridges were reopened to unrestricted traffic on Nov. 15, more than two weeks ahead of schedule. These I-435 bridges are located just south of the Kansas/Missouri state line, a heavily-traveled route, especially for those going to and from Kansas City International Airport. Work began in April to replace expansion joints, patch work and overlay on the bridge decks, repair barrier rail, replace the approach pavement and repair the abutments. Travis Malone's bridge squad designed the project.

District Four

A section of the three-foot asphalt shoulder failed recently along K-39 in Wilson County. Altoona Subarea Supervisor Mike Hurt, left, and Sedan Subarea Supervisor Tom Ware inspect the project in which crews remove the asphalt and replace it to a depth of close to nine inches.



District Six

BNSF Railway recently completed replacement of 10 miles of bolted rail with continuous welded rail between Holcomb and Deerfield in southwest Kansas. The work, which is funded by a \$12.4 million dollar TIGER grant from the U.S. DOT and another \$3.2 million from KDOT, will help upgrade track along the line used by AMTRAK's Southwest Chief passenger service through Kansas, Colorado and New Mexico.



Kudos

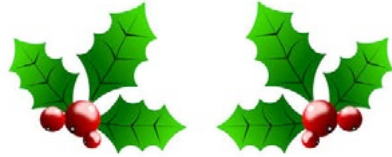
Here are just a few of the many tweets and notes that we received about the most recent storm that highlight the efforts of KDOT staff across the state.

- I've got to give major koddos to @KDOTHQ. While the world turned to ice they were out making my route drivable.
- Thanks @KDOTHQ for the great road work in southeast KS!
- @KDOTHQ @OKDOT Thanks for taking care of the roads. Home safe from a great weekend with family in OK.
- Big thanks to @KDOTHQ and all of the crews working hard.
- Much kudos to the @DriveSafeKansas for the awesome work on the area roads today #Thanful #kswx #ksice
- Drove from Liberal to Salina today and just want to say THANK YOU to all the KDOT crews between here and there! It's normally a boring drive. Today I was thankful for a boring drive!
- These folks do an amazing job on the roads here around Colby. We thank and salute you for your long hours put in to make them safe for us. Great job done by all.
- Our hats are off to the hard working folks at the Kansas Department of Transportation. We got caught in last night's ice storm and spent the night in Salina. The highways this morning are in great shape, and we are very grateful for the overnight efforts of the road crews. Thank you!



Don't forget to use your Discretionary Day for 2015. It must be taken on or before Saturday, Dec. 19.

Just a reminder, state offices are closed for the holidays on Thursday and Friday, Dec. 24 and 25.



District Four



Finishing touches are applied to the Hinton Creek Bridge on K-3 before the new bridge opens to traffic. Located approximately three miles north of the west K-3/K-39 junction in Bourbon County, the bridge had been closed for replacement since March. King Construction Company, Inc., of Hesston was contractor on the \$820,000 bridge project. Steve Rocker's road squad and Chris Meyer's bridge squad designed the projects.

District Four

KDOT's John Maddox shared this photo he took of the Konza Prairie from I-70 between Junction City and Manhattan.



Transload Facilities



John Maddox, KDOT Freight and Rail Program Manager, reviews site plans for the proposed Great Bend transload facility site with Pat Cedeno and other members of the WATCO team. Transload facility site reviews were conducted on Nov. 16 in both Great Bend and Garden City. Proposed business and operating plans for both proposed sites will be submitted to KDOT by mid-December. Preliminary engineering for both sites will begin in January 2016.

Kansas Transportation

Wednesday, Nov. 25

KanDrive redesigned just in time for winter weather

Be sure to check out the [KanDrive website](#) or call 511 to find out about road conditions.

Viewers may notice that KanDrive has a new look. The website was redesigned this month to make it more user-friendly and to be more compatible with smartphones. Users are encouraged to check the site before they leave and to not check their phones while driving.



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

KTA



The newly-constructed Kansas Avenue Bridge in Leavenworth county opened to traffic on Nov. 23. Crews are still in the area for demolition of the old bridge and construction of a new median barrier on I-70/Turnpike. Travelers should expect lane drops and construction activity near the roadway until mid-December.

TRIVIA ANSWERS

1. 21 years
2. 3,154 career hits; most by any third baseman, 16th all-time.
3. Hank Aaron, Willie Mays, Stan Musial
4. July 24, 1983, against the New York Yankees, the game resumed on Aug. 18 from the point of Brett's home run and ended with a Royals win.
5. Brett won batting titles in three different decades.
6. 1999

Have an idea for a news brief or picture for Translines Express?

Please e-mail to

translines@ksdot.org

KDOT retirees interested in receiving Translines - send email address to Kimberly@ksdot.org.

Order Form for Past Year's Holiday Ornaments

2010



2012



2013



2014



To order:

Headquarters: Contact your Employees' Council rep.

Districts/Retirees: Mail completed form and check to -

Ruby Hilton, KDOT, 700 SW Harrison
13th Floor/Bridge Design
Topeka, KS, 66603

Ornament	Quantity	Cost Each	Total
2010		\$5.00	
2011	----- SOLD OUT -----		
2012		\$5.00	
2013		\$5.00	
2014		\$5.00	
Total Paid:			

Please Print -

Name: _____

Address: _____

Retirees only - home address)

Work phone: _____

Checks payable to
Employees' Council

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

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