

# Translines EXPRESS

Aug. 26, 2015

## Kellogg Expansion



**State and local officials break ground on the Kellogg improvement project in Wichita on Aug. 20.**



**Secretary Mike King speaks at the event.**

**Groundbreaking:** The City of Wichita, the KTA and KDOT broke ground on the \$300 million East Kellogg improvement project on Aug. 20. The project will have two connecting pieces on East Kellogg: from the current freeway to east of Webb Road and further east through the Greenwich Road intersection to the K-96 interchange. The project includes new interchanges at Webb and Greenwich and improved access to the KTA. All construction is anticipated to be complete in late 2019.

Secretary Mike King, Wichita City Councilman Pete Meitzner, Wildcat Construction President Roger McClellan and other state, local and project leaders attended the event.

“Less than a year after announcing the project we’re moving dirt,” said Secretary King.

For more information on the project, go to [www.eastkelloggimprovements.com](http://www.eastkelloggimprovements.com).

## KTA

**Kansas Winter Expo:** The Kansas Winter Expo will take place Sept. 9-10 at the KTA Topeka Maintenance Facility next to the south toll booths. The expo aims to connect Kansas transportation maintenance crews with the latest equipment and operations practices in the field. Attendees will see displays and demonstrations as well as meet with fellow maintenance representatives. For more details: [www.kansaswinterexpo.com/](http://www.kansaswinterexpo.com/).

## In Memory

Condolences to friends and family of KDOT retiree Joseph Hays, of Kansas City, Kan., who passed away on Aug. 1. Hays retired in the mid 1990s as the Field Engineering Administrator at the Bonner Springs office after 32 years of service.

## District Two



*Work continues on U.S. 56 east of Marion in preparation for construction of the roundabout at the U.S. 56/U.S. 77/K-159 intersection. When completed the roundabout will offer bypass lanes around the structure allowing extra long and/or wide loads to pass through without accessing the roundabout. Crews are placing concrete treated base and mainline Portland cement concrete paving on U.S. 56 with the plan to have U.S. 56 completed by the end of the month. Once completed, this will end the K-256 detour through Marion.*

### Trivia!

#### Weather

1. How much of the Earth's total water content is suspended in the atmosphere as water vapor, precipitation or clouds?
2. How fast do lightning bolts travel?
3. How fast does a raindrop fall?
4. What is the typical lifetime of a small cumulus cloud?

### Letter to the Editor

**In praise of KDOT** (From the Lawrence Journal-World) To the editor: Now that's a phrase you don't hear often, but thanks is long overdue for the new divided U.S. Highway 59 between Lawrence and Ottawa. Entering and exiting the highway at North 1000 Road is much safer. Haskell Avenue and the newly opened 31st Street are also great to drive. Yesterday we saw 14 egrets and five herons in the waters just east of the newly built portion of Haskell near where the SLT is under construction. I remember several years ago, when I mentioned seeing a beaver in a man made waterway on private property, I was chided by a man who said, "A wetlands is not a wetlands is not a wetlands." I replied, "Perhaps a wetlands made by man is not as good as one made by God, but if the beaver can't tell the difference, what does it matter?" Apparently egrets and herons can't tell the difference either. Thanks KDOT. Thanks Roger Boyd.

Sincerely,  
Marsha Goff

## District Three

*Below and at right, repair work takes place on K-27 in Cheyenne County.*



**Quick repair:** KDOT area crews recently completed a repair project on K-27 north of St. Francis in Cheyenne County. Above average rainfall and hot summer temperatures led to deteriorating road conditions that needed attention prior to the scheduled construction project in 2016. Crews from Atwood, Colby, Goodland, Oberlin and St. Francis spent three days laying down about 300 tons of hot mix asphalt along a 12-mile stretch of the road. KDOT was able to lease the necessary equipment at a fraction of the cost to purchase it. The combined crews and expanded ability to lease the equipment allowed KDOT to complete the project more efficiently than letting an emergency contract repair.

## Traffic Safety

**Choose not to drink and drive:** Chad Kitzman's Labor Day weekend in 2005 was like most until he got in his car. When he woke up from a coma three and a half months later, his life had changed forever. That night, Kitzman chose to get behind the wheel after drinking all evening with his friends. After 15 surgeries, Kitzman is still dependent on others because of the choice he made 10 years ago and still affects him today. Kitzman emphasized his story is about choices as he spoke at the "You drink. You drive. You lose." news conference on Aug. 13 at the Kansas Highway Patrol headquarters in Topeka. From Aug. 19 through Sept. 7, drivers can expect an increased law enforcement



presence looking for impaired drivers. "As law enforcement we know as traffic increases, so does impaired driving, especially during major holidays," said Lt. Col. Randy Moon of the KHP. "That's why we participate in programs like this, because of our commitment to help keep our roads the safest they can be."

Kitzman asked drivers to make the right choice not to drink and drive and designate a sober driver before drinking. "Even call your mom or dad," Kitzman said. "They might be mad but they'd rather get a call from you asking for a sober ride home than a call that you've been taken to a hospital. Or worse, to a morgue."

## Secretary Anthony Foxx



Federal transportation Secretary Anthony Foxx, third from left, discussed various transportation issues while he was in Kansas on Aug. 19. While in Park City, he participated in a roundtable discussion and celebrated National Aviation Day. Joining him at the event was U.S. Senator Jerry Moran, KDOT Aviation Director Tiffany Brown, Secretary Mike King, Kansas Rep. Rich Proehl and KDOT Director of Policy Joel Skelley.

## TRIVIA ANSWERS

1. About 1 percent (humidity is a measure only of the vapor content)
2. About 14,000 mph
3. Around 18 mph
4. 10 to 15 minutes

## Retirees

The following employees will retire from KDOT on Sept. 1.

### District Three

**Robert Cotten**, Equipment Operator Senior, Goodland

### Headquarters

**Terry King**, Human Resource Professional III, Personnel Services

## KDOT Blog

### Kansas Transportation

Tuesday, Aug. 25

#### Tracks are for trains, not photos

While the school year has started, many seniors are preparing themselves for what happens after graduation, this includes college applications, picking out stationary and taking the perfect senior picture. While it's fun to scout new locations to have senior pictures taken, there is a place that should not be used as a setting: train tracks.



within their right to reject photos for publication if they are taken in the commission of a crime.

Julie LaCombe of Kansas Operation Lifesaver explains it this way, "If we saw a child playing on an airport runway, where planes can be moving 150 miles an hour when landing, we would

lose our collective minds and stop it right now. Why then would we place a loved one on rails, where hundreds of people actually die unintentionally every year?"

Train tracks are a very dangerous and should not be taken likely. Trains cannot stop quickly to avoid people or vehicles on the tracks and optical illusions make it hard to determine a train's distance and speed. You can't assume they are abandoned or inactive either, especially on private property. In fact, not only is it unsafe but it's also illegal. Trespassing is a crime and your school is

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

## District Five

The KDOT Anthony Subarea participated with local veterans organizations to dedicate U.S. 160 through Harper County as the "Harper County Veterans Memorial Highway." After placing one "Harper County Veterans Memorial Highway" sign in the City of Harper and assisting with a sign unveiling ceremony, the Anthony KDOT Subarea staff then posted three additional signs on U.S. 160 in Harper County. Funding to purchase these signs was raised by local veterans groups in Harper County.



## CAPITOL MID-WEEK FARMERS' MARKET



Topeka - every Wednesday  
7:30 a.m. to noon until Oct. 14

10th Street - south side of the Statehouse grounds

To locate/find out more about other farmers markets taking place in Kansas, check out the From the Land of Kansas website at <https://fromthelandofkansas.com/discover-resources/farmers-market-resources>

# Poster Art Contest

**Put the Brakes on Fatalities Day - October 10, 2015**

Traffic crashes are a leading cause of death in the U.S. for people age 3 to 34. "Put the Brakes on Fatalities Day" focuses on reducing traffic fatalities by encouraging motorists to take extra precautions.

Kansas kids ages 5 through 13 are invited to enter artwork representing their thoughts on "Put the Brakes on Fatalities." Regional winners in the three age categories will be chosen. Then, three statewide winners will be selected from the 18 regional winners!

Information on these websites -  
www.ksdot.org  
www.ksturnpike.com

## Age Categories

- 5 to 7 years old
- 8 to 10 years old
- 11 to 13 years old

Each regional winner will receive a **BICYCLE** and **HELMET** Courtesy of Safe Kids Kansas

Statewide winners will win \$50 VISA CARDS from the **Petroleum Marketers and Convenience Store Assoc. of KS** AND family packages to **Great Wolf Lodge Water Park Resort in Kansas City**

## RULES:

- ♦ Art MUST be on 8.5" x 11" paper. Any materials can be used including paint, crayon, pencil, pastel, and collage. No computer-aided drawings.
- ♦ All entries must be postmarked by **September 18, 2015**, to be eligible.
- ♦ Winners' names/artwork will be sent to media and posted on the KDOT website.
- ♦ **Mail entries to:**

AAA Kansas/Public Affairs  
3545 SW 6th Street  
Topeka, Kansas, 66606

Each entry **MUST** have this information on the back:

First Name _____	One entry per child
Last Name _____	
Age _____	
Home Phone Number ( ) _____	
Mailing Address _____	
City _____ Zip _____	
County _____	
Parent's First Name _____	
Parent's Last Name _____	

## SUBMIT VIDEO & WIN

OPEN TO TEENS IN GRADES 8-12



# PUT THE BRAKES ON FATALITIES

Put the Brakes on Fatalities Day held on October 10 focuses on delivering messages to the public about transportation fatality causes and how they can be avoided.

**AWESOME PRIZES!**  
Three finalists will receive awesome prizes such as an iPad, GoPro video camera or Apple Watch. \$500 will go to the booster club of the grand prize winner's school.

**OK COOL! BUT WHAT ARE THE RULES?**

1. Video must promote fatality prevention such as distracted driving, seat belts or texting while driving.
2. Video must be :06 to :60 seconds in length.
3. No "Selfie" videos, be creative!
4. Don't break any laws.
5. Submit & share your entry via social media such as Facebook, Twitter or Instagram by **September 20**.
6. Tag the official Kansas Turnpike profile, your school and #PTBOFvideo in the post with your video.
7. Have fun!

**WHAT CAN YOU DO?**  
Are you in grades 8-12? Check out the rules and enter! Are you an adult? KTA would like to ask you, as a youth influencer to share this video contest information with youth you engage with regularly? If you're an educator, can you integrate this video contest into a class project?