

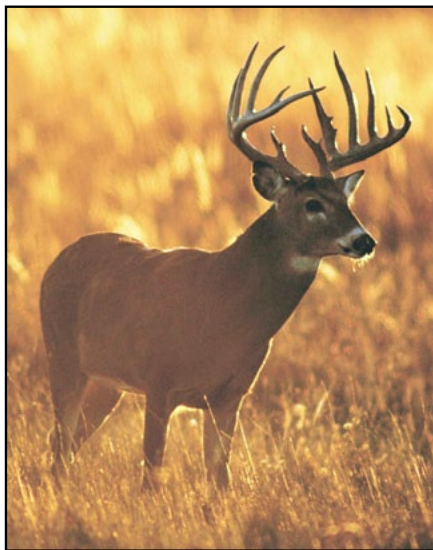
Translines EXPRESS

Nov. 18, 2015

KDOT crews tackle major winter storm in western Kansas with up to 20 inches of snow, 40 mph wind gusts and white-out conditions. See page 2 for more details.

Deer-Day

D-Day: This year's D-Day awareness initiative, the day a driver statistically has the greatest chance of hitting a deer, received a lot of play on social media last week. This year D-Day was on Nov. 13 and there were at least 73 retweets and 24 likes of deer awareness safety messages posted on KDOTHQ and Kansas Highway Patrol Twitter accounts. The messaging also picked up shares and likes on Facebook.



Averaging the deer-vehicle crashes and coming up with a D-Day is a great way to raise awareness of these crashes, which peak mid-to-late-fall. Even though it's just an average, this year's D-Day, which is based on a rolling average and, therefore, changes from year to year, was different than most. Over the past two months, the actual day of the most deer-vehicle crashes was, in fact, on the Nov. 13 D-Day.



This Kansas Highway Patrol calendar shows the vehicle/deer crashes in October and November investigated by troopers across the state, with Nov. 13 being the high.

Have a safe and Happy Thanksgiving!

All state offices will be closed on Thursday and Friday, Nov. 26 and 27.



Kansas travel information

- ◆ Call 5-1-1 within Kansas or (866) 511- 5368 from out of state
- ◆ Visit KanDrive, www.kandrive.org

Headquarters

Schwab named Bureau Chief: Denise Schwab is getting settled as KDOT's Bureau Chief of Personnel. She began in her new position on Sept. 27. Schwab has been with KDOT for 15 years. She started in 2000 in the District Three Shop as an Administrative Assistant, then moved in 2001 to the Personnel Clerk position. In 2005, she was promoted to the District's Human Resource Professional. "I felt like I had a lot to bring to the bureau because I have the district perspective," she said. Schwab's husband, Rick, is staying in Norton to run their business so they're both doing a lot of weekend driving, she said. They have two daughters and seven grandsons.



Denise Schwab

Weather

Lots of snow: The first major snow storm hit western Kansas on Tuesday with numerous road closures, stranded motorists and white out conditions at times.

With the storm first affecting Colorado, truck parking became a major issue, causing I-70 to close at 10 a.m., according to District Three Maintenance Engineer Michael Terry. The snow started in Kansas about 1 p.m. and continued for 11 hours – high totals reported by the National Weather Service include Colby, 20 inches; Atwood, 19.5 inches; and Wallace, 18 inches. The wind was blowing with gusts up to 40 mph so drifting became an issue, Terry said. The drifts were so high, they had to use motor graders with v-plows instead of the dump trucks. The new tow plow, described in the story below, was also used.

As visibility became zero, K-25 north of Colby, U.S. 36 from Oberlin to Colorado, K-27 from Sharon Springs to Syracuse and U.S. 40 from Oakley to Colorado were closed. Terry said I-70 opened at 2:15 a.m. and the other highways were just recently reopened. Many motorists were rescued Tuesday, Terry said, and the search went into the morning as the plowing continued.

In District Six, several roads were closed because of



This view from KanDrive shows the conditions about 3:30 p.m. Tuesday afternoon.

conditions in Colorado as well as numerous crashes, said Staff Engineer Joe Finley. U.S. 160 west of Johnson and K-96 west of Tribune, both to the state line, were just opened this morning. District Engineer Jeff Stewart stressed the outstanding efforts by so many employees during this storm. “I don’t think people realize how bad it was and to get roads opened up that quickly is truly unbelievable,” he said.

Equipment

New plows: When winter weather knocks on Kansas’ door, KDOT crews will be ready. This year KDOT is adding two new snow fighting machines to its arsenal: the tow plow. These tow plows, which are 26-foot-long and attached to a dump truck, will be housed in Colby and Olathe. “KDOT will assess the performance of the tow plow in these two different environments and that will help determine where future units will provide the best results,” said Clay Adams, Chief of Maintenance. “Olathe was chosen because of the high traffic volumes and urban area. Colby was chosen to see how well the tow plow would do on open stretches of highway that are often subjected to high winds and drifting.”

When the tow plow is in use it will swing out the right side taking up a full lane, allowing a single operator to plow two lanes of highway in one pass. Drivers need to be patient when following a tow plow; they are doing twice as much work as a single plow truck. They also should be aware when passing a snow plow because other trucks have wing plows that extend. Check out the video to see that tow plow in use - <http://bit.ly/1OzRB1E>.



Above, the tow plow swings out to the right side, allowing it to cover a second lane of highway. At right, District Maintenance Engineer Michael Terry, is interviewed by Gardner Royce of KWCH at a tow plow demonstration in Colby on Nov. 9.



District One

KC Metro changes: Paul Gripka has been named the Design-Build Project Manager for the Johnson County Gateway Project. Gripka was the Metro Engineer at Bonner Springs. Former Project Manager Burt Morey is now the City Engineer of Overland Park. Starting with the project as it moves into the winter alignment will be helpful, Gripka said, as things will be slowing down a bit and he can get familiar with it and be ready for next spring when work begins to finish the eastbound I-435 lanes and to construct a diverging diamond interchange at I-35/95th Street. Hugh Bogle, who is the Metro Engineer in Olathe, will be in charge of both metro areas temporarily.



This view of eastbound I-435 at Lackman Road shows the roadway before traffic was switched over on Sunday night to the newly-constructed pavement for the winter.

District Five

At right, City of Lyons and KDOT officials prepare to cut the yellow ribbon at the U.S. 56 dedication ceremony. Far right, Secretary Mike King speaks at the event.



GI celebration: Secretary Mike King and other KDOT employees participated in the ribbon cutting ceremony on Nov. 9 in Lyons for the \$2.1 million U.S. 56 Geometric Improvement project. The project widened the existing two-lane to a four-lane highway on U.S. 56 in Lyons from the west city limits east about 1/3 of a mile. The City of Lyons combined this project in coordination with a KDOT project to replace the U.S. 56 bridge over a tributary of Little Cow Creek. Lyons Mayor Michael Young said the project was important for future economic development and current growth in the city and county. Following the ribbon cutting ceremony, the city of Lyons hosted an open house at City Hall led by City Administrator John Sweet, and KDOT officials received a tour of the new adjoined library complex.



Royals Trivia!

Kansas City Royals - 1985
A look back, just for fun

1. Who did the St. Louis Cardinals beat in the National League East division to play in the National League Championship Series?
2. Who did the Royals beat in the American League West division? Then what team did they defeat to go to the World Series?
3. This was the first World Series in which all games were played this way.
4. If the Cardinals would have won, this would have made how many World Series titles for them?
5. How many Missouri-only World Series have there been?



Weather

KHP Trooper Lexi David took this photo of snow and slush along westbound I-70 near the Colorado border when the first winter storm of the season hit on Nov. 11.

KDOT Blog

Kansas Transportation

Monday, Nov. 2

Why are they working on that road?

Why are they working on that road?

It's a question KDOT officials often hear that can be answered in one word: preservation.

According to the Federal Highway Administration, pavement preservation represents a proactive approach to maintaining our existing highways. It enables a transportation agency to reduce costly, time consuming rehabilitation and reconstruction projects and associated traffic disruptions. Timely preservation provides the traveling public with improved safety and mobility, reduced congestion and smoother, longer lasting pavements. Preservation isn't a new concept. Consider how we incorporate preservation in our daily lives. We change the oil in our car to maintain engine life. We change furnace and air conditioner filters to keep our units running smoothly. The same goes for our roads. Applying the right treatment on the right road at the right time will extend the service life of the pavement or, in short, help keep good roads good. Examples of preservation treatments include chip



seals, milling and overlays, surface recycling and patching. The average cost of these treatments is significantly less than complete reconstruction or modernization projects. The National Center for Pavement Preservation estimates that every dollar spent on preservation saves \$6 to \$10 that would have to be spent on future rehabilitation or reconstruction. Pavement preservation programs are a proactive approach to maintaining our roads using low cost, preventative maintenance treatments. By keeping our good roads good, we can ensure that we are getting the most out of our pavement investment.

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 KTA is in the process of installing video enforcement equipment in dedicated electronic lanes at the East Topeka toll plaza and the Southern Terminal just south of Wellington near the Oklahoma border. This equipment will capture images of license plates and will eventually assist KTA in collecting tolls from those who use those lanes without an electronic transponder like K-TAG or PIKEPASS. To learn more about this program, view our news release at <http://bit.ly/1iOhZV>.



Letter to the Editor

KDOT received an email about the zooming capabilities on county maps. After checking into it more, GIS Developer Elaine Bryant discovered seven of the 105 maps were not working as they should and got it corrected. The last email in the series is below:

Wonderful, Elaine. Thank you. I appreciate this, and all our correspondence very much. As I said before, your maps are invaluable in my work. Many years ago, prior to the Internet, I purchased a complete set of your county maps on paper. I would then copy a section I wanted, then expand it in the next copy, etc., to finally get the copy I needed. Then, somehow I wandered onto your website and found your maps, which are obviously much more than just highway maps. Now, your website makes it so easy.

Thanks for everything.
John Peck,
Lawrence

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.

Retirees

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

District Two

Gary Buum, Equipment Operator Senior, McPherson

District Three

Michael Rogers, Engineering Technician, Phillipsburg

District Five

Tony Robertson, Equipment Operator, Wichita

KanDrive

You may have noticed a new design to our external site KanDrive, the site is undergoing a soft launch before we announce the changes to the general public.

The design of the site is different than the previous site but will be more user friendly to most internet browsers including mobile browsers. Please take the time to explore this new tool.



General

Bike friendly campus: Kansas State University has been designated as the first Bicycle Friendly University in Kansas by the League of American Bicyclists.

The University has received the bicycle organization's Bronze-Level Bicycle Friendly University award. In all, the league awarded or renewed bicycle-friendly status to 49 universities in 31 states this year, bringing the total of designated bicycle friendly universities and colleges to 127 in the nation. The Bicycle Friendly University program recognizes institutions of higher education for promoting and providing a more bike-able campus for students, staff, and visitors. The program provides the road map and technical assistance to create great campuses for cycling.

"Being designated as a bike-friendly campus is something to be proud of," said Derek Jackson, Director of Kansas State University's Housing and Dining Services. "Students and staff are biking more and more for both transportation needs as well as for recreational wellness."

TRIVIA ANSWERS

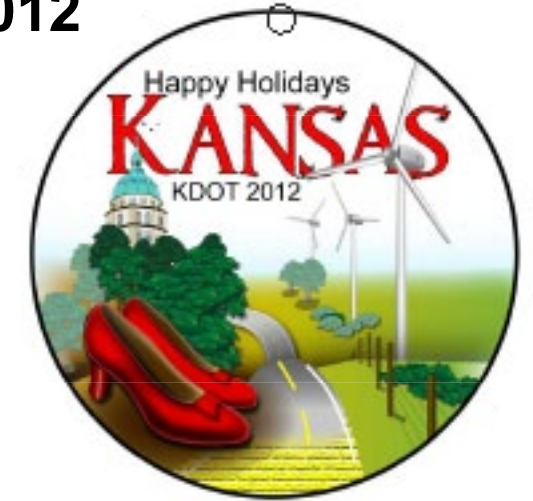
1. New York Mets
2. California Angels; then the Toronto Blue Jays
3. At night
4. They were playing for their 10th title
5. Two – the first was in 1944 between two St. Louis team, the St. Louis Cardinals and the St. Louis Browns (that later moved and is now the Baltimore Orioles)

Order Form for Past Year's Holiday Ornaments

2010



2012



2013

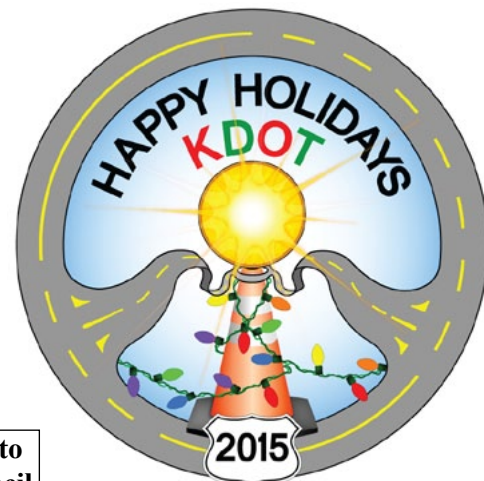


2014



Celebrate with a 2015 KDOT holiday ornament!

★ KDOT Ceramic ★ Holiday Ornament



An Employees' Council fundraiser

To order:

Headquarters: Contact your Employees' Council representative

Districts/Retirees: Mail completed form and check to -

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

Checks payable to
Employees' Council

Please Print -

Name: _____

Address: _____

(Retirees only - home address)

Work phone: _____

For more details, call
Ruby at (785) 296-0603

Only \$5 each

♦ 3" diameter/flat ceramic

♦ Quantity _____

♦ Amount enclosed _____

To order:

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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