



# KDOT Translines



## **I**nside ...

- ◆ Actions speak volumes
- ◆ Safety campaign receives grant
- ◆ KDOT honored for QBS process
- ◆ The greater good
- ◆ New US-75 roadway open to traffic



## Miller's Time

By Secretary  
Deb Miller

# The greater good

*“Service to a just cause regards the worker with more real happiness and satisfaction than any other venture of life.” --Carrie Chapman Catt, suffragist and a founder of the League of Women Voters*

Earlier this year I reached a milestone of which I am very proud. I have worked for the State of Kansas for 20 years, with a few interruptions in those years working in the private sector.

During that time, it has been my privilege to have worked along some of the finest people anywhere and in a state agency that I believe is second to none. I have always been inspired by the dedication and overarching spirit of service you bring to your jobs.

That’s not just sentimentality talking. It’s also recognition of how valuable that approach is to the agency – both for the work we do and for our public image. That spirit of service is featured in a new video that has just “premiered” at the Leadership Forum. I hope that when you have the opportunity to view it you will do so.

It’s no secret that many of you could earn more in the private sector. But you have chosen to work in government and to contribute to the greater good of the community. When we accept jobs in state government, we are giving back – like the people who serve on the school board or water district board. That sense of giving back to the commu-

nity is one of the most important principles in a democracy. We have to be willing to do those things if we are going to be self-governed.

In the past year, a consultant conducted interviews with some of you about how we do business and she was struck by how committed you are to doing the right thing. It’s that commitment that motivates a snow plow driver to drive into a blizzard on a night he’d rather be home with his family. It’s part of the maintenance worker who puts herself in harm’s way in sweltering Kansas heat to do important maintenance on our roads. And it buoys the spirit of our representative as he walks into a public meeting to face a hostile audience.

The “relentless devotion to perfection” that the consultant observed sometimes puts us at odds with those we serve. What we believe to be responsible decision making can appear to be unresponsiveness to outsiders. We know that sometimes “no” is the difficult correct answer, so we have to say it in a way that helps people understand why we made that decision. And, sometimes the people who want an explanation are our fellow employees.

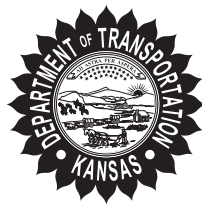
This brings me to another observation that impressed the consultant – our strong sense of family. It came up time and again in her interviews. Like all families, we have arguments. We disagree sometimes. It’s to be expected and it’s OK. Because when all is said and done, we know we are motivated by the same thing – building and maintaining a great transportation system.

In the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, I fear that the message many Americans received was that government doesn’t work. And that’s unfortunate. But here in Kansas, I think most of those we serve know that KDOT functions well and does care. It’s vitally important that those of us who believe in this form of government and believe in our communities make sure citizens can see that we work on their behalf.

Your strong spirit of service is evident in how you do your work, and I thank you for making a difference in how our citizens view their government.

### KANSAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Bureau of Transportation Information  
Eisenhower Building, 2nd Floor, West  
700 SW Harrison, Topeka, Ks 66603-3754



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### Calendar of Events

**Dec. 9** – 8:30 a.m. - Highway Advisory Commission conference call.

**Dec. 13** – KDOT employees’ Council Meeting, Third Floor Eisenhower State Office Building.

**Dec. 14** - 2 p.m. Construction Bid Letting at the Wichita Airport Hilton.

**Dec. 26** - State employees off for Christmas holiday





*Dignitaries including Secretary Deb Miller, center, were present for a ribbon cutting ceremony at the opening of the US-75 alignment in Brown County.*

## New US-75 roadway open to traffic in Brown County

SABETHA - Secretary Deb Miller was one of the featured speakers at the ribbon cutting ceremony for the newly opened US-75 realignment in Brown County. Miller was joined by Representative Bruce Larkin, Sabetha Mayor David Emert and Project Manager Jim Jewell of Dobson Brothers Construction,

**Continued on page 5**

## KDOT recognized for outstanding IT efforts

By Kim Stich

KDOT received two awards recently that recognize the agency's outstanding efforts in the Information Technology field.

KDOT was one of only six winners in the United States and the only state DOT to be recognized for the Excellence in Enterprise Architecture award sponsored by the E-Gov Institute.

Enterprise Architecture gives agencies a way to model their business strategies, initiatives, processes, data and technology. "It's important to

**Continued on page 5**

*On the...*

## COVER

*Protecting and preserving the environment are initiatives of the Kansas Prairie Ecosystem Restoration. For more information, please see the article on page 9.*

## Native wildflowers planted at scenic byway overlook

COTTONWOOD FALLS - The generosity of the Kansas Native Plant Society will enhance the beauty that can be observed from the Flint Hills National Scenic Byway overlook near Cottonwood Falls.

The president of the society donated 250 native plants and society

members spent a day in late October planting them at the overlook four miles south of Cottonwood Falls on K-177. The names of some of the plants are as colorful as the blossoms they will produce next spring - large-flowered beard

**Continued on page 12**

*Native plants and flowers were planted along the Flint Hills National Scenic Byway overlook on Oct. 24 by members of the Kansas Native Plant Society.*



# KDOT honored for QBS process

By Stan Whitley

KDOT recently received a national Merit Award for its Qualifications Based Selection (QBS) process.

The honor was presented on behalf of the American Council of Engineering Companies (ACEC) and the National Society of Professional Engineers (NSPE) at the annual KDOT Partnering Conference held Oct. 18 in Topeka.

"KDOT is honored to receive this prestigious award for its QBS process, which serves as an excellent example of partnering between the agency and consulting engineering firms," said David Comstock, Director of Engineering and Design.

The QBS process is used by the agency in the selection of firms to handle engineering services. It is a competitive contract procurement process whereby consulting firms submit qualifications to KDOT, which evaluates and selects the most qualified firm, and then negotiates the

project scope of work, schedule, budget and consultant fee.

Comstock said the QBS process is designed to assure that three main objectives are met. They include an open and fair competition, selection based upon qualifications of a firm as opposed to low bid and the negotiation of a fair and reasonable fee.

Comstock was presented the award by Scott Heidner, President of the ACEC of Kansas.

"The Kansas Department of Transportation's devotion to QBS makes a monumental difference in its ability to do quality work at a reasonable price," said Heidner. "The fact that KDOT earned this award makes a profound statement about its commitment to the QBS

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*'The Kansas Department of Transportation's devotion to QBS makes a monumental difference in its ability to do quality work at a reasonable price.'*

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**Scott Heidner**

process."

Every year, ACES and NSPE work together on the QBS awards program. The purpose of the program is to recognize public and private entities that make exemplary use of the QBS process at the state and local levels.

## United Way

*KDOT employee Joe Eckhardt examines baskets during a baskets, breakfast and bake sale event for the United Way. This year's campaign raised almost \$23,000.*





## Awards

Continued from page 3

KDOT because we've invested millions of dollars in technology," said Bill Roth, System Software Specialist. "We want to get the most value out of our investment so we have to understand where the new investments fit into the puzzle."

Roth said KDOT has about 300 technologies that must be supported, and those technologies are scattered among 150 systems and 6,000 tables of data.

"These models help managers see where their systems fit into all the processes," Roth said. "It helps people get up to speed on their job and become effective much more quickly. It also helps people understand the impact if

***'We want to get the most value out of our investment so we have to understand where the new investments fit into the puzzle.'***

**Bill Roth**

they decide to change a process."

KDOT also was honored with a Global Excellence in Business Process Management (BPM) and Workflow award. This is an international award with KDOT receiving a silver award for all of North America.

Adobe nominated KDOT because the agency is a leader in state DOTs for business process and workflow automation. KDOT has 40 processes that are automated work flows.

"We reduce turnaround time by about 60 percent," said Cindy Wade, Records and Workflow Management Supervisor. "An example is the highway access permit process – we took it from two months to three weeks just by automating the process."

Information accuracy is greatly increased and it reduces paper copies with data being stored electronically.



*Part of the new US-75 roadway can be seen behind Secretary Deb Miller as she speaks at the US-75 ceremony.*

## US-75

Continued from page 3

the prime contractor for the project.

The \$25 million Major Modification project, scheduled to be completed in late November, includes two new interchanges and 7.2 miles of new roadway that will improve the safety for motorists and for the city of Sabetha.

The two new diamond interchanges are located at US-75/US-36 and just east of the city of Sabetha at the US-75/Main Street intersection. The new alignment is now located just to the east of Sabetha. Old US-75 cut through downtown Sabetha.

The realignment of US-75 stretches from about 1/2 mile south of Fairview to 1 1/2 miles north of

Sabetha. The project will allow traffic to travel straight north on the new facility from the east junction of US-75/US-36.

One interesting aspect of the project is four 305-meter test sections

of perpetual asphalt pavement. The experimental test sections of pavement, varying in thickness from 275 to 325 millimeters, include sensors embedded just below the pavement to monitor the asphalt

KDOT partnered with Kansas State University, the National Asphalt Pavers Association, the Kansas Asphalt Pavers Association and the National Center

for Asphalt Technology to implement and monitor these test sections. They hope to determine if KDOT can build more cost effective asphalt pavements in Kansas.

### US-75 project facts

- ◆ The \$25 million project will improve safety for US-75 motorists and the city of Sabetha
- ◆ The interchange at US-36 allows for increased safety at the junction of two major highways
- ◆ The new alignment will remove highway traffic from the city while encouraging new development near US-75 and Main Street

# Actions speak volumes

By Martin Miller  
District Five Public Affairs Manager

A few months ago I had the opportunity to take a reporter and a photographer from *The Hutchinson News* to a KDOT Maintenance Subarea work zone. They had called the District Five office and were following up on a story line they were working on about two KDOT maintenance workers that had been killed this year while working along Kansas highways. The reporter wanted to see what a KDOT work zone looked like and ask the maintenance staff what experiences they had over the years working inside these work zones.

As I checked to see what KDOT maintenance activities were being performed in close proximity to Hutchinson, I found out from our District Engineer that the Lyons Subarea was laying cold mix as-

phalt on entrances and side roads along K-14 to bring them up to the level of an asphalt overlay that had recently been completed on the highway mainline. This operation involved a work zone that reduced K-14 to one lane traffic controlled by flaggers and would have work zone signs set up along the highway, so this would be a good example of a KDOT maintenance work zone.

## Communication: A Key to Success



Kansas Department of Transportation

We called ahead to see exactly where the Lyons Subarea crew would be working and then I coordinated with the reporter to meet me at a side road where we could park our vehicles and safely observe this work. When I arrived and met with the reporter and photographer, the Subarea crew was just getting started again after breaking for lunch. The KDOT crew met to discuss everyone's duties and then the flagmen went to their stations and reduced the highway traffic to one lane and the asphalt operation began. This gave our newspaper observers a good idea of the coordination and varying skills required to operate a work zone.

The professionalism that was exhibited by the entire Subarea crew spoke volumes about the training, with an emphasis on safety, that KDOT provides to all employees. The KDOT Safety Specialist even stopped by to make sure the newspaper reporters and I all had KDOT safety vests on.

The asphalt work proceeded efficiently while we were there observing and the Subarea crew did a great job of communicating what work was being done and why it was needed. But most of all, every person on the crew had stories of close calls that they have

**Continued on page 7**





## Actions

Continued from page 6

experienced while working along our Kansas highways, and that is what the reporter had come to hear.

The next day the front page of *The Hutchinson News* had two KDOT stories, one story related to KDOT's budget woes and the other story was about the Lyons Subarea highway work zone. The news package also included a photograph showing flagmen, orange cones, dump trucks and KDOT maintenance employees wearing safety vests.

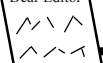
Many times the news media may seem to be a burden with questions to answer about vehicle crashes, bridge and highway closures causing inconvenience for the traveling public, and other issues of concern that arise about the Kansas highway system. However, every time I have had to go out along a highway and meet with reporters, the professionalism of the KDOT employees working in those locations speak volumes about the quality of service KDOT provides to the travelers using our highways.

## Step Back in Time



*Workers construct a bridge on I-70 west of Topeka in Shawnee County in 1959.*

Dear Editor



## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Dear Deb:

Gus and I recently vacationed in Colorado. Obviously, we had to drive across almost all of Kansas to reach Colorado and return. During that trip, we stopped at "many" of I-70's rest areas. We were most pleased to find all of them very clean and everything in good working order. As many of the KDOT folks (and one former district engineer, in particular) could tell you, dirty rest rooms caused us a lot of bad publicity and trouble some years ago and were a strong pet peeve of mine. These clean rest rooms were a very welcome sight. I realize that probably most, if not all, of the cleaning is contracted out, but someone at KDOT has the responsibility to be sure things are done properly.

We were also very pleased to find advance

signs to advise the public how many miles it would be to the next rest area. This is extremely helpful to the traveler in trying to make a decision whether to stop or go on to the next rest area.

I-70 appeared to this nonengineer (and also to my engineer partner) to be in very good condition which made driving easy. Signing was good and proper (contrary to a couple of other states I could name). From my perspective, KDOT gets an A+.

When I worked at KDOT, I was always very proud of the folks at KDOT who work very hard to do their jobs. Now, as a Kansan, I am still very proud of the folks at KDOT.

Sincerely,  
Nancy L. Bogina, Topeka

***KDOT is a leader***

**Conference helps organizations find new ways to share information**

OVERLAND PARK - KDOT hosted the Document Management and Workflow 2005 Conference Oct. 16-18 in Overland Park to help state DOTs and other organizations learn more about these processes and find new ways to share information.

Document management and workflow saves time and allows information to be saved electronically. This can be critical in many situations, including disasters such as Hurricane Katrina.

“Document management would have helped them because the information could have been stored off site and electronically, which is easier to restore,” said Becky Klenklen-Welsh, who coordinated the conference. “With paper documents, when it’s gone, it’s gone for good.”

KDOT is a leader in document management and workflow. “All government agencies should work together, and this conference helped us to show other groups where we’re going and what we’re doing,” Klenklen-Welsh said. “But it was also an opportunity for us to learn new methods as well.”

Representatives from 19 other DOTs, 10 city/county governments in Kansas and nine Kansas or other state agencies were among the groups that attended. This is the first year the conference was open to groups besides DOTs.

The event was sponsored by American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials. **-K.S.**

**KDOT Computer Training**

**– from the KCTC**

***Increase your computer efficiency***

Misty Rodriguez trains on a range of KDOT-supported software programs. You may view the shared class calendar in Outlook. After clicking on your calendar, choose “Open a Shared Calendar.” Type in KCTC for the calendar name. Then you will be able to see current classes. Classes listed in red are FULL.

**NEW CLASSES**

Access L4–Jan. 10-11;  
Excel L4–Jan. 31.

**DID YOU KNOW?**

**Tips & Tricks:**

◆**How to make your mark on Master Slides in PowerPoint?** If you place anything - text or objects - on a master slide, they will appear on all of your slides. This can be useful for branding, for example placing a logo in the corner of each slide. In PowerPoint, click on the View menu, choose Master and then Slide Master to edit the master slide.

◆**How to set up your Word Program to prevent accidental inclusion of the history of changes to your Word documents?** Open Word, choose the Menu items: Tools, Options, Security Tab and Check the box that reads “Warn before printing, saving or sending a file that contains tracked changes or comments.”

*This tip brought to you by the Bureau of Computer Services.*

**Enroll by e-mail [ktcc@ksdot.org](mailto:ktcc@ksdot.org) or call Ingrid Vandervort 785-296-8993. Questions are welcome!** Supervisor’s approval to enroll is necessary.

**M I L E S T O N E S**

**KDOT salutes its employees celebrating anniversaries in November**

**10 YEARS**

Daniel Cherry . . . . . Pittsburg  
Kevin Harshbarger . . . . . Chanute  
Bill Kritikos . . . . . Topeka  
Duane Michaud . . . . . Concordia

**30 YEARS**

Alvin Gillespie . . . . . Wichita  
Stanley Hamilton . . . . . Dodge City  
Fred Holthaus . . . . . Topeka  
Ronald Miller . . . . . Liberal

**20 YEARS**

Kevin Jirak . . . . . Marion  
Derinda Linville . . . . . El Dorado  
Matthew Schillig . . . . . Hoxie  
Milton Tokoi . . . . . Sharon Springs  
Joe Wilson . . . . . Wichita

*This information is compiled by each Office, Bureau, Division, and District.*



## Firm receives top woman-owned business award

A firm nominated by KDOT was selected as the top woman-owned construction business of the year at the 21st annual Minority and Women-Owned Business Awards luncheon held Oct. 27 in Topeka.

The award went to Jackie Jensen, owner of J&J Contractors, Inc. The small Iola construction firm was founded by Jensen in 1987.

“Jackie loves being a mentor to other small business owners and she has done an excellent job towards promoting good disadvantaged business enterprise relationships between other Disadvantaged Business Enterprise’s (DBE’s), prime contractors and KDOT,” said Sandra Greenwell KDOT Civil Rights Administrator. “She’s been an active voice in the Kansas Contractor’s Association and received various partnering awards for her efforts.”

Steve Kelly, Deputy Secretary and Director of Business Development for the Kansas Department of Commerce, presented a plaque to Jensen in recognition of the achievement.

J&J Contracting has won contracts on KDOT



*Steve Kelly, Deputy Director of the Kansas Department of Commerce, presents a plaque to Jackie Jensen recognizing J&J Contracting as the top woman-owned construction business of the year.*

projects as a prime contractor in addition to performing sub-contractor work on many projects statewide. The firm specializes in bridge, culvert, grading and guard fence work.

The company, which averages 17 full-time employees, has been DBE certified in Kansas since 1988. – S.W.

## KDOT honored for ecosystem initiative

The Kansas Prairie Ecosystem Restoration has received national recognition by the Federal Highway Administration as an Exemplary Ecosystem Initiative.

“This is an example of outstanding environmental stewardship that KDOT has initiated to help protect and preserve the natural environment in Kansas,” said Kurt Dunn, FHWA Environmental Engineer.

Kansas is home to three imperiled grassland ecosystems. Kansas’ Prairie Ecosystem Restoration, Education, and Conservation Initiative was planned to restore and preserve portions of these ecosystems adjacent to Kansas’ roadways and educate the public on the values of these vanishing ecological communities.

The KDOT initiated this effort in February 2004 in

cooperation with the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks, Kansas Department of Agriculture, and the Audubon Society of Kansas. With more than 650,000 acres

of right-of-way, KDOT implemented a variety of cooperative activities to restore native grasses and other plants.

In addition to improved management of roadside ecosystems, KDOT also partnered with Kansas Public Television, Kansas Department of Commerce and the Kansas Historical Society to put information kiosks at significant landmarks as part of a public education and information program.

An information video was developed that is available to the public and was aired on Public Television’s widely viewed “Sunflower Journeys.” – S.W.

*This is an example of outstanding environmental stewardship that KDOT has initiated to help protect and preserve the natural environment in Kansas.’*

**Kurt Dunn**

*Fun Facts  
and Trivia*

**Do you know?**

**Interstate Exit Numbers**

States typically use one of two methods of numbering the Interstate interchange exits.

◆ **The Consecutive numbering system** -- Starting at the most westerly or southerly point on each Interstate route, interchanges are numbered consecutively. Thus the first interchange becomes Interchange #1. Each succeeding interchange is numbered consecutively as #2, 3, 4, etc.

◆ **The Milepost numbering system** -- All Interstate routes are mileposted beginning at the most westerly or southerly point. The beginning point is milepost '0'. If the first interchange on the route is located between milepost 4.0 and 5.0, it is numbered as Interchange #4. The next interchange, if located at milepost 8.7, would be numbered as Interchange #8, etc. With this system the motorist can easily determine the location and distance to a desired interchange.

*Do you know some fun KDOT facts or trivia?*

Send them to  
Shanna Anderson at  
[shanna.ksdot.org](mailto:shanna.ksdot.org).



*Colonel William Seck (center), Superintendent of the Kansas Highway Patrol, thanks the Wal Mart Good Works team members after receiving an \$800 grant for child passenger safety trailer supplies. Trent Monks (left), Co-Manager of the Wanamaker Wal Mart in Topeka, and Lt. John Eichkorn are also pictured.*

**Safety campaign recognized, receives grant**

Wal Mart selected the Put the Brakes on Fatalities Day efforts in northeast Kansas to receive an \$800 Safe Neighborhood Heroes Grant.

The grant is part of the Good Works program through the Wal Mart Foundation in Bentonville, Ark. Jan Gast, a member of the Good Works team at the Wal Mart on Wanamaker Road in Topeka, submitted the Put the Brakes group's effort that took place at the Wal Mart in Topeka.

The grant went directly to the Kansas Highway Patrol that will use the grant to

buy supplies for the child passenger safety trailers. These trailers are used at safety seat check lanes across the state to help people learn how to properly install child safety seats.

KDOT is one of several transportation organizations that sponsors numerous Put the Brakes on Fatalities events throughout Kansas. KDOT's own Larry Emig, Chief of Local Projects, initiated the nationwide safety campaign in 2001. The official day is Oct. 10, but safety activities take place throughout the year. - *K.S.*

**Retirements**

The following employees will officially retire from the KDOT on Jan. 1.

**District One**

**Roger E. Wassenberg**, Engineering Technician at Bonner Springs - 25 years of state service.

**District Four**

**Ronald W. Macari**, Equipment Operator at Pittsburg – 31 years of state service

**Tony Rodriguez**, Equipment Operator at Independence – 12 years of state service



## Transportation Briefs

### Aviation director revives woman

It didn't take long for Ed Young to show that he brings value added skills to his job as KDOT's new Director of Aviation.

Young, a former Emergency Medical Technician and firefighter, had only been on the job a few weeks when he came to the aid of a woman who had collapsed in front of the KDOT headquarters building and had stopped breathing. Aided by George Laliberte and Dianna Perry, also of the Division of Aviation, Young opened her airway and restarted her breathing twice before an ambulance arrived.

Young, who was a first responder course instructor at the University of Missouri for five years, said that on four or five occasions he has revived others who had stopped breathing. His proven skills also include delivering a baby. The woman revived by Young in front of headquarters has recovered fully.

### Cedar Rapids a safe city to drive in

The Allstate Insurance Company ranked Cedar Rapids, Iowa, as the safest city for drivers in its "America's Best Drivers Report" for 2005. The study considered U.S. cities with a population of 100,000 or more.

The study concluded the average driver in Cedar Rapids will experience a collision once every 15 years. The average American driver will crash once every 10 years. Sioux Falls, S.D., Chattanooga, Tenn., Huntsville, Ala., and Knoxville, Tenn., rounded out the top five safest cities for drivers.

– *Governors Highway Safety Association newsletter, Directions in Highway Safety, Oct. 31, 2005*

### Risky business

Both male and female teenage drivers were more likely to engage in risky driving behavior when a male passenger was in the front seat, according to a study by the National Institute of Child Health and Development. However, male teenagers were less likely to drive riskily when a female teenager was in the front seat. In addition, female teen drivers were more likely to tailgate and speed if a female teen passenger was in the vehicle with them. Although the study cannot explain why the presence of teenagers increased the likelihood of risky driving, NICHHD officials think the information will be useful for officials in devising teen licensing standards.

– *Governors Highway Safety Association newsletter, Directions in Highway Safety, Oct. 31, 2005*

### Weather agency, FHWA create partnership

As one of her last duties at the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), former Administrator Mary E. Peters signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) to improve the sharing of weather information affecting the nation's highways.

The agreement between FHWA and NOAA takes the program to the next level by creating a partnership between the meteorological and surface transportation communities for the common goal of reducing loss of life and injuries on the nation's roads. It will serve as the basis for a number of collaborative activities, including the sharing of all road weather observations and turning those observations into timely and accurate weather products for the traveling public. – *FHWA News, August/September 2005*

### Improvements to trucking safety

What are the some of the most common contributing factors to big truck crashes? The Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA, which introduced new rules for driving and resting times for truck drivers in 2003), the trucking industry and safety advocates compiled the following list: truck-driver fatigue or lapses in alertness, a nationwide shortage of safe stop-and-rest areas for big trucks, paying drivers only for miles driven, substandard brakes on large trucks, drivers overusing stimulants to stay awake, drivers breaking the hours-of-service (HOS) rules that set driving and resting times, the HOS rules themselves and unsafe driving by motorists. In 2004, accidents involving large trucks accounted for 5,190 fatalities and about 116,000 injuries.

– *Parade Magazine, Oct. 30, 2005*

### Litter crackdown

Motorists who choose to litter along roads in Franklin County, Ohio, beware: the guy in the car next to you may turn you in.

A six-month advertising campaign by the Ohio Department of Transportation and the Solid Waste Authority of Central Ohio have launched a six-month advertising campaign urging people to call a 24-hour hotline if they see someone throw trash out of a car. The hotline records the type of vehicle, license number, location, time and day. The six-month campaign features six billboards and ads on 24 transit buses.

– *American City & County, October 2005*

## Native plants

Continued from page 3

tongue, bracted spiderwort, rattle-snake master and wild bergamot.

Those who helped in the planting included Society president Jeff Hansen of Topeka, Carl Paulit of St. Paul, and Gary Weisenberger of Toronto.

“These are the kinds of grassroots efforts we want to encourage for all of the byways throughout Kansas,” said Debbie Divine, chairwoman of the Flint Hills Scenic Byway Management Committee. “We very much appreciate the work of the Native Plant Society to help beautify Kansas road sides.”

The Flint Hills National Scenic Byway is located on K-177 in Morris, Chase and Butler counties. It stretches from Council Grove to Cassoday. Originally a Kansas Scenic Byway, the route received national byway designation this

**Welcome  
new KDOT  
employees!**

### Headquarters

**Bradley Kooser**, Engineering Technician Associate, Materials and Research

**Vicki McCullough**, Administrative Assistant, Materials and Research

**Patty Wertz**, Right of Way Agent I, Right of Way

### District One

**Tony Strunk**, Mechanic, Bonner Springs

### District Six

**Jason Smith**, Equipment Mechanic Specialist, Garden City

*The Bureau of Personnel Services supplies information for new hires to Translines.*

## Promotions/Transfers

### Headquarters

**Jack Baines**, Right of Way Property Appraiser I, Right of Way

**Jason Bryant**, Network Service Supervisor, Construction and Maintenance

**John Culbertson**, Professional Civil Engineer I, Design

**Ron Feldkamp**, Engineering Technician Specialist, Design

**Teresa Jurgens**, Accountant II, Fiscal Services

**Michael Orth**, Professional Civil Engineer I, Design

### District One – Northeast

**James Shelton**, Engineering Technician Senior, Shawnee

### District Three – Northwest

**Max Dirks**, Highway Maintenance Supervisor, WaKeeney

### District Five– Southcentral

**Jason Wright**, Equipment Operator Specialist, Wichita

### District Six – Southwest

**Galen Ludlow**, Highway Maintenance Supervisor, Ness City

*The Bureau of Personnel Services supplies information to Translines.*

## Correction:

The Kansas Highway Patrol trooper on page one of last month’s Translines was incorrectly identified. His name is Travis Phillips.

### Kansas Department of Transportation

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