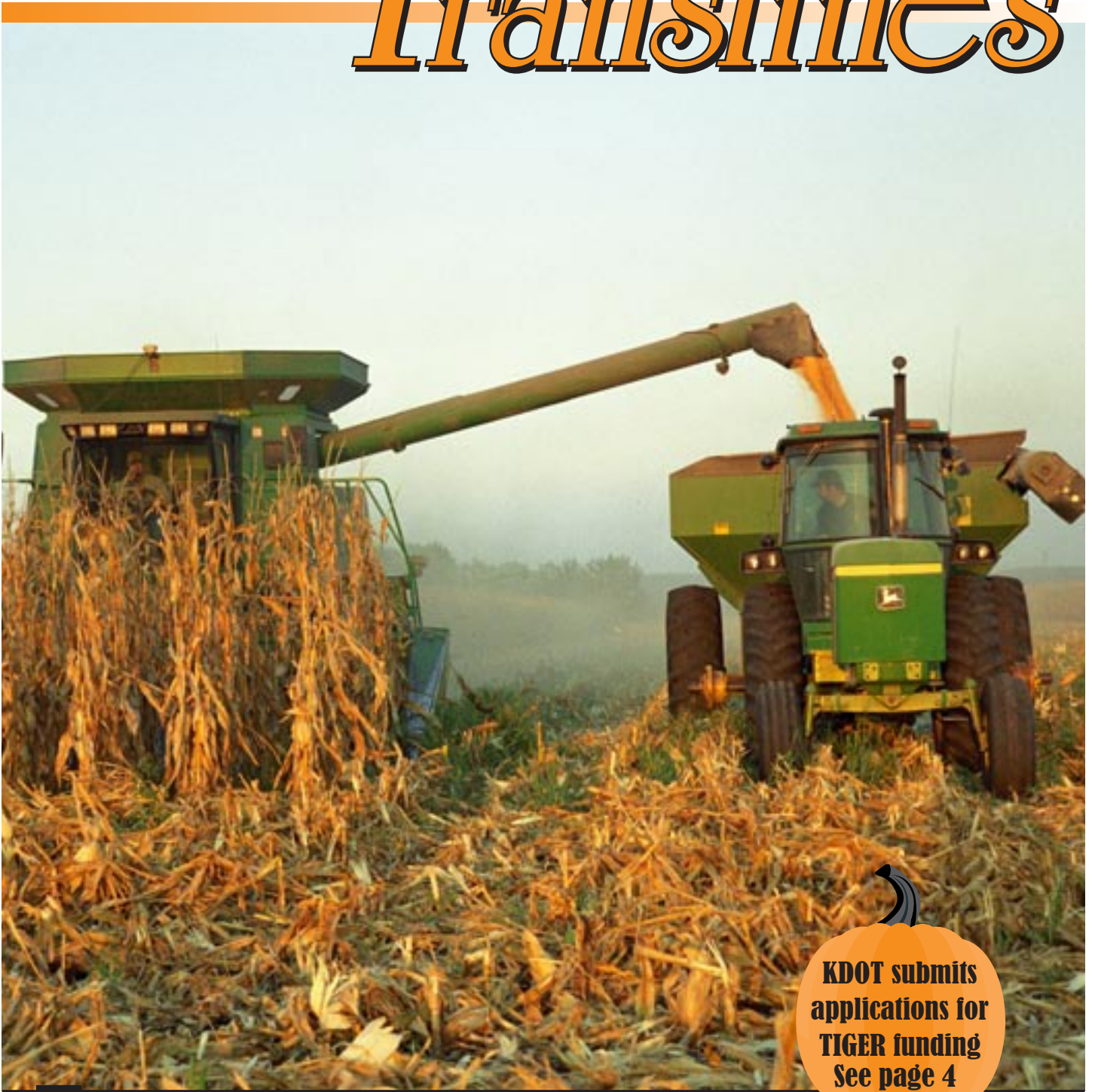


Translines



KDOT submits applications for TIGER funding See page 4

Inside ...

- ◆ *Bypass work in Downs wrapping up*
- ◆ *Sabetha students ride off with statewide honors*
- ◆ *ARRA project to relieve Wichita bottleneck*
- ◆ *Mentoring benefits workers, agency*
- ◆ *Vaccines, diligence help to avoid seasonal, H1N1 flu*



By Secretary
Deb Miller

Your contribution more important than ever

“No one has ever become poor by giving.” – Anne Frank

By mid-October, all of us should have received pledge cards for the Community Health Charities/United Way campaigns. And many might find it easy to say, “Not this year,” given the economic beating so many families have taken.

To be sure, these are uncertain economic times. Some of you may have already had to alter spending plans and others may worry that they will have to take that step soon. In fact, charitable giving in 2008 was down two percent nationally and it’s logical that it will be down again in 2009.

Unfortunately, the drop in giving comes at a time when many people are depending on health and human service agencies for support. And it’s not just those who are down on their luck financially who stand to miss out on important help if these agencies can’t provide services. Cancer, Alzheimer’s, natural disasters and care for elderly parents can affect all of us regardless of financial situation.

At KDOT, our giving to these campaigns has dropped. Last year, only 8 percent of us donated to United Way/CHC

through payroll deduction. The fact that we may not be able to contribute a lot – and I know that for some that’s the case – shouldn’t stop us from giving what we can. Even small contributions are important. Together, they have the power to improve lives and local community conditions.

To encourage giving by agency employees, KDOT’s District Engineers and Executive Staff have decided to offer a drawing. Any KDOT employee who contributes \$25 or more on a pledge card (by cash, check or through payroll deduction) is eligible for a chance to win a paid day off from work. If you gave directly to the United Way or CHC campaign in your community, you also are eligible for the drawing as long as we get a copy of your pledge. The agency-wide drawing will take place in early November.

A \$25 donation amounts to less than a dollar a pay-check. All of us can find ways to do without a dollar of spending every two weeks (I can probably find a dollar in change in my couch or car seats every two weeks). Though a dollar a pay period may seem insignificant, it can make a big difference as a contribution. For example:

- ♦ \$1 provides an educational booklet for a person newly diagnosed with multiple sclerosis.

- ♦ A \$1 contribution every pay period will provide a unit of cryoprecipitate blood transfusion for a woman suffering from a rare blood disorder.

- ♦ If you bump up the contribution to \$2 a pay period, you pay for a session of speech language pathology service to help restore a stroke survivor’s ability to communicate independently.

For more information about what your contribution purchases, see an expanded list on Page 3 of this issue.

The choice to donate is a personal one and it is, of course, your decision to make. I just ask that as each of us thinks about filling out a pledge card, we consider that the people our contributions help may be our friends, our coworkers, our neighbors or maybe even ourselves.



Eisenhower Building-
2nd Floor West,
700 SW Harrison,
Topeka, Ks 66603-3754

Governor: Mark Parkinson
Secretary of Transportation: Deb Miller
Chief of Transportation Information: Steve Swartz
Editors: Stan Whitley and Kim Stich

Phone/TTY: (785) 296-3585 ♦ FAX: (785) 296-0287

Calendar of Events

Oct. 9 - 9:30 a.m. - Highway Advisory Commission meeting.

Oct. 13 - 11 a.m., KDOT employees’ Council Meeting, Third Floor, Eisenhower State Office Building.

Oct. 21 - 1 p.m. Construction bid letting, Fourth Floor, West Wing, Eisenhower State Office Building.

What will your UW, CHC donation buy?

Here are some facts to consider as you fill out your pledge card for the Community Health Charities (CHC) and United Way (UW) campaign:

- ♦\$1 per two-week pay period provides one unit of a cryoprecipitate blood transfusion for a woman suffering from a rare blood disorder.

- ♦\$2 per pay period pays for a session of speech language pathology service to help restore a stroke survivor's ability to communicate independently.

- ♦\$2.50 pays for one hour for a child with diabetes at camp.

- ♦\$3 a week provides 312 breakfasts served from the Salvation Army Emergency Canteen to feed emergency personnel and victims.

- ♦\$3.75 sends a diabetes information kit to a newly diagnosed individual.

- ♦\$5 per pay period will pay for 8 hours of respite for a caregiver of Alzheimer's.

- ♦\$10 per pay period supports a Special Olympic Athlete.

- ♦\$15 per pay period provides a child with asthma a scholarship to attend Champ Camp.

- ♦\$21 pays for one minute of diabetes research.

- ♦\$25 enables a diabetic kidney patient to purchase a 2-3 month supply of syringes.

- ♦\$50 enables a hypertensive kidney patient to purchase a blood pressure cuff.

- ♦\$75 buys nutritional supplements to help nourish a frail adult or pediatric dialysis patient.

- ♦\$150 buys immunosuppressive medication for a transplant recipient for a week.



Fairly Informative

At left, District Five Secretary Loretta Hofflinger gives out wildflower brochures and below, District Engineer Bob Cook and Technology Consultant II Cindy Hale look up information on the 2009-2010 Official State Transportation Map for people stopping by the KDOT booth at the Kansas State Fair in Hutchinson.



Bypass work in Downs wrapping up

Construction is nearly complete on the new truck bypass in Downs, according to Area One Engineer Harold Schleicher.

Work began May 12 on the earthwork necessary to create the roadbed for a 1 ¼-mile stretch of concrete pavement which is intended to take heavy trucks (en route to and from the Scouler Grain Elevator) off Morgan Avenue (K-181) from the Junction of U.S. 24 south to the elevator.

The \$1.7 million project starts at U.S. 24 and runs southeast to the Third Street/Commercial Avenue intersection in Downs and utilizes Economic Devel-

opment funds through KDOT.

"This bypass will certainly serve as a safety enhancement for the downtown area," states Downs City Mayor Don Heiland. "Re-routing those semi trucks off of Morgan Avenue will be safer for the community as a whole - including our school zone."

Schleicher reports that the earthwork, seeding, and striping remains along the bypass. "We should have it opened up to traffic by the first part of October," he explains.

Smoky Hill, LLC of Salina, is the prime contractor in charge of the project.

On the...

COVER

Corn harvesting, like that on U.S. 24 in Jefferson County, is taking place across the state. Photo by Sonya Scheuneman

KDOT submits applications for TIGER funding

By Stan Whitley

KDOT has submitted applications totaling \$262 million for Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) grant funding for surface transportation projects.

Applications for the new grant program, which was authorized by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, were due by Sept. 15. Eligible projects include highway or bridge work, public transportation projects, passenger and rail freight infrastructure projects and port infrastructure projects.

"These projects support the economic goals of the state and have the potential to create long-term economic benefits along with thousands of jobs," said Chris Herrick, Director of Planning and Development.

The Kansas projects and the amount of TIGER funding being sought are detailed below:

♦ **Kansas City Intermodal Facility (KCIMF).** *Request for \$50 million*

The facility will transfer highway semi-trailers and containers between trains and trucks. The project will replace an aged intermodal terminal with a new 443-acre intermodal facility featuring wide-span cranes, automatic gate systems and In-Motion scales to provide

rapid, efficient, low-emission transfer of containers between rail and truck.

The KCIMF will be located near Edgerton, 25 miles southwest of Kansas City and adjacent to the BNSF Railway transcontinental main line linking Chicago and Los Angeles. KCIMF will generate sustainable job growth, energy savings, congestion relief and environmental benefits.

♦ **K-18 between Manhattan and Ogden.** *Request for \$79.8 million*

Stimulus funding for K-18 will help KDOT build a four-lane freeway that is desperately needed and will support and facilitate the significant population and economic growth taking place in the region. This new four-lane freeway will connect rapidly growing Fort Riley to the City of Manhattan, site of the new National Bio Agro-defense Facility, and provide a new connection to the Manhattan Regional Airport.

K-18, with a 24 percent growth in traffic from 2000-2008, is one of the fastest growing corridors in Kansas. With explosive growth in the region, traffic on K-18 is expected to grow from 25,750 vehicles per day in 2010 to around 36,900 vehicles per day in 2030, a 43 percent growth.

♦ **U.S. 54 Kingman Bypass.** *Re-*

quest \$87.5 million

The project is a 10.5-mile bypass around Kingman, which will be built as a four-lane divided highway with full access control on new alignment bypassing the city to the north.

This project is part of a larger corridor improvement effort from the junction of U.S. 54 and U.S. 400 near Mullinville to east of Kingman. It will help serve future traffic demand, address the effects of heavy commercial vehicle traffic, improve the overall safety of the highway corridor and improve system continuity.

♦ **Great Plains freight rail service improvement.** *Request \$44.4 million*

This project is composed of complementary freight railroad infrastructure capital investment components to be performed in 2010 and 2011 on the infrastructure of the South Kansas and Oklahoma and Stillwater Central railroads in Kansas and Oklahoma.

The project will enable heavier trains and faster train speeds that will benefit the regional and national economy for decades to come. This is a joint application submitted by Kansas and Oklahoma as a project of regional and national significance.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear KDOT:

On August 27th, two friends and I were on our way to visit a golfing friend who recently had major surgery. As we were driving across the Polk Street Viaduct I had a flat tire.

I proceeded to the end of the viaduct and started to change the rear tire. I have not had a flat tire in over 40 years and the three of us were trying to figure out the spare and the jack.

One of our employees, Clayton Lord, was mowing close to where we were changing the

tire. He came to our assistance and took over the tire change duties. He was very helpful and courteous and is someone that your department should be proud of as an employee who presents a good image for your department.

If you have employee of the month award I would nominate Clayton.

Bill Buch,
Topeka

Editor's Note: Lord is an Equipment Operator at the Area Four Office in Topeka

Sabetha students ride off with statewide honors

By Kim Qualls

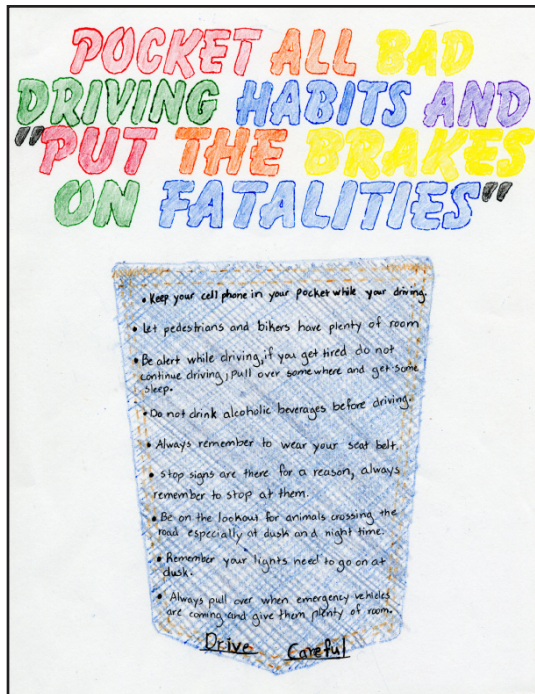
District One Public Affairs Manager

Jared and Hannah Rokey, (brother and sister), and Chad Goodman (cousin of Jared and Hannah) all of Sabetha, have something in common. Not only were these three named the northeast Kansas regional winners in the annual Put the Brakes on Fatalities Day poster contest, but they also were selected as the statewide winners as well in the contest that promotes traffic safety.

All three student winners attend the Prairie Meadows Private School located near Sabetha. According to Charleen Hartter, Art Instructor at the school, "This poster contest was a great creative and educational project to kick-off the school year and we are honored that our students have been chosen as regional winners."

As a regional winner, each student will receive a bicycle donated by Wal-Mart Store #1802 in Topeka and a bicycle helmet donated by Safe Kids Kansas.

"I am glad to see safety awareness being taught to students of all ages," stated Sheila Rokey, Jared and Hannah's mother. "We are elated that Jared and



Hannah Rokey

Hannah won as they are enthusiastic bike riders."

According to Luci Goodman, Chad's mother, "It is so important for all of us in our busy daily lives to remember to stop and focus on safety in whatever we do." She agreed with Ms. Rokey, "No one is ever too young to

learn about safety. That is why this poster contest is so important as it helps teach safety to so many young minds."

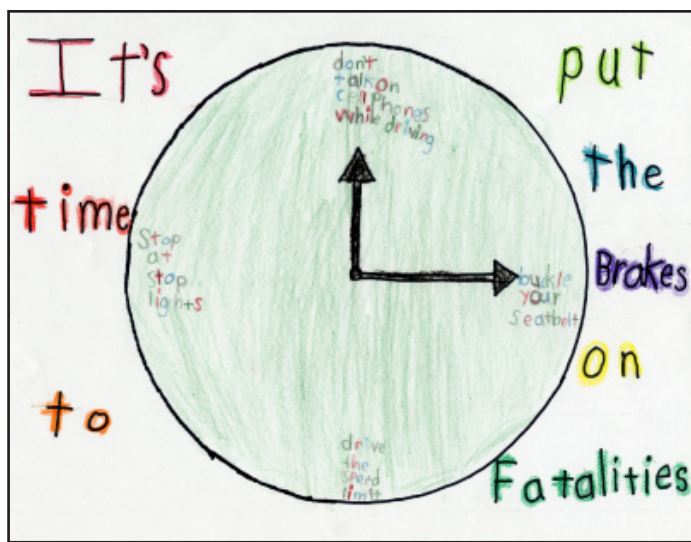
As statewide winners, Jared won the family package to the Grand Prairie Hotel/Convention Center in Hutchinson, Hannah won the family package to the Courtyard Marriott in Junction City and Chad won the family package to the Capitol Plaza in Topeka. In addition, all three will receive \$50 gas cards from the Petroleum Marketers and Convenience Store Association of Kansas.

A total of 18 regional winners in the six regions and age groups (ages 5-7, ages 8-10 and ages 11-13) across the state will each receive a bicycle donated by Wal-Mart stores in Kansas as well as a helmet donated by Safe Kids Kansas.

More than 690 poster contest entries were received across the state with 18 students receiving regional and statewide recognition. The poster contest helps bring awareness to all ages for the need to reduce fatalities on our nation's highways. Numerous transportation organizations across the state sponsor this annual event.



Chad Goodman



Jared Rokey

ARRA project to relieve Wichita bottleneck

U.S. Deputy Secretary of Transportation John Porcari joined state and local officials Aug. 28 to mark the official start of an American Recovery and Reinvestment Act project in Wichita.

The rebuilding of the interchange at I-135 and 47th Street South will relieve a chronic bottleneck and open the door to new commercial and retail development, said Porcari, who was joined by Lt. Gov. Troy Findley, KDOT Secretary Deb Miller, Wichita Mayor Carl Brewer and others.

Included in the project is the rebuilding of four bridges on 47th Street, including two over I-135 and two over Big Slough Creek west of the interstate. Ramp improvements will be made at the interchange and traffic signals will be installed at each end of the bridges over the interstate. Other improvements include turn lanes, utility realignment and drainage work.

The \$16.1 million project is one of the state's five major Recovery Act projects. Dondlinger & Sons Construction of Wichita is the lead contractor on the project, which is expected to be completed in late 2011.



At top, Wichita Mayor Carl Brewer addresses a large crowd gathered in Wichita on Aug. 28 for the groundbreaking of the I-135/47th Street project. Secretary Miller is seated behind the Mayor. At left, Lt. Gov. Troy Findley listens to U.S. Deputy Secretary of Transportation John Porcari.

Sobriety Rocks scholarship winners announced

KDOT has announced the winners of its third-annual arts contest that encourages Kansas youth to resist pressure and abstain from drinking alcohol until reaching the legal age limit of 21.

Winners of the Sobriety Rocks Scholarship Contest submitted their creative work in four categories: music, writing, art and video. The winners for 2009 were:

Best Music - Breanna Ellison, Hays. The inspiration for her song "Epiphany Disregarded" was a person she knows who has struggled with alcohol dependency.

Best Writing - Elizabeth Kraushar, Derby. Her creative writing "The Lon-

gest Vigil," is about a worried mother waiting up for her daughter to return.

Best Art - Sherissa Callarman, Neodesha. Her pencil drawing titled "Self-Destruction" shows a despondent teen inside an empty bottle.

Best Video - Justine Gruen, Leawood. Gruen said, "I got the ideas for my video out of my own feelings against alcohol. I know too many people who have looked to alcohol as a way to escape from their problems and it really saddens me. I just wanted to spread the truth."

The Sobriety Rocks contest is an annual opportunity for Kansas' youth to express themselves creatively through

music, art, writing or video in hopes of winning college scholarships. Almost 175 Kansas youth entered the competition in 2009.

Entries were judged by a panel of experts consisting of music, art and writing professionals and instructors, KDOT representatives, students and media members. Judging was based on originality, the passion and persuasiveness of the message and the likelihood that the work could be useful in next year's effort to reduce underage drinking.

Log on to www.sobrietyrocksk.net to learn more about the contest and to review the 2009 winners and their work.



By

**Burt
Morey**

TRANSPORTATION
TALK

Mentoring benefits workers, agency

Almost every time I sit down with a group of KDOT employees, someone tells a story about colleague who “back in the day” showed an interest in a new employee and helped that employee along.

I had a mentor at KDOT. I have actually had several along the way. Ken Hurst, Terry Fleck, Ed Hershey and Rudy Reynolds all provided a ton of information and interest in me while I was in the bridge office, and even though I am not in the bridge office any longer, they are more than happy to offer assistance to me today. There were and still are many others.

The first mentor I had at KDOT was Keith Sollner. Keith had been an Engineering Technician Senior in the Kansas City construction office for many years when I showed up in May of 1990 as part of the engineering summer intern program. Joe Hays was the Field Engineering Administrator in the office at that time, and he assigned Keith to try to get some use out of a kid halfway through an engineering degree. Joe must have known something about Keith’s ability to pass on knowledge.

That summer, we worked on a multiple bridge

repair project on I-35. Keith taught me how to test concrete, keep pay books straight, and keep track of traffic control (count barrels without getting run over) and how to play pinochle and cribbage – at lunch, of course.

I came back the next summer and worked with Keith again on a new bridge over the Kansas River at 7th street in Kansas City. The point is, Keith took an interest in me and my career plans, and it made a difference. Keith and I became good friends. I kept in touch with him while at school and after graduation. Early on in my career, I often called on him to get a construction perspective on bridge design issues. He was always willing to help in any way.

This organization would not be where it is today without mentoring. Nobody starting a career here at KDOT, or most any other place of employment for that matter, has all of the knowledge necessary to do a given job. On-the-job training is a vital part of learning to do any job. And that training is dependent on someone who has been there before – someone who has “institutional knowledge.”

We are fortunate to have folks who have been around quite a while and have that institutional knowledge. But unless they share what they have learned, we are bound to miss out as an agency. We either repeat mistakes of the past or miss opportunities to improve what we are doing right now. It is vitally important for the folks who have been around awhile to work with the new folks to pass that knowledge along.

I would encourage each of us to identify someone in our work unit and try to be a good mentor to him or her. Start by showing an interest in that person and offer to assist that person’s career development. We will all benefit from this.

Mentoring is not a one-way street by any means. If you are new to a job here, seek out someone who has been around a while and make an effort to develop a relationship with that person. You might be surprised at what you learn and what a good friendship you might develop.

Burt Morey is Metro South Engineer in the Olathe office.

Up or down, Sid Warner even-keeled and determined

Story courtesy of Kathy Hanks - The Hutchinson News

Sid Warner spoke to a state agriculture leadership class in the 1990s as a member of the Kansas Board of Regents.

Everyone in the room, including me, knew the Warner name and the empire that had grown beyond the state of Kansas and the Cimarron Insurance Group.

The Eagle Scout and former president of the Santa Fe Trail Council could speak on a plethora of topics - from the importance of serving one's community, as he did in Cimarron, to the importance of being a leader in the state, which, for Warner, included serving on the governor's animal health board and advising the Kansas Geological Survey.

No matter what the soft-spoken Warner might have said that day regarding leadership skills, it wouldn't resonate as deeply as his actions the next time we came face to face.

That was in 2002, when his family ranch, feedlot and trucking company could no longer escape the tight economic times facing many in the cattle industry. With a \$7 million debt, he filed for bankruptcy. As a journalist, I was sent to the Gray County Courthouse steps where his land sale was held.

Warner wasn't present that day. Instead, I found the man who once sat at the helm of several multi-million-dollar corporations working at the local car wash. He came around the corner pulling a mop and bucket. Even in that capacity, he appeared dignified in crisp, ironed jeans and a denim shirt.

It was the pain in his eyes that caught me by surprise and made me cry.

The man owed me no explanation. But, still clasping the mop handle, he made it clear - in that same soft-spoken voice - no job was beneath him. His family needed health insurance, he said. Then he kindly added he wished he could tell me more, but he just couldn't. A lesser man might have whacked me with the mop handle for such a blatant



Sid Warner

invasion of one's private life. But not Sid Warner; he was a gentleman.

In January 2008, our paths crossed again. This time he was working as Community Affairs Manager for the Kansas Department of Transportation.

We met in the basement of KDOT's Garden City office. Warner walked in carrying boxes of family albums that told a story that helped me better understand from where his deeply rooted values sprang. The great-

grandson of F.M. Luther, one of the founders of Cimarron, he shared how his father, Leigh Warner, began the Wheat Growers Mutual Hail Insurance Group back in 1929.

The photos changed with the seasons, capturing the local agricultural history through the good times and the bad.

He lingered over some of them as if he had forgotten I was in the room. There was one special photo of him holding his granddaughter, Katie Schartz, the two standing in a bumper crop of wheat.

"What I really liked was the farming and the cattle," he told me, studying the photo. "I miss it every day."

When we discussed what kept him going through the darkest days of his financial crisis, he told me, "I don't give up. I wasn't made that way."

A year later, the 75-year-old Warner would learn the severe back pain he had been living with for so long was advance-stage pancreatic cancer.

His son, Charlie Warner, recalled a dad who was a Boy Scout through and through. Sid Warner taught many boys how to be a man. After the diagnosis, it didn't look like he'd make it to March, Charlie Warner said. But intensive chemotherapy bought him more time.

He died Friday, Aug. 21.

"His goal was to put in a garden with his grandson," Charlie Warner said.

He achieved that goal.

Editor's Note: Warner was the Community Affairs Manager for District Six.

KDOT Computer Training

— from the *KCTC*

Increase your efficiency!

FOCUS:

How to compress pictures using Windows Office Picture Manager

If you plan to share your pictures in Microsoft Office documents, on Web sites, or in e-mail messages, you may want to reduce the size or dimension of your pictures to work more efficiently.

1. Open the My Pictures folder (or whatever folder the picture is in).
2. Right-click on the picture and select Open With.
3. Click Windows Office Picture Manager.
4. From the menus at the top, click Picture, Compress Pictures.
5. The Compress Pictures dialog box will appear.
6. Select the compression you want from the list (Documents, Web Pages, or E-mail messages).
7. Check the Estimated total size at the bottom of the Compress Pictures box to make sure it will be compressed as much as you want.
8. Click OK.

Check out the shared calendar: KCTC for on-going classes. Contact the KCTC at kctc@ksdot.org or call Ingrid Vandervort 785-296-8993.



KDOT employees Rich Hamit and Dana Coffman assisted motorists right after a crash on K-68. Photo by Kurt Weaverling

Employees assist after crash

Dana Coffman, Transportation Technician, and Rich Hamit, Chief Videolog Technician, were on the scene right after a crash occurred on K-68 on Sept. 2.

Coffman was helping Hamit with the annual videolog collection when they came upon the accident.

“We were the first set of flashing lights there, so we had to do something,” Coffman said. “I was most concerned if there was somebody in the Explorer because it was upside down in the ditch and looked like it was smoking.”

Fortunately they were already out of the vehicle, and other motorists who had stopped were comforting the people in the second vehicle, so Coffman went to direct traffic. “I wanted to make sure we didn’t have another wreck with traffic flying through here and rubberneckers,” he said.

Coffman also helped the Emergency Medical Technicians once they arrived as he had worked for the Osage County Sheriff’s Department prior to coming to KDOT. “Was just old stuff I’ve done before, second nature,” he said. **-K.S.**

LaHood kicks off program

U.S. Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood, while recently at Spelman College, announced the Pilot Entrepreneurial Training and Technical Assistance Women and Girls Program. The program was created to encourage females to pursue careers in science, engineering and technology and help women in the field to achieve their goals.

The new program will be managed by a partnership between the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) and Spelman College.

“Transportation is one of the most

challenging and exciting industries in the country right now,” LaHood said. “We’d love to see the women at Spelman and students at high schools, colleges and universities around the country become our transportation leaders for the 21st century and come work at the U.S. Department of Transportation.”

The partnership will create an internship and mentoring program to bring more female students into transportation-related careers and help them gain hands-on experience. *-U.S.DOT News Release, September 2009*

Fun Facts and Trivia

Do you know?

Facts about pumpkins

- ♦ In early colonial times, pumpkins were used as an ingredient for the crust of pies, not the filling.
- ♦ Pumpkin flowers are edible.
- ♦ The largest pumpkin pie ever made was more than five feet in diameter and weighed over 350 pounds. It used 80 pounds of cooked pumpkin, 36 pounds of sugar, 12 dozen eggs and took six hours to bake.
- ♦ Pumpkins were once recommended for removing freckles and curing snake bites.
- ♦ The largest pumpkin ever grown weighed 1,140 pounds.
- ♦ The Connecticut field variety is the traditional American pumpkin.
- ♦ Pumpkins are 90 percent water.
- ♦ Eighty percent of the pumpkin supply in the United States is available in October.
- ♦ The “pumpkin capital” of the world is Morton, Ill.

Source: <http://www.pumpkin-patch.com/facts.html>

Vaccines, diligence help to avoid seasonal, H1N1 flu

Managing the H1N1 flu pandemic is a top priority, according to Maggie Thompson, Communications Director for the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE). Here is some basic information from KDHE about this flu and tips to prevent it.

Thompson said it's important to know that the H1N1 vaccine will not replace the need for seasonal flu vaccine. People are encouraged to get that immunization earlier than usual this year.

Vaccines for the H1N1 flu will be available this fall in Kansas with the priority groups being:

- ♦ Pregnant women
- ♦ People who live with/care for children younger than six months
- ♦ All children over six months through young adults age 24
- ♦ Healthcare personnel
- ♦ People aged 25-64 with high-risk health conditions

In addition to these groups, everyone is being encouraged to receive the vaccine. Without a successful vaccination program, KDHE estimates 20-40 percent of the Kansas population can expect to be infected in the next two years.

About 80 percent of the Kansas cases have been people under 35 with the average

age being 17. To date, Thompson said most cases have been relatively mild, but numerous Kansans have been hospitalized and two people have died.

Besides getting the vaccine, the next best method of preventing H1N1 flu is to practice good personal hygiene:

- ♦ Wash your hands thoroughly with soap and warm water or use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer to get rid of most germs, and avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth.
- ♦ Stay home when you are sick to avoid spreading illness to co-workers and friends.
- ♦ Cough or sneeze into a tissue, and properly dispose of used tissues. If tissues are unavailable, cover your coughs and sneezes with your sleeve.
- ♦ Stay healthy – eat a balanced diet, drink plenty of water, get adequate rest/exercise.

Concerned Kansans with questions can call about the H1N1 influenza A virus. The toll-free number is 1-877-427-7317. Operators will be available to answer questions from 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. Persons calling should press “1” on their touch-tone phone to be directed to an operator.

Questions about the virus can be e-mailed to H1N1fluinfo@kdheks.gov. Information is also available from KDHE at www.kdheks.gov.

Open enrollment begins

Annual health insurance open enrollment will run from Oct. 1-31 for state employees' benefit coverage beginning Jan. 1, 2010. All employees will be required to complete online enrollment unless they are a recent new hire.

Employees are encouraged to check to make sure they have access to their individual Employee Self Service account. If you need additional assistance, please contact the State of Kansas Employee Self Service Help Desk phone number at 785-296-1900 or toll-free at 1-866-999-3001.

Open enrollment meetings for employees to hear about benefit options and ask questions will be scheduled across the state throughout October. A list of dates and locations will be sent to employees.

Enrollment materials, including an open enrollment booklet, will be given to all employees. Following completion of your online enrollment between Oct. 1-31, print a confirmation of the enrollment to keep as a record.

For additional questions or assistance, contact the Bureau of Personnel Services at 785-296-3721 or your District Human Resources employee.

Step Back in Time 



Supervisors gather at the District Four headquarters in Chanute for a meeting in March 1956.

**Welcome
new KDOT
employees!**

Headquarters

Jesse Maddox, Human Resource
Professional IV, Personnel Services

District One

Andrew Eckert, Operator Trainee,
Holton

Andrew Foster, Equipment
Mechanic, Bonner Springs

District Two

Richard Hinderliter, Engineering
Technician Specialist, Salina

District Five

Clinton Hutchins, Engineering
Technician Specialist, El Dorado
*The Bureau of Personnel Services
supplies information for new
employees to Translines.*

M I L E S T O N E S

KDOT salutes employees celebrating state anniversaries in September

10 YEARS

Milton Ackley Mound City
Roger Austin Bucklin
Troy Bell Colby
James Brown Jr. Kansas City
Colleen Chandler Gardner
Charles Crawford Wilson
Brent Engelland Nickerson
Melody Forney Hutchinson
Robert Shufflebarger Topeka
Reginald Vrbas Atwood
Andrew Woods Oakley

20 YEARS

Michelle Anschutz Horton
Bonnie Bryant Winfield
Wendell Cooper. Cottonwood Falls
Sandra Everly Chanute
Daniel Flerlage Belvue
Scott Getter Ottawa
Mary Hammes. Hoyt
Curt Niehaus Topeka
Arthur Peterson Augusta
Greg Rietcheck Bavaria
John Short Pittsburg

30 YEARS

Dennis Chopp Belleville
Kevin Kennedy Ellsworth
Marty Martinez Topeka
Michael McCarty Tonganoxie
Rodney Nix Liberal
Ruben Noguera Olathe
Michael Thompson Topeka
John Wiens Hutchinson

*State service anniversaries are
compiled by Personnel Services.
Employees and home towns are
included in this list.*

Promotions/Transfers

Headquarters

Brian Engelke, Program Consultant II, Local Projects

District One

Travis Malone, Engineering Associate III, Topeka

Nat Velasquez, Professional Civil Engineer I, Topeka

District Five

Dayna Barlow, Engineering Associate III, Wichita

Nick Squires, Engineering Associate III, Pratt

The Bureau of Personnel Services supplies information for promotions/transfers to Translines.

Kansas Department of Transportation

Bureau of Transportation Information
Eisenhower State Office Building
700 SW Harrison, Second Floor, West
Topeka, KS 66603-3754

PRE-SORTED STANDARD

U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
TOPEKA, KS
PERMIT No. 157

Retirees

The following employees will officially retire from KDOT in October.

Headquarters

Charles W. Burger, Engineering Technician Specialist, Local Projects

Nancy J. Fleeker Daniels, Assistant Chief, Personnel Services

Ronald D. Prochazka, Property Appraiser Supervisor, Right of Way

District One

Doyle W. Howell, Engineering Associate II, Horton

District Two

Richard H. Hamlin, Utility Coordinator, Junction City

Kevin L. Kennedy, Subarea Supervisor, Ellsworth

District Four

Reinhold N. Deckness, Engineering Technician, Ottawa

Employees who choose to have retirement reception information shared on the Internet can be found at www.ksdot.org, under News and Announcements.

NOTE: This information is available in alternative accessible formats. To obtain an alternative format, contact Transportation Information, Eisenhower Building, 700 SW Harrison, 2nd Floor West, Topeka, KS, 66603-3754, or (785) 296-3585 (Voice)/Hearing Impaired - 711.

Deaths

Condolences to the family and friends of two KDOT employees and one former employee who recently passed away.

Gary Lee Wise Jr., 36, died Aug. 28 in Yates Center. Wise was an Engineering Technician at Iola.

He is survived by his wife, Rebecca, three sons and his parents.

Memorials may be made to the Gary Lee Wise Children's Fund or Friends for Life and sent in care of Campbell Funeral Home, P.O. Box 188, Yates Center, 66783.

Sidney T. Warner, 75, died Aug. 21 in Cimarron. He had served as the Community Affairs Manager in District Six at Garden City before his death.

He is survived by his wife, Thelma, one son, one daughter, one sister, and

four grandchildren.

Memorials can be made to Boy Scouts of America Troop #148 Cimarron, Cimarron Public Library, Hospice of the Prairie or The Shepherd's Center in care of Swaim Funeral Chapel, 919 N. Fifth, P.O. Box 1057, Cimarron, 67835.

Terry B. Melton, 65, passed away Sept. 9 at Bonner Springs. He worked for KDOT as a land surveyor for 35 years, retiring in 1996.

He is survived by his wife, Joan, one son, two daughters, seven grandchildren, his mother, and one sister.

The family suggests memorial contributions to the Kansas City Hospice, in care of the Alden-Harrington Funeral Home, 214 Oak Street, Bonner Springs, 66012.