

Kansas highway patrol inacts STEP program

This weekend kicks off the peak of summer travel across our nation's highways. The Kansas Highway Patrol will be working additional hours for the next two weeks, thanks in part to funding from the Kansas Department of Transportation through the STEP (Special Traffic Enforcement Program) campaign, to help motorists reach their destinations safely.

"This time of year, families are traveling to spend some much-needed time together, as some of the busy months of classes have wound down. The STEP campaign allows our personnel to work additional hours to help enforce traffic laws in our state," Colonel Ernest E. Garcia, Superintendent of the

Kansas Highway Patrol said. "The STEP funding from KDOT demonstrates their commitment to the safety of our motorists."

The STEP program allows officers to work overtime hours, providing extra manpower on the roads and focusing on areas such as occupant protection, enforcing impaired driving laws, and other traffic safety issues. STEP this year runs from Monday, May 20 through Sunday, June 2. This year's focus of the STEP campaign is "Click It or Ticket," encouraging seatbelt/child safety seat use for occupants of all ages.

Over the 2012 Memorial Day holiday reporting period for the Patrol (KHP stats only), troopers worked one fatal crash on

Kansas' highways. One person was killed in that crash and it was not alcohol-related. There were two total impaired driving crashes. The Patrol arrested 46 people for impaired driving. Personnel also assisted 1,227 motorists who needed help on Kansas roads.

"We hope all of those traveling during the Memorial Day weekend have safe travels, as well as throughout the rest of the upcoming summer months," Garcia said. "Don't forget, if you are in need of assistance on a Kansas highway, you can call KHP for assistance at *47 (*HP) or *582 (*KTA) for the Kansas Turnpike."

Internships applications now being taken for fall

U.S. Senator Jerry Moran (R-Kan.) recently announced he is accepting applications for congressional internships in his Washington, D.C., and Kansas offices for fall 2013.

"Congressional internships offer Kansas students a great opportunity to learn about Congress and the legislative process," Sen. Moran said. "I hope to give Kansans an opportunity similar to the one I had serving in a congressional office when I was a student in college."

An internship in Senator Moran's office provides a unique opportunity to work closely with Senate staff on behalf of the state

of Kansas. Interns will gain a better understanding of the legislative process in the U.S. Congress, and develop knowledge and professional skills valuable to future career pursuits. In addition to legislative internships, communications-focused internships are available.

The Intern Program is open to qualified undergraduate and graduate students who have a strong interest in public service and government and have achieved academic excellence. Preference is given to Kansas residents.

The application deadline for fall 2013 internships is May

31, 2013. Application forms can be obtained and completed under the "Services" section of Sen. Moran's website at www.moran.senate.gov. Applicants should submit a completed application form, resume, academic transcript, two letters of recommendation, and a cover letter highlighting a policy problem before Congress and the applicant's suggested course of action to address it. Please submit required materials to: internships@moran.senate.gov.

For questions, please contact Sen. Moran's office at 202-224-6521 and request to speak with the Intern Coordinator.

Kansas economy shows growth

Kansas taxpayers not only have more money in their pockets from this year's income tax rate reduction, but the state's economic growth is offsetting the fiscal year 2013 impact of those cuts.

April's revenue receipt collections, released Tuesday, showed individual income tax receipts had grown almost six percent from the prior fiscal year to date.

Overall, the state collected \$25 million more in individual income tax receipts in April 2013 versus April 2012.

Corporate income tax receipts for April 2013 are also about 44 percent more than those for April 2012.

Overall, the state collected \$41.7 million more in revenue receipts for April 2013 compared to April 2012.

The Kansas Department of Revenue has also processed almost 40,000 more tax return payments this year than in 2012 and there is about one week of checks still left to process. That revenue will be included in May's report. Tax balance due amounts are averaging 40 percent more than those filed in 2012.

County

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to talk about a new vehicle for his department. He buys his vehicles on a lease-purchase plan and after checking, he said, First Security Bank and Trust in Norton has the best interest rate.

The sheriff told the commissioners that he plans to buy a new

pickup that will cost \$24,900.

The sheriff also said that there is a little over \$2,000 in the budget for the year-long system that would call people in the path of a storm that might have tornadoes. He said he thought some of the money in the 911 fund could be used to make up the difference in the \$4,500 cost. He also said

that he had talked to County Emergency Management Director Justina Smith about how to pay for the system.

In other business, the commissioners:

- Received an update from County Health Nurse Gina Frack on what was happening in her office. She said that she will need to update her computer this year.

- Were introduced to Emergency Medical Technician Elizabeth Tharman, who has joined the Norton ambulance service.

Splash into summer...



Warm temperatures and bright sunshine made for a perfect setting for Eisenhower Elementary's 'Fun Day' held on Wednesday afternoon. There were plenty of parents on hand to watch the students play games and have lots of fun, which included a little water fight.

—Telegram photo by Mike Stephens

FFA members to hold convention

One of the largest annual gatherings of Kansas high school students is set to begin next week as more than 2,000 FFA members, agricultural educators and supporters converge at Kansas State University for the 85th Kansas FFA Convention. The convention will open Wednesday, May 29, and run through Friday, May 31.

The convention theme, "Grow," inspires members' growth as future leaders in agriculture, their communities and the world. The theme also reflects the many opportunities FFA offers students to develop their potential through Career Development Event (CDE), Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) programs and more.

Convention guests will hear from the retiring 2012-2013 state FFA officer team and motivational speakers, including

K-State linebacker Tre Walker and Greg Peterson of the popular Peterson Farm Brothers YouTube song parodies.

Forty members will be awarded proficiency awards for accomplishing specific career goals in their SAE programs. The State FFA degree, the highest honor a state association can bestow, will be awarded to 236 members. Three of those recipients will be recognized for having the best SAE programs in the state with the Star Farmer, Star in Agricultural Placement and Star in Agribusiness awards.

Flyte, the National FFA mascot, will make special appearances throughout the convention. Attendees also will be entertained by the 69 members performing in the Kansas FFA

Band and Choir, as well as a laser light show before each session, sponsored by the K-State College of Agriculture.

In addition to individual recognition, entire FFA chapters are recognized through National Chapter Awards and the Triple Crown Award. The coveted Triple Crown distinguishes the top state chapter in the areas of student, chapter and community development.

During the final session, six extraordinary members will be elected to the 2013-2014 state officer team to serve more than 8,300 Kansas FFA members.

View the full convention schedule at www.ksffa.org, where a live video stream of sessions will begin on Wednesday, May 29.



Join us for the 2013 Ag Valley Coop Annual Meetings

Monday, June 3rd - 6:30 p.m.
@ Maywood Community Hall

Tuesday, June 4th—12:00 noon
@ American Legion Building, Norton

Tuesday, June 4th—6:30 p.m.
@ Ella Missing Center, Arapahoe

The entertainment this year will be: **Craig Larson, a career broadcaster who has worked at radio stations in Nebraska, Arizona, Louisiana and Missouri. For the past 15 years he has been tickling funny bones as a humorous-motivational speaker and professional storyteller.**

(performing at Maywood and Arapahoe)

Please RSVP to Linda by May 31st at 1-800-228-1352.

Thank you for supporting Ag Valley Coop.
We hope to see you at the Annual Meeting!

Concerns

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project, along with the City's donation of \$5,000.

-Foley also said a group has been formed to regionalize and expand the Farmer's Market, and they granted \$1,000 to the Norton County Farmer's Market. Also, \$1,000 will be donated to Okay Kids Day.

-Foley also reported on the Economic Development Board meeting where they discussed grant writing and grant options. The board passed a resolution to have Northwest Kansas Housing be the financing agent for the Ryan Addition project. The board also elected officers for the new year.

-Roberta Ryan reported on the Chamber of Commerce meeting. The Chamber held its golf tournament on May 17, and is getting ready for the July 4 celebration. The Chamber will have a barbecue fundraiser at the Shopko parking lot on Thursday, June 6.

-The council voted unanimously to allow the Boy Scouts

of America Tomahawk District Day Camp to be held at Elmwood Park on June 8 and June 9, provided they have proof of insurance prior to the event, with the City as the named insured.

-Kevin McElyea, Aquatic Designs, Inc., sent the council updated specifications and prints for the swimming pool project. Structure details for the building were added.

The following building permits were presented:

Gladys Minshall - \$5,000, put metal roof on at 410 W. Lincoln

Weldon Carlin - \$2,400, construct dwelling addition at 409 N. 2nd Street

Steve/Rhonda Mees - \$20,000, dwelling remodel at 504 E. Washington Street

Janis Monier - \$4,015, re-roofing at 114 S. State Street

Janis Monier - \$8,750, re-roofing at 112 S. State Street

Tiffany Yeager - \$900, replace front porch at 109 W. Waverly

Donna Kentfield - \$9,900, re-roofing at 102 S. Graves

Mrs. Eldon Vincent - \$5,000, re-roofing at 606 West Street

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TELEGRAM

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