



KTA employees honored for exceptional work

KTA President/CEO Michael Johnston recently presented Exceptional Customer Assistance awards to five KTA employees.

Ron Watson was performing roadside maintenance on the Turnpike near Turner Diagonal in Kansas City when he found a wallet containing more than \$1,000. But more importantly, the owner was grateful to have the wallet which had been a gift from her recently deceased mother.

Ron Johnson and Tim Wiggins helped prevent an erratic driver from returning to the roadway. When the driver attempted to exit and drove off the roadway, they were able to remove the keys from the ignition and call for assistance.

Deb Barngrover researched and implemented a recycling program at KTA's Wichita Headquarters, reducing the amount of trash and KTA's costs. She continues to empty the recycle containers, break down the cardboard boxes and gets everything ready in the bins for the pickup day.

Last summer, Scott Lawrence stopped to help a commercial driver who had run out of fuel and had no way to pay for it. Scott personally purchased fuel and then gave the truck a jump start because the battery was weak.

The KTA is very proud of the exceptional work and customer assistance its employees provide.

NEWS



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Be prepared for winter driving

When winter weather hit the Southwest hard in mid- to late-December, several motorists found themselves stranded in perilous conditions. Use these tips to be as prepared for any situation as possible.

Vehicle care

- Pack an emergency kit in case you get stranded. Include an ice scraper, small shovel, gravel for traction, a blanket, first aid kit, and a flashlight.
- Clear snow and ice from all windows and lights—even the hood and roof— before driving.
- Make sure your windshield wipers work properly and your windshield washer fluid is full.
- Check your antifreeze.
- Keep your gas tank full.

- Make sure your tires have enough tread to grip the road. Replace your tires before winter if your tread is near or less than 6/32nds.

Driving precautions

- Give snow plows and other maintenance vehicles plenty of clearance. Don't pass plows. They are clearing the path for you so stay behind them and enjoy a cleaner lane.
- Drive at a speed that allows you to safely stop should you need to apply the brakes quickly. It's better to arrive late than not at all.
- Turn off cruise control. This is important in many types of weather: rain, fog, snow and ice.

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2011 National Roadway Safety Award Recipient

Travelers Marketing's Safety Patrol Sponsor-Partnership received a 2011 National Roadway Safety Award. These partnerships included the Kansas Turnpike's State Farm Safety Assist program which patrols I-70 east of Topeka and I-35 south of Wichita during the summer months.

Road Conditions: Find information, even on your phone



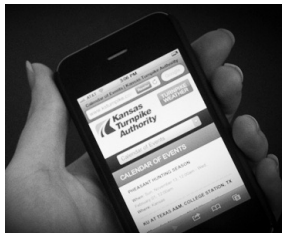
Travelers in Kansas have several tools available to help access road conditions, maps, cameras and incidents.

Here are a few to help you in your travels:

- The 511 phone system. Travelers may call 511 from anywhere in Kansas or 1-866-511-KDOT from anywhere in the United States to get road condition information.

- State and Turnpike Websites. Find travel information at www.kandrive.org or www.ksturnpike.com. Camera snapshots of the roadway are updated every few minutes from close-circuit cameras installed along the highways.

- Mobile web sites. Travel information on-the-go is available at 511mm.ksdot.org or ksturnpike.com/mobile.



Winter driving *continued*

- Turn your headlights on to allow other drivers to see you easily. According to Kansas law, if your windshield wipers are in continuous use, you must also have your headlights on!

Driver behavior

- Remember that 4-wheel drive helps you go, but won't help you stop.

- Be aware of your surroundings. If you are in an accident and need assistance, knowing what road you are on, what milepost you are closest to or some type of easily identifiable landmark can help emergency responders locate you.

- Allow extra time to get to your destination, in case the

unexpected occurs!

- If you realize you are not going to arrive on time, call ahead to let someone know of your new arrival time. You will be less tempted to drive too fast for the conditions.

- Always get plenty of rest before any trip.

- If you drink, don't drive.

ksturnpike.com offers animated map for new Mulvane interchange

The Kansas Star Casino opened in late December, bringing additional traffic to the newly reconstructed Mulvane interchange at Milemarker 33 on the Kansas Turnpike/I-35. With its dual roundabouts and two plazas, travelers may find their first trip through the interchange a bit intimidating. Now, those using this exit can view an animated map on KTA's web site to know what to expect before getting on the road. Visit www.ksturnpike.com and click on "Mulvane Interchange" under the "Travel Information" header to pick your direction of travel and destination.



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