



## Lawrence's Plaza 204 reopens early

Plaza 204 with access to US-59/40 and North Lawrence reopened one month ahead of schedule on Oct. 6.

"We are fortunate to have an experienced partner in Hamm who understands the importance of our construction schedule and who shares our dedication in limiting the inconvenience to our customers as much as possible," said KTA President/CEO Michael Johnston.

Travelers using this interchange should be aware that construction crews are still present. The connections to I-70 are temporary due to ongoing work on the Kansas River Bridges. Travelers on I-70/Turnpike also need to be aware entering and exiting traffic at this location.

The interchange closed in April to be completely reconstructed and to allow for other aspects of the Kansas River Bridges project to be completed.

This is part of the Kansas River Bridges Replacement and Plaza Improvement Project that is scheduled to be complete in the fall of 2011.

**See back page for additional construction information.**

# NEWS



[www.ksturnpike.com](http://www.ksturnpike.com)



[kta-pr@ksturnpike.com](mailto:kta-pr@ksturnpike.com)



[@KansasTurnpike](https://twitter.com/KansasTurnpike)

## Festival of Trees

### Annual fundraiser benefits Topeka's Sheltered Living

The Festival of Trees is a fundraiser for Sheltered Living, Inc. The Festival is a four-day community event that includes more than 75 decorated Christmas trees.

Entertainment is provided daily with a Holiday market, bakery, Silent Auction and children's craft area.

This year, the Festival of Trees will be held Dec. 2-5.

On Thursday and Friday, the event will be open from 9 am to 4 pm; on Saturday from 8 am to 4 pm; and on Sunday from 11 am to 2 pm.

Admission is \$4 for adult, \$3 for senior citizens, \$1 for children 2-12. Children under 2 are admitted free.

Sheltered Living is a Topeka-based, non-profit organization founded in 1971 to provide residential, day and case management services. Today SLI serves approximately 270 adults and children with over 100 collective diagnoses.



*Kansas' First Lady Stacy Parkinson selects the Governor's Tree at the 2009 Festival of Trees.*

Get in the holiday spirit in Wichita by driving through Heartspring's Lights on the Lake, a holiday light tour, open Thursdays to Sundays between Thanksgiving and Dec. 12, and every evening between Dec. 16 and Christmas Day. For more information, visit [www.lightsonthelake.org](http://www.lightsonthelake.org). Heartspring is a non-profit organization dedicated to helping children with special needs grow and learn on a path to a more independent life.

# Give the gift of tolls this holiday season

Have other K-TAG customers on your holiday gift-giving list this year? Give them a gift certificate that they can use to apply to their K-TAG account. Contact the Customer Service Center at [ktag@ksturnpike.com](mailto:ktag@ksturnpike.com) or call

1-800-873-5824 for more information.

You can also give a K-TAG as a gift by purchasing one at Dillons, Walgreens or AAA offices or at [www.ksturnpike.com](http://www.ksturnpike.com).

## Texting, e-mailing and tweeting

Be informed about major roadway incidents on the Turnpike by signing up for KTA's text or e-mail alerts.

This service is provided free-of-charge by the Kansas Turnpike Authority. However, standard text messaging rates apply from your cell phone provider.

These messages include emer-

gency situations such as roadway blockages, severe weather directly affecting travel on the Turnpike and Amber Alerts.

Visit [www.ksturnpike.com](http://www.ksturnpike.com) and click on "KTA Alerts" to sign up for this service.

Remember, it is illegal in Kansas to read or send text or e-mail messages while driving.

KTA is also communicating

via [www.twitter.com/KansasTurnpike](http://www.twitter.com/KansasTurnpike). However, this account is not monitored around the clock and should not be used to communicate emergency information to KTA.

*If you have an emergency situation on the Turnpike, please dial \*KTA or 1-800-827-PIKE (7453) to be connected to dispatchers.*

## Construction updates

Several projects — both on and off the Turnpike — are affecting Turnpike travelers. Below is updated information to help you plan your trip or commute.

For additional information on Turnpike construction projects, visit the Construction Updates page at [www.ksturnpike.com](http://www.ksturnpike.com).

### **Kansas River Bridges and Plaza Improvement Project (I-70, Lawrence)**

As detailed on the front page, Plaza 204 has reopened early in Lawrence. Work on the bridge and ramps will continue as weather permits until the project is completed in November 2011. Minimal traffic interruptions are expected, although a

60 mph speed limit and a 10-foot width restriction are both in place for this section of I-70.

More information is available at [www.SpanningTheFuture.com](http://www.SpanningTheFuture.com).

### **Roadway Replacement Project (I-70, Lawrence)**

This project, which has traffic narrowed to one lane in each direction, will break for winter weather in mid-November. In March, traffic will again be reduced to complete additional miles of I-70 as well as the ramps to the Lawrence Service Area. From March to November 2011, travelers should expect delays and allow for extra travel time, especially during rush hour or special event situations.

More information is available at [www.SpanningTheFuture.com](http://www.SpanningTheFuture.com).

### **I-135/47th Street Project (Off KTA in South Wichita)**

Travelers using the Turnpike's South Wichita exit at milepost 47 should continue to watch for signs to indicate changes in the construction zone.

Before winter, KDOT expects to move eastbound 47th Street traffic onto the new bridge and reopen ramps on the southeast quadrant of the intersection.

Traffic on I-135 under 47th Street is restricted to one lane in each direction from the KTA toll plaza to the north for 1/4 mile.

For additional and updated information on KDOT's Wichita area construction projects, visit [www.ksdot.org/WichitaMetro/wichita-traffic-alert.html](http://www.ksdot.org/WichitaMetro/wichita-traffic-alert.html).