

the Roadrunner

Nebraska ♦ Department ♦ of ♦ Roads

October/November 2003

Side by Side...

Traffic continues to move on Interstate 80 in both directions between Nebraska Highway 370 and Ruff Road west of Omaha while road construction workers finish the concrete that has just been laid by a slipform paver.

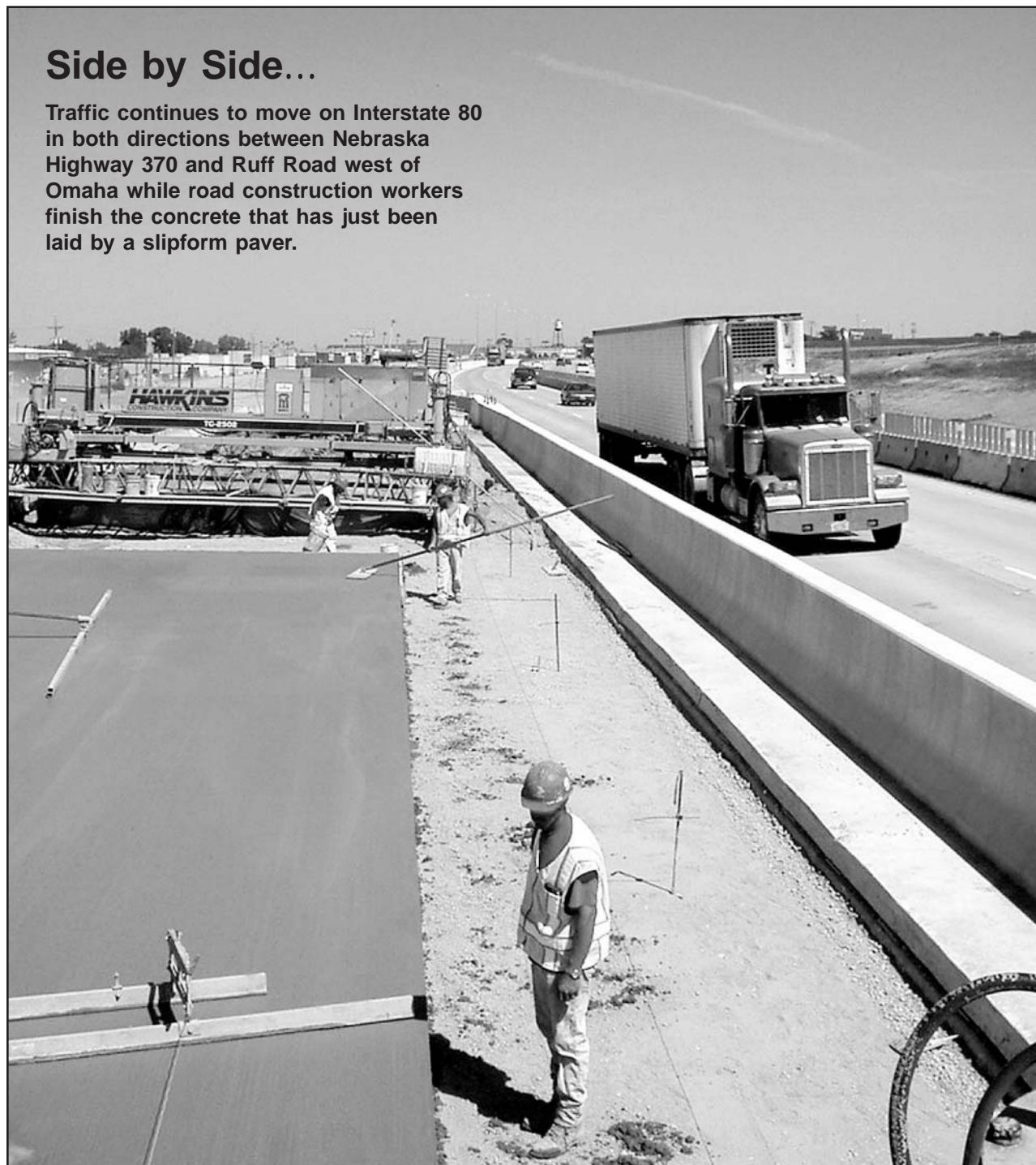


Photo by Rick Fisher

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Nebraska Department of Roads

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Governor Mike Johanns

Highway Commission

| | |
|------------------|------------------|
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| John Kingsbury | Greg Wolford |
| Donna Wanitschke | Jerome Fagerland |

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Deputy Director.....John Jacobsen
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Construction.....Claude Oie
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Government AffairsLarry Shafer
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Project Scheduling.....Roger Winkelhake
Rail & Public TransportationEllis Tompkins
Right-of-Way.....Randy Needham
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Traffic Engineering.....Randy Peters

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District 3.....Kristine Winter
District 4.....V. Charles McCann
District 5.....Craig Lind
District 6Lester O'Donnell
District 7James Knott
District 8Mark Kovar

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by employees, retirees and friends of NDOR.



Are You Doing Your Best?

By Mary Jo Hall
Communication Division Manager



Mary Jo Hall

Recently I was reminded by a book I was reading, that a most important element to living the fullest life is also a most basic one. "Always do your best." Sounds simple enough.

Is it? How often is this what you do? Can you state proudly, after each task, each project, each conversation, each endeavor that you have, in fact, made your best effort?

It is true that your best may change from one day to the next, or from a part of the day to another. However, you should, under any circumstance, do your best, perhaps not

more, but certainly not less.

We here at the Department of Roads know about quality, profess our quality, work with quality standards and demand quality output. We should never apologize for working to maintain quality or for expecting quality throughout every facet of the multi-faceted processes we undertake. From day to day, through year after year, it would be easy to let down your focus or become relaxed in your attentiveness. If you let this happen you sign off on living your life to the fullest. You surrender your personal power.

Whether you are at home, at the office, in the field, at a meeting, or participating in a sport... are you giving 100 percent to your part? Do you know what your role is? You do need to understand, clearly, what is expected of you. Do you truly listen? Is what you're doing the right thing to do? Are you the one who should be doing it?

Doing your absolute best is your commitment to not only quality, but to pride, to taking full stock in your own assets, skills and abilities. Regardless of your job or position, you have responsibilities. When you don't take your responsibilities seriously, and don't perform your best, you are saying to your co-workers, your customers, your supervisors, that you can't, won't, or don't know how to do the job well. Is that what you want to say?

No matter how tough life seems to get, how tired you may become, or how under appreciated you might be feeling—your best is always that—yours. If we are to be measured, valued, judged or perceived by what we do, then what we do matters. How well we do it matters.

Always doing your best in life means you are living your life fully. It does not matter the reward, it should matter the action.

Look forward, look at what you're doing, then keep looking forward. Can you confidently say to yourself—This is important and this is my best! Every time? ♦

"Your best is going to change from moment to moment; it will be different when you are healthy as opposed to sick. Under any circumstance, simply do your best, and you will avoid self-judgment, self-abuse, and regret."

From the book, "The Four Agreements"
By don Miguel Ruiz

NDOR's Automated Permit System Operational September 2

Applying for overweight and over dimensional permits for use on Nebraska's highway system will be much easier for those who log on to NDOR's new automated permit system.

Since September 2, customers have been able to access the new permit system to order the Conditional Interstate Use Permit on the department's web site, www.nebraska.transportation.org. All other permits will be available on the new system November 3, according to Ellis Tompkins, NDOR's Rail and Public Transportation Engineer.

The Conditional Interstate Use Permit allows a truck that is hauling 94,000 pounds to operate on the interstate in Nebraska at this limit. The limit is normally 80,000 pounds under federal regulations. Tompkins noted that over 100,000 overweight and over dimensional permits are issued annually, and 30,000 of those are for Conditional Interstate Use Permits. The remaining 70,000 permits are primarily single trip permits for overweight and over dimensional loads.

According to Tompkins, prior to the new automated system, the Conditional Interstate Use Permit was processed by the Department of Motor Vehicles. With the new system, processing will revert back to the Department of Roads beginning November 3.

System Efficiency

Tompkins said with the new automated permit system, customers ordering their permit over the Internet can obtain it in five to ten minutes. The system is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, for added convenience.

Another new feature, the use of credit cards to pay for permits, will further add to customers' ease and efficiency in using the system. Tompkins said this is the first time

credit cards have been approved for making payments at the department, and he believes use of the cards will be expanded to other areas in the future.

Tompkins said one of the objectives in selecting a new system was that simple permits could be approved by the system automatically without a clerk ever having to look at it. He said Nebraska differs in this respect from several states that have similar systems.

"We currently have four clerks who issue approximately 300 permits a day, which is very efficient. With a new system, if we had to have a clerk look at every single permit, I didn't really feel we were gaining any efficiency," Tompkins said.

By allowing the simple permits to be approved automatically, the clerks have more time to work with some of the more difficult permits, Tompkins added.

Escrow Account

The automated permit system allows repeat customers to set up an escrow account and access it regularly. In addition, company and vehicle information that may be repetitive can be saved, eliminating the need to re-enter the information each time a similar permit is requested.

Routing information will be much easier on the new system, according to Tompkins. Previously, when a permit was ordered, it was faxed to the clerks. They had to look at the routing, and it was often necessary to change the route selected by the customer, due to weight restrictions, construction zones, or other reasons. These routes were often handwritten and sometimes difficult to read. With

the new system, the routing is completed automatically and either approved or sent on to the permits office in Lincoln, where any changes in routes are approved.

Another aspect of the system which will be expedited, Tompkins noted, is the bridge study, which is required for the "superload" category, involving all loads that are either extra tall, wide, heavy, long, or any combination of these. Once the customer enters their axle spacing and axle weights, selects a route and presses "analyze," every bridge will be analyzed automatically based on information the department's Bridge Division has on that bridge. The bridge analysis is completed in a matter of seconds, compared to half a day required prior to the new system.

Because a test version of the automated permit system has been available online since July 28, Tompkins said he anticipates minimal difficulties in customers' transition to the new system.

Customers Benefit

"The most important thing is efficiency...I think this is going to be a big benefit to the customers," Tompkins noted.

C.W. Beilfuss & Associates from Downers Grove, Ill., developed the new automated permit system for overweight and over dimensional trucks in Nebraska. The cooperation and hard work by many individuals in several divisions within the department have also been instrumental in developing the system. Special thanks to Ron Kontos, Rail and Public Transportation; Gale Barnhill, Bridge; Barbara Biffle, Communication; Jerry Rayburn, Controller; and Jon Ogden, Steve Brown, Ann Sulek, Audrey Honeycutt, Barb Ferguson, Bill Fagerberg, Sergey Tsvid and Michael Niedermeyer, Information Systems. ♦

D-5 Team Champions at Snow Rodeo

By Denise Wallman
Logistics Division

Districts 5 and 6 had all the "right stuff" to win at the tenth annual NDOR Snow Rodeo held August 27 at the Nebraska Safety Center in Kearney.

Winning the champions title was Aaron Deaver and Johnny Hajek of Sidney in District 5. Craig Slack and Larry Ferguson of Ansley in District 6 came in as the runner-up team. These two teams earned the honor of representing Nebraska at the National Snow Rodeo competition in Greeley, Colorado, September 22-25.

District 5 also walked away with the coveted "Top Over-all District" award after the best three-team combined scores were calculated. Claiming the district traveling trophy was Alan Sanford, Oshkosh; Justin Polk, Chappell; Scott Rajewich and Larry Zitterkoph, Scottsbluff; Aaron Deaver and Johnny Hajek, Sidney.

In addition to maneuvering through the nine obstacles on the Snow Rodeo course, each of the 24 teams had to complete a written quiz and conduct a vehicle inspection to find the defects that had been planted. Final scores were determined by subtracting the penalty points from the possible points for each obstacle. ♦



Best Over-all District: Representing District 5 (l to r) Alan Sanford, Justin Polk, John Hajek, Larry Zitterkoph and Aaron Deaver. Not pictured: Scott Rajewich.



First Place: 2003 Champions (l to r) John Hajek and Aaron Deaver, District 5, are shown with NDOR Director John Craig.



Runners-up (l to r) Craig Slack and Larry Ferguson, District 6, are shown with NDOR Director John Craig.



Chris Ford, District 5, prepares to measure the distance between the toe of the blade and the stop bar as this team completes the final obstacle on the Snow Rodeo course. On this obstacle, the driver tries to come as close as possible to the stop bar without touching or going over it.

ITS Improvements Aid Travelers

Several important developments in NDOR's Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) program have the potential to save time, money and lives on Nebraska's roadways in the months ahead.

Key improvements that will impact travelers include traffic cameras, dynamic message signs, a new road conditions reporting system, and an updated 511 travel information system.

Traffic Cameras

NDOR is now testing five types of cameras at 20 highway sites. Once it is decided which ones work best, a network of 100 cameras will be installed across the state. These cameras will allow motorists to view real-time camera images along the Interstate 80 corridor and other selected highways on their computer monitors. Starting next year, motorists will be able to find out about inclement weather and other potential road hazards with the click of a mouse.

Jim McGee, Programs Manager in NDOR's Transportation Technology Section, said the cameras would measure traffic flows in urban and rural areas.

"The cameras will be useful for traffic management, emergency response and benefits to the traveling public," McGee noted.

The Omaha area will get 28 cameras, the Lincoln area 20, with most of them along I-80 and I-180. The remaining cameras will be placed across the state, primarily along I-80.

The total cost of the camera system is about \$1 million, with the federal government and NDOR each paying half.

Dynamic Message Signs

Nine new dynamic message signs will be placed at locations along the Interstate 80 corridor throughout central and western Nebraska to assist

motorists. The signs are expected to be operational by November.

Motorists will benefit by advanced warnings of major accidents, road advisories during construction and information concerning road conditions during inclement weather.

The cost for the nine dynamic message signs is approximately \$820,000 and the cost for the structures and installation is \$780,000.

Last year, dynamic message signs were installed at nine locations on the Interstate system in the Omaha metro area. Within six months of operation, NDOR, in cooperation with the Nebraska State Patrol, used the signs for Nebraska's Amber Alert. Six additional signs are planned for the Omaha area within the next two years.

Transportation Information Portal

Late in 2003, motorists will be able to take advantage of a new road conditions reporting system on the Web. The Transportation Information Portal (TIP) will be available 24 hours a day, year-round on NDOR's Internet portal, www.nebraska.transportation.org, delivering an accurate snapshot of the Nebraska highway system.

A dynamic color-coded map with icons and text will provide users with details on a variety of highway conditions, including construction zones, accidents and road surface conditions. The system will be expandable to include additional events and camera views. Trained NDOR staff will provide detailed information for the site 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

The information will be offered in various formats for a wide range of applications to those using the system, including media outlets, travelers, trucking firms, transportation planners, emergency responders and the Nebraska statewide 511 travel information number.

511 Travel Information

NDOR is updating the statewide 511 travel information number, which provides 24-hour, year-round weather and travel information.

Since 2002, motorists have been able to gain information regarding road and weather conditions in 60-mile segments across the entire 10,000 mile Nebraska state highway system by using either cellular or landline telephones. Information was accessed by using keypad data entry to select menu items. NDOR is working with their 511 provider to develop and deploy voice-activated menu selection capabilities within the next year. This will provide greater accessibility and efficiency for those using the system.

NDOR also plans to make information posted on the state's Amber Alert system available to motorists who call 511. ♦

Year-Round Nebraska Traveler Information



Dial from anywhere in Nebraska, cell phone or landline.

If outside Nebraska (800)906-9069.

Short-term, route specific weather forecasts and road condition reports for state highways.



www.nsp.state.ne.us



Nebraska
Department of Roads

www.dor.state.ne.us

- ✓ Stay Safe When You Drive.
Wear Your Safety Belt.
- ✓ Use your cell phone responsibly. Don't dial and drive.
Find a safe place to stop.
- ✓ Stay 100 feet behind snowplows. Pass only with extreme caution.
- ✓ If snow is blowing, should you be going? Don't Push It!

Speaking of RoadToasters

By Jim Wilkinson

Planning & Project Development Division

Depending on the survey you read, 59 to 75 percent of individuals have listed speaking in public as their *number one fear*. Motivational Speaker Zig Ziglar has an acronym for fear. It is False, Evidence, Appearing, Real. RoadToasters will help you deal with your fear of public speaking.

RoadToasters is an organization at NDOR that provides a friendly yet helpful and supportive atmosphere to improve public speaking and leadership skills. Participants learn to deal with the fear of public speaking and learn good speechmaking and presentation principles. Most of all, RoadToasters provides a means to practice those skills and get constructive feedback. Side benefits include a marked improvement in listening skills and better communication skills in all areas of your life.

Most of the costs to active members are reimbursed by NDOR. Typically, meetings are the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month, from 12:05 to 12:55 p.m., in the Highway Commission Room at central headquarters. Some dates may change to

accommodate holidays and special events. Occasionally there are additional, special meetings. Guests are always welcome. No, you won't be asked to speak, unless you want to! For schedules and more information go to NDOR's Intranet website: <http://www.nebraskatransportation.org/area-intranet.htm> and click on the "NDOR RoadToasters" link, which will take you to their webpage: <http://www.nebraskatransportation.org/toasters/>.

RoadToasters adheres to a schedule and follows Robert's Rules of Order. They are result oriented and monitor progress regularly.

Speechcrafters in January

You can overcome the fear of public speaking in steps, with help from your peers. RoadToasters will be offering a "Speechcrafters" course beginning in January. The purpose is to help non-members or new members calm their fear of public speaking.

The Speechcrafters course is designed to provide a summary of techniques useful for public speaking. Participants learn about introducing speakers, speaking in earnest, organization of a speech, vocal variety, body language and proper use of

RoadToasters Officers

President

Cindy Shockey, Roadway Design

Vice President, Membership

Bob Foreman, Construction

Vice President, Education

Jim Wilkinson, Planning & Project Development

Secretary

Roe Enchayan, Bridge
(also Gov. of Toastmasters Area 23C)

Treasurer

Mike Owen, Roadway Design

Sergeant-at-Arms

Sara Friedman
(non-NDOR member)

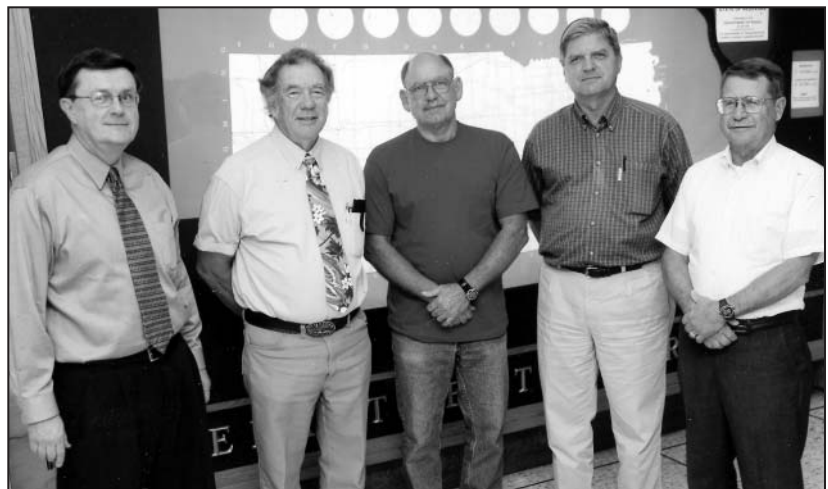
words. We practice these techniques in several short speeches as well as impromptu speaking. There is a small fee for the course. However, for Speechcrafters who fully participate and complete the course, the fee is reimbursable from NDOR.

RoadToasters will help anyone at NDOR who has a work-related technical presentation. Members will evaluate and critique the presentation confidentially and free of charge. They only ask that you arrange a room and equipment during the lunch hour. Please contact Cindy Shockey at 479-3837 or Roe Enchayan at 479-3682. ♦

And Then There Were Five ...

On September 18, 1967, forty-four Design Division employees moved from the State Capitol to the new central headquarters building in south Lincoln. They were the very first employees to occupy the new building.

Over the past 36 years, many of those employees retired, died or otherwise terminated their NDOR service. Since that first day, Malcolm D. Hardin kept the original list of those first employees and "crossed off" each employee who departed throughout the years. It became known as "Hardin's List." When he retired in 1998, Hardin relinquished a copy of his list to other remaining members of the "Last Man Club." They promptly "crossed him off" from the list. ♦



The five remaining members of the "Last Man Club" are (l to r): Roger Winkelhake, Project Scheduling & Program Management Engineer; Art Yonkey, Planning & Project Development Engineer; Doug Prochazka, Highway Contracts Supervisor, Construction Division; Ron Hansen, Highway Design Plans Manager, Roadway Design Division; and Eldon Poppe, Roadway Design Engineer.

Surface Transportation Program Plans Announced

Nebraska Department of Roads' Director John Craig recently released the fiscal year 2004 Surface Transportation Program. This publication reflects how the department allocates the taxpaying highway users' dollars to provide the best statewide surface transportation system possible to all Nebraskans and the traveling public.

The 2004 Surface Transportation Program is published at \$629 million. The state highway program totals \$380 million and is funded from state and federal highway user fees. The local system program for city streets and county roads and bridges totals \$249 million and is also funded by state and federal highway user fees.

A total of 175 new projects will be let to contract on the state highway

system during fiscal year 2004. Projects will range in size from small lighting, signalization, signing and minor concrete repair projects located throughout the state to large projects such as major interstate expansion projects and continued progress on the expressway system including the York Bypass on Highway US-81 and the Scottsbluff to Gering Bypass on Highway N-71.

The 2004 and Beyond Surface Transportation Program book is available on the NDOR website at www.nebraskatransportation.org. Ever concerned with the safety of the driving public, the Department of Roads reminds motorists to drive safely, with caution, obey the traffic laws and always wear seat belts. ♦

Nebraskans Asked to "Put the Brakes" on Traffic Fatalities

October 10 was the third annual "Put the Brakes on Fatalities Day."

The NDOR joined national safety organizations as they drew attention to the nation's high rate of traffic fatalities, about 42,000 per year, or 115 fatalities each day—one fatality every 13 minutes. The day was intended to heighten awareness about what can be done to stop fatalities by focusing attention on individual behaviors, with the goal of achieving one day of zero traffic fatalities across the nation.

Last year on October 10, no fatalities were reported on Nebraska's highways, and no fatalities were reported for 12 days during that month. October 2002 had 31 traffic fatalities, compared to 16 deaths in 2001.

While there was a decrease in highway fatalities for several years, from 295 in 1999 to 276 in 2000, and 246 in 2001, loss of lives while driving on Nebraska's highways increased at an

alarming rate in 2002, with 307 fatalities. This year, by the end of September,

215 people had died in motor vehicle crashes in Nebraska, 14 less than the same time last year—a 6 percent decrease.

NDOR Director John Craig said, "We want to continue to turn this trend around by drawing attention to the issue and to steps that can be taken to reduce highway fatalities."

Following the national theme of "drive as if your life depends on it" people have been asked to take an extra measure of care by sharing the road with other users—drivers, pedestrians, motorcycle and bicycle operators and passengers—in a safe manner. This can be achieved by following several key points: drive courteously and defensively; know the rules of the road for your mode of transportation; obey all signs and signals; wear protective gear—seat belts or helmets; don't speed and don't drive aggressively or impaired. ♦



Service Awards

Congratulations to these dedicated individuals for their work and continued service with the Department of Roads. They celebrate their service dates in *October* and *November*.

40 Years

Glenn Shorney, Planning & Proj. Develop.

30 Years

Michael Bargmann, District 6
Paul Bremer, District 1
Herbert Klepper, District 1

20 Years

Ronald Ballinger, District 2
Jerry Engler, District 1
Chris Ford, District 5
Pamela Garrett, District 6
Mary Gress, Traffic Engineering
Dean Gross, District 4
Steven Grummert, District 4
Lester Lawson, Information Systems
Byron Nordstrom, District 1
Steve Vavra, District 1
Todd Wicken, Right-of-Way
Roger Worman, District 1

10 Years

Gene Schlesinger, District 4
Rodney Gonnerman, Information Systems
Lawrence Griffith, Materials & Research
Rick Hartman, District 3
Glenn Morrison, District 5
Michael Ondrak, Materials & Research
Edward Palandri, Roadway Design
Delwin Peterson, District 3
John Peterson, District 7
Herman Platt, District 2
Merle Poppe, District 7
Aldon Sample, District 6
Timothy Vanderford, District 7
Scott Waddle, Materials & Research
Craig Washburn, District 1
Arjean Wattier, Right-of-Way

Correction

We regret that a name was inadvertently left off the Service Awards for August and September. Roger D. Kloke, District 1, should have been included on the list for 30 years of service.

"Any chance we have to work in different types of buildings, with unusual layouts and features, such as trap doors or narrow, steep staircases, we take advantage of that opportunity."

— Sgt. Gordon Anville
Nebraska State Patrol's S.W.A.T. team

Members of the Nebraska State Patrol's S.W.A.T. team prepare to enter a vacant house near Gretna as part of a training exercise. The house, owned by NDOR, will eventually be demolished to make room for right-of-way along a highway construction project in the area.



Photo by Troy Renken

Gretna Houseguests Include S.W.A.T. Team, NDOR Employees

At first glance, nothing appears out of the ordinary at a house near Highways 6 and 31 in Gretna, located just across from a convenience store and east of the high school. But after closer examination of the premises and recent visitors, it is apparent the dual-purpose structure is not a typical family dwelling.

The house has had a couple of recent visits by a S.W.A.T. team—Special Weapons and Tactics—as a **training site** for potential future situations. During this training, they have checked for potential criminals on the premises, including possible drug trafficking or terrorist activity. In addition, Department of Roads employees have used the house as a field construction office during a nearby road construction project.

According to Marvin Lech, NDOR District 2 Construction Engineer, whenever construction projects require acquiring right-of-way with houses on them that are not in conflict with the contractor's operation, they are often used as field construction offices and demolished or removed near the end of the project. Lech said this house was purchased about two and one-half years ago and used as a field construction office by his district for about the past two years.

Sgt. Gordon Anville, team leader for the Nebraska State Patrol's S.W.A.T. team in the Omaha area, said the State Patrol has worked with NDOR for several years, transforming available houses into training sites. He said they also gain use of houses in communities throughout the state through condemnations.

Training Opportunity

According to Anville, there are six S.W.A.T. teams used by the Nebraska State Patrol, one in each district. Usually, about 10 specially trained team members will go in on a raid. They complete two full days of training at each location twice a month and get together with other S.W.A.T. teams annually for a week long training session at the State Patrol's training academy in Grand Island.

Anville noted that the State Patrol has used the house in Gretna twice for training during the summer. Houses in Omaha and Lincoln provided by NDOR over the past several years have also been used for training exercises. According to Anville, this provides an opportunity to vary the training to fit unique circumstances.

"Any chance we have to work in different types of buildings, with

unusual layouts and features, such as trap doors or narrow, steep staircases, we take advantage of that opportunity," Anville said.

Anville said they like to provide a broad spectrum of training, and the more varied the better. He said the three biggest things that account for the greatest number of calls involve drug raids, barricaded suspects and high-risk situations.

Todd Wicken, NDOR Right-of-Way Agent, said while use of homes acquired by NDOR is not a new practice, it is not done frequently and occurs primarily in the Omaha area along the I-80 corridor. He mentioned similar use of a house several years ago on 60th Street in Omaha. With the exception of a house used in the Scottsbluff/Gering area, Wicken couldn't recall any other locations in central and western Nebraska where houses obtained by NDOR had been used for these purposes.

Because use of the houses for training purposes and meeting locations has worked so well in the past, Lech, Wicken and Anville agree that the practice will continue whenever time, location and circumstances allow. ♦

Transit Summit Highlights Programs

The Rail & Public Transportation Division of the Nebraska Department of Roads hosted a one-day transit summit on September 3, 2003, at the Embassy Suites Hotel & Conference Center in Lincoln, Nebraska.

Over 130 persons attended the summit. Khalil Jaber, Public Transportation Engineer, served as moderator for the day.

Opening remarks by John Craig, Director of NDOR, and Georgia Janssen, Executive Director of the Nebraska Association of Transportation Providers, kicked off the summit.

Cindy Terwilliger, Deputy Regional Administrator for the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Region VII office in Kansas City, Missouri, talked about both current and proposed funding for FTA programs and the transportation reauthorization bill.

Jeff Rumery, Transit Manager for R.Y.D.E. (Reach Your Destination Easily) Transportation in Kearney, Nebraska, said transportation coordination in Kearney went from several stand-alone providers 3½ years ago to the current program in which R.Y.D.E. is the transportation provider for many of those stand-alone programs. R.Y.D.E. has received both funding and vehicles from those programs.

Homeland Security

Lieutenant Governor Dave Heineman gave an informational presentation on Nebraska's Homeland Security efforts. Nebraska has been and is leading the nation in developing and implementing security plans and measures.

Representatives from the offices of Senator Chuck Hagel, Senator Ben Nelson, Representative Doug Bereuter and Representative Tom Osborne gave their views on Congress' efforts to

have a bill passed to reauthorize the transportation-funding program. It is possible that some sort of resolution will be needed to continue transportation program funding after the end of the current federal fiscal year.

Milo Cress, Bridge/ITS Engineer for the Nebraska Division Office of Federal Highway Administration, discussed Intelligent Transportation System development in Nebraska's rural transit program.



Mark Bechtel, left, FTA, Region VII in Kansas City, and Mike Brienzo, City of Lincoln, exchange information during a break between sessions at the 2003 Transit Summit in Lincoln.

Curt Simon, Senior Operations Manager for Metro Area Transit (MAT) in Omaha, along with Kelly Shadden and Randy Steere of MAT, gave a demonstration of their automatic vehicle locator (AVL) system, which gives them real time data on their buses. They also talked about their automated maintenance program that allows them to track personnel, vehicle repairs and parts inventory. This program has saved time and money for MAT.

State's Transit Management

Jerry Wray, Transit Liaison Manager for NDOR, gave an overview of the department's transit programs. Wray noted the department is the pass through agency for federal and state funding that supports local transit programs in Nebraska. In addition, the Transit Unit, within NDOR's Rail and

Public Transportation Division, works closely with the Nebraska Association of Transportation Providers to deliver services and programs to rural transit providers. According to Wray, Transit Unit staff also provide Passenger Assistance Techniques training to transit system drivers; provide drug and alcohol testing program training and technical assistance for both managers and drivers; and offer technical assistance to current and

proposed transportation providers across the state. The Transit Unit also provides vehicle procurement for local transportation programs.

Michael Winter, Director of the Office of Civil Rights, Federal Transit Administration (FTA), Washington, DC, discussed what is happening across the country in Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) issues.

The final presentation of the day was a discussion of alternative fuels. Larry Worth, General Manager of StarTran in Lincoln,

discussed his transit systems experience in using various types of alternative fuels. Currently, four of his buses are using either an ethanol/diesel blend or a soy/diesel blend. Both are working well, and Worth said he would recommend either blend as an alternative to straight diesel fuel. Worth was joined by Todd Sneller, Administrator of the Nebraska Ethanol Board, and Lori Luebke, Executive Director of the Nebraska Soybean Association, who gave presentations on the various blends of ethanol and bio-diesel that are available for use in all types of vehicles.

Ellis Tompkins, Rail and Public Transportation Division Engineer, gave a few closing remarks and John Craig shared his insight on the day's events and provided some ideas to carry forward from the summit. ♦

Job Directory

NDOR Highway Improvement Projects Currently Under Contract as of 9/15/03

| Location Work Description Prime Contractor | | | |
|--|---|---|--|
| District 1 | | | |
| Bellwood Northwest Bridge A.M. Cohron & Son, Inc. Cowles, Scott (402)443-4661 \$302,044.15 | Plymouth South Gr, Conc Pav, Br, Gdrl Elk Horn Construction Co. Kuper, Melvin (402)729-3489 \$490,101.70 | Wahoo South Gr, Culv, Seed, Br Hawkins Construction Co. Sanburn, Bob (402)471-0850 \$10,598,858.45 | Blair - Kennard Gr, Culv, Br, Gdrl, Elec, Bit Luxa Constr. Co., Inc. Brown, Darin G. (402)727-3292 \$4,244,619.96 |
| US-77 West Conc Pav U.S. Asphalt Co. England, Jim (402)471-0850 \$1,313,886.73 | Wilber - Crete Gr, Culv, Seed, Br, Gdrl, Elec, Bit Dobson Brothers Constr. Co. & Affiliates Kuper, Melvin (402)729-3489 \$4,440,125.55 | Ceresco - Wahoo Gr, Conc Pav, Culv, Seed, Br, Gdrl, Elec Dobson Brothers Constr. Co. & Affiliates Sanburn, Bob (402)471-0850 \$13,765,215.42 | In Gretna & South Gr, Conc Pav, Culv, Seed, Gdrl, Elec Hawkins Construction Co. Farivari, Mo (402)595-2534 \$7,341,896.09 |
| Seward East Gr, Conc Pav, Culv, Seed, Br, Gdrl, Bit Hawkins Construction Co. England, Jim (402)471-0850 \$1,605,852.33 | Wymore Southeast Bridge Herbst Construction, Inc. Lane, Chris (402)483-5466 \$302,579.75 | I-80 to Utica Bituminous Werner Construction, Inc. Sidiqi, Abdul (402)471-0850 \$2,787,580.92 | N-370 to N-50 Gr, Conc Pav, Culv, Seed, Br, Gdrl, Fence, Elec, Sign Hawkins Construction Co. Fisher, Rick (402)595-2534 \$18,862,392.57 |
| Dawson North Seed, Gdrl, Bit Constructors, Inc. Habegger, Michael (402)335-4131 \$1,467,951.69 | Nebraska City West Bridge Herbst Construction, Inc. Mueller, Gerald (402)335-4131 \$234,232.78 | In Rising City & East Bituminous Omni Engineering, Inc. & Subsidiaries Sidiqi, Abdul (402)471-0850 \$1,908,965.42 | N-370 to Ruff Rd. Gr, Conc Pav, Culv, Seed, Gdrl, Fence, Elec, Sign Hawkins Construction Co. Fisher, Rick (402)595-2534 \$39,143,149.79 |
| Turkey Creek Channel Grading Negus-Sons, Inc. Habegger, Michael (402)335-4131 \$67,190.00 | Julian North & South Gr, Conc Pav, Culv, Seed, Elec Dobson Brothers Constr. Co. & Affiliates Mueller, Gerald (402)335-4131 \$12,645,541.65 | Staplehurst Spur Bituminous Omni Engineering, Inc. & Subsidiaries Sidiqi, Abdul (402)471-0850 \$336,460.25 | Ft. Calhoun South Gr, Culv, Gdrl, Bit Western Engineering Co., Inc. Gjersvik, John (402)595-2534 \$1,129,155.72 |
| In Peru Culvert TCW Construction, Inc. Hitzeman, Don (402)335-4131 \$313,731.31 | Milford - Lincoln Bituminous Werner Construction, Inc. Niazi, Babrak (402)471-0850 \$4,409,864.76 | N-66 North Bituminous Omni Engineering, Inc. & Subsidiaries Sidiqi, Abdul (402)471-0850 \$1,129,635.54 | Fremont Southeast Bituminous Western Engineering Co., Inc. Jacobs, Micky (402)727-3292 \$642,430.19 |
| Humboldt Northwest Bridge L.J. Webb Contractor, Inc. Hitzeman, Don (402)335-4131 \$384,584.97 | Hawthorne Ave. - Crete Gr, Conc Pav, Culv, Elec Werner Construction, Inc. Niazi, Babrak (402)471-0850 \$2,418,062.09 | Jct. US-34/L-80g Electrical Watts Electric Co. Sidiqi, Abdul (402)471-0850 \$7,919.60 | Rogers - Fremont Bituminous Constructors, Inc. Jacobs, Micky (402)727-3292 \$2,559,032.33 |
| Palmyra Maintenance Facility Palmyra Maintenance Facility Rogge General Contractors, Inc. Hitzeman, Don (402)335-4131 \$1,362,000.00 | Friend - Milford Bituminous Werner Construction, Inc. Niazi, Babrak (402)471-0850 \$1,351,028.45 | County Road @ N-63 Gr, Culv, Bit Dobson Brothers Constr. Co. & Affiliates Sidiqi, Abdul (402)471-0850 \$193,899.53 | Springfield North Gr, Conc Pav, Culv, Br, Gdrl MCC, Llc Khalaf, Zahi (402)595-2534 \$899,718.76 |
| Cornhusker Hwy. Interchange Gr, Conc Pav, Culv, Seed, Br, Gdrl, Fence, Elec, Sign Constructors, Inc. Holak, Hugh (402)471-0850 \$11,870,599.65 | Friend South Culverts TCW Construction, Inc. Niazi, Babrak (402)471-0850 \$93,523.69 | 250th St. Intersection Near Ashland Bituminous Pavers Companies Sidiqi, Abdul (402)471-0850 \$179,900.00 | Jct I-680 - 96th St, Omaha Conc Pav Musselman & Hall Contractors, Llc Khalaf, Zahi (402)595-2534 \$88,809.08 |
| Princeton to N-33 Landscaping D.F. Lanoha Landscape Nursery, Inc. Holak, Hugh (402)471-0850 \$90,398.00 | Palmyra - Unadilla Landscaping D.F. Lanoha Landscape Nursery, Inc. Preble, Rodger (402)471-0850 \$107,400.00 | Roca Spur Gr, Culv, Seed, Br, Gdrl, Bit Christensen Bros., Inc. Traudt, Bob (402)471-0850 \$1,478,120.53 | Papillion West Gr, Conc Pav, Culv, Br, Gdrl WBE Co., Inc. Peterson, Roger (402)255-3831 \$3,299,003.92 |
| Nebraska City South Gr, Conc Pav, Culv, Seed, Elec Dobson Brothers Constr. Co. Knutson, Dewaine (402)471-0850 \$7,989,733.51 | Beatrice - Lincoln Conc Pav American Civil Constructors, Inc. & Subsidiary Preble, Rodger (402)471-0850 \$2,158,307.37 | Wymore North & South Bridges Gr, Br, Gdrl, Elec, Bit Herbst Construction, Inc. Vandegrift, Allen (402)729-3489 \$2,148,561.59 | In Blair Gr, Conc Pav, Culv, Seed, Fence, Elec Luxa Construction Co., Inc. Trujillo, Ray (402)727-3292 \$6,183,447.41 |
| Greenwood North Bituminous Pavers Companies Knutson, Dewaine (402)471-0850 \$1,438,700.00 | Jct. US-136/N-4, In Beatrice Conc Pav D-K Contracting Corp. Preble, Rodger (402)471-0850 \$112,417.39 | District 2 | I-680 to N-36, Omaha Gr, Conc Pav, Culv, Seed, Br, Gdrl, Elec Hawkins Construction Co. Veverka, Frank (402)727-3292 \$12,915,674.88 |
| | In Beatrice Pav Marking M.E. Collins Contracting Co., Inc. Preble, Rodger (402)471-0850 \$31,546.00 | West Dodge Bridge Over I-680 Gr, Conc Pav, Culv, Seed, Br, Gdrl, Fence, Elec, Sign Chas. Vrana & Son Constr. Co. Baehr, Dennis (402)595-2534 \$15,694,829.63 | |

198th St. - Skyline Dr., Omaha
Gr, Conc Pav, Culv, Seed, Br,
Gdrl, Fence, Elec, Sign
Hawkins Construction Co.
Weander, Marty (402)595-2534
\$18,371,814.38

In Gretna
Gr, Conc Pav, Culv, Br, Gdrl
Chas. Vrana & Son Constr. Co.
Wiebers, Steve (402)399-8552
\$764,280.93

Linoma Beach to N-31
Gr, Seed, Gdrl, Bit
Pavers Companies
Wilson, Bill (402)595-2534
\$844,000.00

US-6 @ 156th St., Omaha
Electrical
Watts Electric Co.
Wilson, Bill (402)595-2534
\$18,676.30

West Dodge Rd.
132nd St. - 120th St.
Gr, Conc Pav, Culv, Elec, Sign
Hawkins Construction Co.
Zelensky, Rich (402)595-2534
\$5,021,822.65

District 3

Schuyler East & West
Gr, Conc Pav, Culv, Br,
Gdrl, Elec, Sign
Dobson Bros. Constr. Co.
& Affiliates
Anderson, David (402)564-5751
\$19,184,951.80

Schuyler North
Bituminous
Werner Construction, Inc.
Anderson, David (402)564-5751
\$2,279,705.64

Coleridge - Hartington
Bituminous
Monarch Oil, Inc.
Becker, Roger (402)254-6552
\$249,279.75

US-20 to N-59
Gr, Culv, Seed, Gdrl, Bit
Dobson Bros. Constr. Co.
& Affiliates
Becker, Roger (402)254-6552
\$1,647,544.98

Pender Southeast
Gr, Br, Gdrl
Christensen Bros., Inc.
Brummond, Scott (402)375-7071
\$566,762.96

Martinsburg - Ponca
Br, Gdrl
Herbst Construction, Inc.
Brummond, Scott (402)375-7071
\$171,037.25

Waterbury West
Bridge
Dixon Construction Co.
Brummond, Scott (402)375-7071
\$297,071.60

Emerson - Dakota City
Bituminous
Brower Construction Co.
Brummond, Scott (402)375-7071
\$1,429,665.45

Orchard East & West
Gr, Culv, Seed, Bit
Dobson Bros. Constr. Co.
& Affiliates
Colfack, Gene (402)336-2051
\$3,498,473.27

Norfolk East
Gr, Conc Pav, Culv, Seed, Elec
Dobson Bros. Constr. Co.
Davis, Rob (402)370-3474
\$18,274,985.53

Tilden Northeast
Gr, Conc Pav, Br, Gdrl
Christensen Bros., Inc.
Davis, Rob (402)370-3474
\$951,589.68

In Decatur
Gr, Conc Pav, Culv,
Gdrl, Fence, Elec
M.E. Collins Contracting Co., Inc.
Francis, Jeff (402)375-7071
\$2,717,717.15

Wayne East
Gr, Culv, Br, Gdrl, Elec, Bit
Brower Construction Co.
Francis, Jeff (402)375-7071
\$4,418,941.08

Tekamah North
Conc Pav
James Cape & Sons Co.
Francis, Jeff (402)375-7071
\$398,347.18

Niobrara State Park
Gr, Culv, Gdrl, Bit
Knight Asphalt, Inc.
Hausman, Larry (402)254-6552
\$1,212,890.38

Ponca State Park Recreation Rd.
Gr, Culv, Seed, Bit
Henningsen Const., Inc.
Lane, Chris (402)483-5466
\$1,600,015.76

Verdigre Northwest
Gr, Br, Gdrl
Herbst Construction, Inc.
Lane, Chris (402)483-5466
\$382,367.55

Wayne Northeast
Gr, Culv, Br, Gdrl
A.M. Cohron & Son, Inc.
Mainelli, Mark (402)421-1717
\$849,748.41

N-57 To West Jct N-15
Bituminous
Constructors, Inc.
Mueiting, Curt (402)370-3474
\$796,720.66

West Point North
Gr, Culv, Seed, Br, Gdrl, Bit
Werner Construction, Inc.
Mueiting, Curt (402)370-3474
\$2,825,560.32

Pender South
Gr, Seed, Br, Gdrl, Elec, Bit
Werner Construction, Inc.
Mueiting, Curt (402)370-3474
\$1,723,825.71

US-81 @ Benjamin Ave., Norfolk
Electrical
Kayton Electric, Inc.
Mueiting, Curt (402)370-3474
\$39,737.00

Pilger South
Bridge
Elk Horn Construction Co.
Mueiting, Curt (402)370-3474
\$69,897.50

Norfolk North
Gr, Conc Pav, Culv,
Seed, Br, Gdrl, Elec
Dobson Brothers Constr. Co.
& Affiliates
Mueiting, Curt (402)370-3474
\$8,592,417.11

Albion Southeast
Bridge
A.M. Cohron & Son, Inc.
Rathjen, Scott (402)362-7117
\$300,406.20

Petersburg Southwest
Bridge
The Diamond Engineering Co.
Rathjen, Scott (402)362-7117
\$272,487.70

Winside North
Br, Gdrl, Bit
Brower Construction Co.
Schulz, Ron (402)370-3474
\$823,556.68

Battle Creek Southeast
Bituminous
Constructors, Inc.
Schulz, Ron (402)370-3474
\$786,348.62

Columbus South
Bridge
Dixon Construction Co.
Troster, Steven (402)564-5751
\$990,505.49

Tarnov South
Landscaping
Gross Seed Co., Inc.
Troster, Steven (402)564-5751
\$88,824.11

N-45 to US-81
Bituminous
Dobson Brothers Constr. Co.
& Affiliates
Troster, Steven (402)564-5751
\$2,059,726.96

5th St. - 8th St., Columbus
Gr, Conc Pav, Culv, Elec
Paulsen, Inc.
Troster, Steven (402)564-5751
\$1,371,729.60

Crofton North
Gr, Culv, Seed, Br, Gdrl, Elec, Bit
Constructors, Inc.
Wiebelhaus, Bob (402)254-6552
\$4,203,935.00

Jackson East Bridge
Bridge
Cramer & Associates, Inc.
Wiebelhaus, Bob (402)254-6552
\$187,411.00

US-20 to Missouri River Bridge
Conc Pvmt. Repair
American Civil Constructors, Inc.
& Subsidiary
Wiebelhaus, Bob (402)254-6552
\$365,765.43

Hartington North
Culverts
L.J. Webb Contractor, Inc.
Wiebelhaus, Bob (402)254-6552
\$141,700.05

US-77/S. Ridge Dr., So. Sioux City
Gr, Conc Pav, Culv, Elec
Gill Construction, Inc.
Wiebelhaus, Bob (402)254-6552
\$479,296.81

District 4

In Waco
Gr, Conc Pav, Culv
Paulsen, Inc.
Anderson, Tom (402)362-5934
\$857,029.49

Deshler East
Gr, Br, Gdrl, Bit
L.J. Webb Contractor, Inc.
Anderson, Tom (402)362-5934
\$1,094,967.63

Henderson - Waco
Bituminous
Werner Construction, Inc.
Anderson, Tom (402)362-5934
\$6,790,024.71

Sutton - Grafton
Bituminous
Werner Construction, Inc.
Anderson, Tom (402)362-5934
\$1,191,138.61

Elm Creek Viaduct
Gr, Culv, Br, Gdrl, Elec, Bit
United Contractors, Inc.
Farber, Tom (308)865-5434
\$4,282,819.97

Miller North
Bituminous
Dustrol, Inc.
Farber, Tom (308)865-5434
\$124,294.56

Kearney North
Gr, Conc Pav, Culv, Seed,
Br, Gdrl, Elec
Werner Construction, Inc.
Farber, Tom (308)865-5434
\$5,884,195.46

Jct. US-30 & N-10/N-44
In Kearney
Electrical
Dominion Construction Co.
Farber, Tom (308)865-5434
\$67,248.45

I-80/US-34/281 Interchange
Landscaping
Gross Seed Co., Inc.
Gripenstroh, Scott (308)385-6265
\$36,364.20

Fullerton Northeast
Br, Gdrl
M.E. Collins Contracting Co., Inc.
Gripenstroh, Scott (308)385-6265
\$180,342.60

Fullerton South
Gr, Br, Gdrl, Bit
The Diamond Engineering Co.
Gripenstroh, Scott (308)385-6265
\$1,067,266.84

N-2 Over I-80
Gr, Conc Pav, Culv, Br, Gdrl
Capital Contractors, Inc.
Gripenstroh, Scott (308)385-6265
\$1,487,344.88

In Dannebrog
Bridge
L.J. Webb Contractor, Inc.
Heermann, Dennis (308)385-6265
\$407,600.55

Geneva North & South
Gr, Conc Pav, Culv, Br, Gdrl, Elec
Werner Construction, Inc.
Kohmetscher, Lyle (402)462-1996
\$16,859,071.23

Shelton - Wood River
Bituminous
Western Engineering Co., Inc.
Kohmetscher, Lyle (402)462-1996
\$2,564,644.02

Jct. US-30/N-92
Gr, Culv, Seed, Br, Gdrl, Elec, Bit
Hawkins Construction Co.
Kwiatkowski, Rick (308)754-5411
\$3,093,801.73

Pleasanton North & South
Gr, Br, Gdrl, Elec, Bit
Wilke Contracting Corp.
Kwiatkowski, Rick (308)754-5411
\$2,350,966.50

Elba Northwest
Gr, Br, Gdrl
L.J. Webb Contractor, Inc.
Kwiatkowski, Rick (308)754-5411
\$305,860.50

Cotesfield North & South
Gr, Culv, Seed, Gdrl, Bit
Dobson Brothers Constr. Co.
& Affiliates
Kwiatkowski, Rick (308)754-5411
\$1,623,386.61

US-30 West
Bituminous
Werner Construction, Inc.
Kwiatkowski, Rick (308)754-5411
\$1,396,719.42

Lawrence East
Gr, Culv, Seed, Br, Gdrl, Bit
Werner Construction, Inc.
Meyer, Steve (402)462-1996
\$5,644,665.62

Red Cloud West
Bituminous
Werner Construction, Inc.
Meyer, Steve (402)462-1996
\$857,740.24

Ayr East
Gr, Culv, Br, Gdrl
Simon Contractors & Subsidiaries
Meyer, Steve (402)462-1996
\$319,563.31

Clay Center South
Bituminous
Werner Construction, Inc.
Meyer, Steve (402)462-1996
\$501,951.27

Strang North & South
Gr, Conc Pav, Culv, Seed, Elec
Werner Construction, Inc.
Ruxton, Bob (402)462-1996
\$8,708,874.79

Grand Island South
Gr, Conc Pav, Culv, Seed,
Br, Gdrl, Fence, Elec, Sign
Werner Construction, Inc.
Weber, Kirk (308)385-6265
\$9,800,324.79

Prosser North
Gr, Culv, Br, Gdrl, Bit
The Diamond Engineering Co.
Weber, Kirk (308)385-6265
\$613,457.24

In Scotia
Gr, Conc Pav, Culv, Elec
Werner Construction, Inc.
Woodgate, Gerald (308)385-6888
\$1,832,596.16

Wolbach West
Gr, Culv, Seed, Br, Gdrl, Elec, Bit
L.J. Webb Contractor, Inc.
Woodgate, Gerald (308)385-6888
\$2,308,111.47

District 5

Scottsbluff/Sioux Co. Line North
Bituminous
Western Engineering Co., Inc.
Applegate, Joe (308)632-7727
\$2,007,202.24

Scottsbluff - Gering Bypass
Gr, Culv, Seed, Br
Ames Construction, Inc.
Applegate, Joe (308)632-7727
\$17,270,595.51

Niobrara River South of Rushville
Gr, Culv, Br, Gdrl, Bit
Perrett Construction, Ltd.
Carnahan, Brian (308)432-6144
\$2,690,897.68

In Bridgeport
Bituminous
Western Engineering Co., Inc.
Custer, Dennis (308)262-1920
\$730,732.26

Oshkosh North
Bituminous
Brown & Brown, Inc.
Custer, Dennis (308)262-1920
\$573,920.99

Statewide DMS
Gdrl, Sign
Watts Electric Co.
Custer, Dennis (308)262-1920
\$779,314.73

Bridgeport North
Bituminous
Western Engineering Co., Inc.
Custer, Dennis (308)262-1920
\$999,423.81

Scottsbluff - Minatare
Gr, Conc Pav, Culv, Seed, Elec
Western Engineering Co., Inc.
Fast, Dean (308)632-7727
\$8,552,774.73

In Alliance
Gr, Conc Pav, Culv, Elec
Simon Contractors & Subsidiaries
Frickey, Russ (308)262-1929
\$1,957,596.79

Melbeta West
Gr, Culv, Seed, Bit
Western Engineering Co., Inc.
Gardner, Jerrold (308)632-1429
\$2,692,228.41

West Kimball - East Kimball
Bituminous
Western Engineering Co., Inc.
Gardner, Jerrold (308)632-1429
\$1,492,615.76

Dix East
Bituminous
Western Engineering Co., Inc.
Gardner, Jerrold (308)632-1429
\$527,443.92

Morrill West
Gr, Culv, Bit
Western Engineering Co., Inc.
Gardner, Jerrold (308)632-1429
\$855,432.50

Marsland North
Gr, Culv, Bit
Perrett Construction, Ltd.
Gardner, Jerrold (308)632-1429
\$4,347,919.63

Harrison Northeast
Bridge
Perrett Construction, Ltd.
Rigg, Ryan (307)637-6017
\$448,691.06

Bushnell - West Kimball
Bituminous
Highway Improvement, Inc.
Smith, Don (308)262-1920
\$128,332.54

District 6

Gothenburg South
Bridge
Wilke Contracting Corp.
Brinker, Gary (308)535-8033
\$401,809.95

Gothenburg East
Conc Pav, Br, Gdrl
BRB Contractors, Inc.
Brinker, Gary (308)535-8033
\$1,686,626.59

Sutherland - Hershey
Conc Pav
Musselman &
Hall Contractors, Llc
Brinker, Gary (308)535-8033
\$412,668.92

Western Canal Bridge
West of Ogallala
Gr, Conc Pav, Br, Gdrl, Fence
Simon Contractors & Subsidiaries
Brinker, Gary (308)535-8033
\$1,420,829.66

Ringgold North
Bituminous
Simon Contractors & Subsidiaries
Halstead, Kerri (308)535-8031
\$800,867.33

Sutherland Viaduct
Gr, Culv, Seed, Br, Gdrl, Elec, Bit
Capital Contractors, Inc.
Morrell, Richard (308)535-8031
\$4,410,332.06

Newberry Interchange, No. Platte
Gr, Conc Pav, Culv, Gdrl, Elec
Cement Products, Inc.
Morrell, Richard (308)535-8031
\$719,586.85

District 6 - Districtwide
Conc Pav
Iowa Erosion Control, Inc.
Morrell, Richard (308)535-8031
\$143,620.34

Big Springs South
Gr, Conc Pav, Br, Gdrl, Elec
Western Engineering Co., Inc.
Morrell, Richard (308)535-8031
\$1,272,970.23

Big Springs West
Bridge
Reiman Corp.
Morrell, Richard (308)535-8031
\$727,075.47

Maxwell West
Bituminous
Western Engineering Co., Inc.
Sawyer, Harlan (308)535-8033
\$644,866.13

Maxwell Interchange
Electrical
Dominion Construction Co.
Sawyer, Harlan (308)535-8033
\$87,829.60

Brady East
Conc Pav
Diamond Surface, Inc.
Thomsen, Toby (308)535-8033
\$1,889,966.54

Cozad - Darr
Conc Pav
Diamond Surface, Inc.
Thomsen, Toby (308)535-8033
\$1,903,226.79

Hershey - North Platte
Gr, Conc Pav, Culv
Cement Products, Inc.
Thomsen, Toby (308)535-8033
\$370,058.98

Statewide I-80 Rest Area Signing
Sign
Garcia-Chicoine Enterprises, Inc.
Thomsen, Toby (308)535-8033
\$294,700.75

Big Springs
Emergency Repair -
Clean Up Big Springs Bridge
Capital Contractors, Inc.
Thomsen, Toby (308)535-8033
\$124,519.56

Big Springs
Temporary Road - Big Springs
Adams Construction Co. &
Adams Land Improvement, Inc.
Thomsen, Toby (308)535-8033
\$305,251.00

Berwyn - Ansley
Conc Pav
Upper Plains Contracting, Inc.
White, Dennis (308)872-6735
\$2,664,865.54

Oconto North
Gr, Culv, Seed, Br, Gdrl, Bit
Paulsen, Inc.
White, Dennis (308)872-6735
\$9,181,360.56

District 7

Curtis West & Eustis East
Gr, Br, Gdrl
Wilke Contracting Corp.
Collins, Duane (308)345-8490
\$184,046.60

Orafino to US-283 Bridges
Gr, Agg, Culv, Seed, Br, Gdrl
Adams Construction Co. &
Adams Land Improvement, Inc.
Collins, Duane (308)345-8490
\$2,507,145.68

W 4 St - E 7 St, McCook
Gr, Conc Pav, Culv, Br, Gdrl, Elec
Paulsen, Inc.
Doyle, Kelly (308)995-5397
\$3,189,394.06

In Minden
Conc Pav
Iowa Erosion Control, Inc.
Kuhn, Kenton (308)995-5397
\$404,145.90

District 7 - Districtwide
Bituminous
Musselman & Hall Contractors, Llc
Kuhn, Kenton (308)995-5397
\$86,689.05

Franklin South
Gr, Culv, Seed, Br, Gdrl, Bit
Werner Construction, Inc.
Quinn, Jerry (308)995-5397
\$3,774,917.37

Funk to N-44
Bituminous
Paulsen, Inc.
Quinn, Jerry (308)995-5397
\$2,274,885.15

Hendley Southeast
Bridge
Simon Contractors & Subsidiaries
Quinn, Jerry (308)995-5397
\$258,506.98

In Hendley
Bituminous
Paulsen, Inc.
Raddatz, Bruce (308)995-6677
\$107,757.76

Orleans East
Gr, Culv, Seed, Br, Gdrl, Elec, Bit
Werner Construction, Inc.
Sell, Tim (308)995-5397
\$4,813,919.34

Culbertson Southwest
Bridge
L.J. Webb Contractor, Inc.
Stadler, Lisa (308)345-3710
\$336,766.75

District 7 - Districtwide
Painting
Vogel Traffic Services, Inc.
Ziebell, Roger (308)345-8490
\$763,213.73

Danbury Southwest
Bridge
Simon Contractors & Subsidiaries
Ziebell, Roger (308)345-8490
\$375,836.83

Butler Lake North
Culverts
Cement Products, Inc.
Ziebell, Roger (308)345-8490
\$388,279.95

US-6 North
Gr, Culv, Seed, Br, Gdrl, Bit
Paulsen, Inc.
Ziebell, Roger (308)345-8490
\$2,255,565.09

Culbertson South
Bituminous
Paulsen, Inc.
Ziebell, Roger (308)345-8490
\$1,213,036.51

District 8

Bristow East & West
Bituminous
Werner Construction, Inc.
Colfack, Gene (402)336-2051
\$674,381.15

Spencer South
Bituminous
Werner Construction, Inc.
Colfack, Gene (402)336-2051
\$418,422.16

Niobrara River North & South
Gr, Culv, Br, Gdrl, Bit
Werner Construction, Inc.
Colfack, Gene (402)336-2051
\$6,153,291.28

Nenzel South
Bituminous
Monarch Oil, Inc.
Gustafson, Jay (402)376-1350
\$156,620.96

Niobrara River Br. North & South
Bituminous
Monarch Oil, Inc.
Gustafson, Jay (402)376-1350
\$192,265.38

Maintenance Facility at Naper
Bldg. Construction
Radecon Construction Co. Inc.
Rau, Larry (402)387-2471
\$402,040.00

Newport North
Culv, Br, Gdrl, Bit
Werner Construction, Inc.
Rau, Larry (402)387-2471
\$2,559,569.32

Wood Lake - Johnstown
Bituminous
Monarch Oil, Inc.
Rudnick, Michael (402)387-2471
\$345,749.34

Stuart North
Bridge
Christensen Bros., Inc.
Smith, Lloyd (402)376-2691
\$686,849.40

Chambers Northwest
Gr, Br, Gdrl
A.M. Cohron & Son, Inc.
Smith, Lloyd (402)376-2691
\$431,778.07

O'Neill North
Gr, Culv, Seed, Bit
Werner Construction, Inc.
Ziska, Dan (402)336-2051
\$5,268,204.49

Key:

Bituminous - Bit
Bridge - Br
Building - Bldg
Concrete Pavement - Conc Pav
Culverts - Culv
Electrical - Elec
Grading - Gr
Guardrail - Gdrl
Seeding - Seed

Employee Efforts Celebrated



The weather smiled on NDOR employees in Lincoln as they gathered together Friday, August 29, for the fourth annual employee appreciation picnic in the "backyard" of the central headquarters building.



Upper left - Volunteers, including Jon Ogden, Information Systems Manager; Lyman Freemon, Bridge Engineer; Art Yonkey, Planning & Project Development Engineer; and Eldon Poppe, Roadway Design Engineer, served hamburgers, polish sausage, baked beans and potato salad for the enjoyment of all.

Above - To add to this year's festivities, an employee information fair, sponsored by Human Resources, Communication and Logistics divisions was held under a big yellow tent. Employees could get their blood pressure checked, learn about training opportunities, employee safety, wellness, Rewards and Recognition, recruitment and selection, communication services, and a variety of other topics.

Left - Some of NDOR's latest equipment was on display, and a few employees seized the opportunity to take a "ride" in the snooper bucket.

We Get Letters ...

May 3, 2003

Dear Mo Farivari,

On Tuesday I left a message for you regarding the sidewalk that had not yet been poured in front of our house. You returned my call that very afternoon and said that you would do your best to see if you could get somebody out to work on it this week. On Wednesday morning, there were people there!

I want to express our sincere appreciation for your immediate response and the diligence and consideration of the construction crew working to get this job done. My husband and I are thoroughly impressed and very thankful for the work done.

As I mentioned in my original message, we have our house up for sale and my husband and I are very grateful that you have all dramatically improved our "curb appeal." We have an open house scheduled for Sunday and I feel a lot better about that now. Would you please be sure to pass our regards on to the men on the construction crew too? Again, thank you very much!

Sincerely,

Jamie Jensen
Gretna, NE

Editor's Note: Kudos to District 2 Project Manager Mo Farivari and Hawkins Construction Company crew members for a job well done.

July 24, 2003

I recently returned from a trip by car of ten of the western states, including Nebraska. Traveling on I-80, my family and I would stop at some of the rest areas along the way. We thought the rest areas in Nebraska were the best — the lawns, the tables and the shelters were all taken care of.

Mike Kingsford
Napa, California

The Department of Roads receives numerous complimentary letters. The letters printed here are representative of those often sent praising the many fine and deserving employees of the Department of Roads.

TURF & GARDEN

By Dick Gray
Agronomist



Keep the Water Flowing

Turf - Water, water, water – and not a drop has fallen. Let's hope the rains have returned by now, but if not, keep the water flowing. Try 1/2 to 3/4 inch of water per week, and it may take more if our humidity is still very low. Leave the cutting height at 2½ to 3 inches to better protect the moisture from evaporation and to insulate the root system from winter dehydration. There's been another turf myth blown out of the water—fescue has no problems. Brown patch of fescue has been prevalent with high nighttime temperatures coupled with nighttime watering. Water your fescue during the day, especially when nighttime temperatures above 70 degrees are predicted. Mid- to late-October is the time for an application of Weed & Feed.

Trees - Is there still time to plant trees and shrubs this fall? You bet—fall planting of deciduous trees and shrubs is a good way to get the jump on the spring rush. Remember to put a 5-dollar tree in a 10-dollar hole (make the hole wider than the root ball and no deeper than the tree was in the nursery) and place 3 to 4 inches of mulch around the trees and shrubs. Pull the mulch away from the bark so the mulch is close to the trunk, but not touching. Water your evergreens so they go into winter in a damp condition, and water when you can this winter.

Garden - The garden is pretty much history this year. Make a plan so you can rotate the veggies around next year. Save your eggshells for the garden—the calcium helps prevent blossom-end rot of tomatoes.

Veggie Report - Tomatoes: *German*—large, mild flavor, a BLT special; *Cherokee Purple*—heirloom variety with good flavor, medium-sized fruit; *Double Rich*—trial variety, small to medium-sized fruit, good flavor, heavy producer; *Goliath*—large, solid fruit, good flavor; *Parks Whopper Improved*—Good producer, sweet; *Celebrity*—excellent producer, no cracks, good flavor; *Heartland*—tried and true, good flavor, heavy producer; *Better Boy*—large fruit, good producer. **Peppers:** *Valencia*—orange, sweet; *Jingle Bells*—a cutie, the size of a large egg, heavy producer, quick to ripen; *Big Bertha & Giant Marconi*—very large, elongated; *Camelot Hybrid*—biggest ever; *Ace & California Wonder*—medium-sized; *Habanero*, *Hot*, *Hot*, *Hot*—works in salsa.

General - Test out the snow blower. Take it to the repair shop if necessary.

See you in the spring, gone hunting.

NDOR Events Calendar

— October —

- 2 Project Scheduling Meeting**
8:30-11:30 a.m., NDOR Auditorium
Contact Craig Anderson @ 479-4666
- 2 State Govt. Nebraska Mgmt. Exposition**
State Capitol – Contact Lois Danico @ 479-4331
- 3 Bd. Examiners for Co. Hwy. & City Street Supts.**
Meeting 8:45 a.m., Hwy. Commission Meeting Rm.
Examination 9 a.m. - 4 p.m., NDOR Auditorium
Contact Andrew Cunningham @ 479-4569
- 6 Annual Surface Transportation Program Meeting District 6**
5:30 p.m., North Platte
Holiday Inn Express, Sioux Rm., 300 Frontage Road
- 6-10 Drive Safely Work Week**
- 7 New Employee Orientation Program**
NDOR Central Headquarters
Contact Steve Olson @ 479-3601
- 8 National Walk to School Day**
- 8 RoadToasters**
12:05 p.m.-12:55 p.m., Hwy. Commission Meeting Rm.
Contact Cindy Shockey @ 479-3837
- 9 Letting**
1:30 p.m., NDOR Auditorium
Contact Liz Wunderlich @ 479-4528
- 9 Blood Drive – Community Blood Bank**
NDOR Central Headquarters
Contact Diane Holthus 479-4580
- 10 Put the Brakes on Fatalities Day**
- 13 State Holiday – Columbus Day**
- 17 Hwy. Commission Meeting**
10:00 a.m., Hwy. Commission Meeting Rm.
Contact Shirley Schafer @ 479-4530
- 19-25 National School Bus Safety Week**
- 22 RoadToasters**
12:05 p.m.-12:55 p.m., Hwy. Commission Meeting Rm.
Contact Cindy Shockey @ 479-3837
- 24 Bd. Public Roads Class & Stds.**
10:00 a.m., City Hall, South Sioux City
Contact Andrew Cunningham @ 479-4569
- 27 Annual Surface Transportation Program Meeting District 1**
7:00 p.m., Lincoln
NDOR Central Headquarters Auditorium, 1500 Hwy. 2
- 27-31 Nebraska Winter Weather Awareness Week**
- 28 Annual Surface Transportation Program Meeting District 5**
5:30 p.m., Gering Civic Center, Wildcat Room, 1050 M Street
- 29 RoadToasters**
12:05 p.m.-12:55 p.m., Hwy. Commission Meeting Rm.
Contact Cindy Shockey @ 479-3837
- 29 Annual Surface Transportation Program Meeting District 7**
5:30 p.m., Imperial
Chase County High School, Rm. 101, 520 E. 9th Street
- 30 Annual Surface Transportation Program Meeting District 4**
5:30 p.m., York
Holiday Inn Convention Center, Jct I-80 & U.S. 81

— November —

- 4 New Employee Orientation Program**
NDOR Central Headquarters
Contact Steve Olson @ 479-3601
- 6 Annual Surface Transportation Program Meeting District 2**
7:00 p.m., Omaha – Red Lion Inn, 7007 Grover Street
- 7 Project Scheduling Meeting**
8:30-11:30 a.m., NDOR Auditorium
Contact Craig Anderson @ 479-4666
- 7 Bd. Examiners for Co. Hwy. & City Street Supts.**
Meeting 10:00 a.m., Hwy. Commission Meeting Rm.
Contact Andrew Cunningham @ 479-4569
- 11 State Holiday – Veterans Day**
- 12 RoadToasters**
12:05 p.m.-12:55 p.m., Hwy. Commission Meeting Rm.
Contact Cindy Shockey @ 479-3837
- 13 Letting**
1:30 p.m., NDOR Auditorium
Contact Liz Wunderlich @ 479-4528
- 13 Annual Surface Transportation Program Meeting District 3**
7:00 p.m., Ponca State Park, Missouri National Recreational River Resource & Education Center (3 miles north of Ponca)
- 19 RoadToasters**
12:05 p.m.-12:55 p.m., Hwy. Commission Meeting Rm.
Contact Cindy Shockey @ 479-3837
- 21 Hwy. Commission Meeting**
10:00 a.m., Hwy. Commission Meeting Rm.
Contact Shirley Schafer @ 479-4530
- 21 Bd. Public Roads Class & Stds.**
9:00 a.m., NDOR Auditorium
Contact Andrew Cunningham @ 479-4569
- 27-28 State Holiday – Thanksgiving**

— December —

- 3 RoadToasters**
12:05 p.m.-12:55 p.m., Hwy. Commission Meeting Rm.
Contact Cindy Shockey @ 479-3837
- 9 New Employee Orientation Program**
NDOR Central Headquarters
Contact Steve Olson @ 479-3601
- 10 RoadToasters**
12:05 p.m.-12:55 p.m., Hwy. Commission Meeting Rm.
Contact Cindy Shockey @ 479-3837
- 11 Project Scheduling Meeting**
8:30-11:30 a.m., NDOR Auditorium
Contact Craig Anderson @ 479-4666
- 17 RoadToasters**
12:05 p.m.-12:55 p.m., Hwy. Commission Meeting Rm.
Contact Cindy Shockey @ 479-3837
- 18 Letting**
1:30 p.m., NDOR Auditorium
Contact Liz Wunderlich @ 479-4528
- 19 Hwy. Commission Meeting**
10:00 a.m., Hwy. Commission Meeting Rm.
Contact Shirley Schafer @ 479-4530
- 25 State Holiday – Christmas**

If you would like a key event included on upcoming calendars, call the Communication Office 479-4512 or e-mail lwilson@dor.state.ne.us. Information for the December 2003/January 2004 Roadrunner should be received by November 17.