

A Publication of the Bluegrass Area Development District

# BLUEGRASS ADD - VANTAGE

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## **FORMER ADD LEADER RUSS HAMMONS PASSES**

It seems that, in all walks of life, some individuals rise to the top in just about every endeavor. Former Garrard County Judge-Executive L. G. "Russ" Hammons was one of those persons. Quiet and unassuming, he nevertheless left his remarkable mark on Garrard County and on the Bluegrass Region. Judge Hammons died on July 3 at Fort Logan Hospital in Stanford. He was 86.

He served two terms as sheriff in Garrard County. He ran for county judge in 1974 and served three terms—through 1985. He was an active supporter of the ADD and served the ADD in virtually every leadership role. He was chairman of the ADD Board for the years 1985 through 1987. If someone asked Judge Hammons to do something that would benefit Garrard County or the region, he would do it. If he was asked to travel somewhere to meet with someone or with a state or federal agency or group, he would go. He continued to serve on the ADD Executive Board for several years after he stepped down as county judge-executive. Garrard County, now one of the fastest growing counties in the Commonwealth, got a real push for progress during the years that Russ Hammons led county government. Judge Hammons' beloved wife, Virginia, died two years ago, and his zest for life diminished after her passing.

Russ Hammons will be missed.

## **WHO ARE WE?**

Over the past few months, there have been quite a few changes to the District staff. Thus, the ADD's homepage has been updated to include names, titles, and photos of all current staff. If you go to <http://bgadd.org>, click on "About Us" on the left side of the page. Then select "ADD Staff Directory" to view that information.

## **"WATER, SEWER AND SELECT DATA" BOOK PUBLISHED**

The Water & Sewer Rates in the Bluegrass Area Development District (published July 2006) was presented at the 409 Council meeting on Friday, July 14, 2006. The publication contains, among other data, information on water and sewer rates, water production, wastewater flows, population estimates, and local tax rates. The ADD wishes to thank the cities, counties, and water, sewer and sanitation districts

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serving communities in the District, whose assistance made publication of this data possible. The publication will be sent to mayors, judge-executives, utility managers and data survey participants who were absent at the 409 Council Meeting. For more information, contact Paul Stansbury at the ADD.

### **ADD DEVELOPING ITS 2006 CEDS**

The U. S. Economic Development Administration (EDA) requires Economic Development Districts (such as the ADD) to prepare and maintain a Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy, or CEDS. Formerly known by other names such as the Overall Economic Development Plan (OEDP) or Regional Strategies document, the CEDS serves as the strategic plan for investments in the region that will further economic development and job creation.

The deadline for the CEDS to be developed, advertised for public comment, adopted, and submitted to the EDA Atlanta Regional Office is September 30. Instead of an annual update, as in recent years, the development of a full CEDS is now underway. A CEDS Strategy Committee has been formed in accordance with new EDA guidelines, and work is well underway by District staff and this committee. For further information, please contact Craig McAnelly or Matt Krebs at the ADD office.

### **LANCASTER COMPLETES PROJECT AUDIT**

Progress continued on Lancaster's Water System Improvement project as city officials received word of a successful project audit by the Governor's Office for Local Development. The evaluation, held in mid-May, reviewed the project's compliance with Federal program guidelines and requirements. The audit was mandated because the construction effort is supported by Federal dollars. This much needed \$1.56 million water system project seeks to deal with age-related deficiencies within the municipal water distribution system.

Under construction is the installation of almost seven miles of 6- and 8- inch diameter water lines, 53 new water line valves, and 34 flush fire hydrant assemblies. The project involves system improvements that were recommended as part of a 2002 engineering study.

Funding for the project comes from a HUD Community Development Block grant for \$595,000. Other funds include a \$100,000 grant from the Kentucky Infrastructure Authority and a grant/loan from USDA's Rural Development. The Rural Development funding comes in the form of a \$420,000 low interest loan and a grant of \$245,000. Additional funding comes from a KIA-financed Tobacco Development Grant for \$170,000, and local funding of \$30,000.

For more information, contact Dave Ewen at the ADD.

## **LANCASTER RECEIVES GRANT AGREEMENT FOR WWTP**

The City of Lancaster received a Grant Agreement in mid-July, from the Kentucky Infrastructure Authority, providing Tobacco Development Fund monies in the amount of \$281,730 to make improvements to the wastewater treatment plant.

Over the past few years the City has experienced numerous problems with the aeration system for the oxidation ditches at the wastewater treatment plant, and recently the City completely lost the use of one of the brush aerators. This has led the City to move forward in renovating the aeration system. The construction project will involve installation of orbital disc aeration equipment for which the City is currently negotiating its purchase.

The project, carrying an estimated cost of \$285,000 to \$300,000, is expected to begin construction in late September or early October. For additional information, contact Dave Ewen at the ADD.

## **LAWRENCEBURG'S STRINGTOWN PROJECT SECURING EASEMENTS**

Lawrenceburg's Stringtown Sewer project is moving forward as the city continues the process of securing easements needed for project construction. Following the procurement of easements, the city will solicit construction bids. The city has completed the required Environmental Assessment, submitted evidentiary documentation, and received Environmental Certification and Release of Funds.

The HUD Community Development Block Grant award of \$759,000 will be put toward a \$1,628,000 project that will provide sewer service to an urbanized unincorporated area (Stringtown) south of Lawrenceburg's corporate limits in Anderson County. The project is expected to serve 146 residential customers and three non-residential users.

The more than \$1.62 million project will see the construction of:

- 2.2 miles of 8-inch sanitary sewer line
- 1.9 miles of 4-inch sanitary service line
- 3.0 miles of 2- and 4-inch force main
- 60 manholes
- 150 service connections
- 16 Simplex grinder pumping station
- 4 Duplex grinder pumping stations
- 1 150 GPM sewage pumping station
- and, other related appurtenances.

Funding for the project, beyond the Community Development Block Grant, will come from a state appropriation of \$830,000 in the form of a Tobacco Development Fund Grant and local funding of \$39,000 coming from tap on fees.

For additional information contact Dave Ewen at the ADD.

### **LAWRENCEBURG SEEKS RFQ FOR PARKWAY PROJECT**

The City of Lawrenceburg, in late July, published a Request for Qualifications for engineering services for its Bluegrass Parkway Sewer project. The planned project will extend municipal sewer service south along US 127 to the Bluegrass Parkway interchange in southern Anderson County. Approximately 25,000 feet of twin force mains will be installed along with a sewage pumping station in order to send the collected sewage from the interchange to be treated at the City of Lawrenceburg's wastewater treatment plant.

Funding for the project comes from an Economic Development Fund grant for \$1,000,000 received from the state legislature during the 2006 meeting of the General Assembly. The Kentucky Infrastructure Authority will be the state's administrative agency, and the Bluegrass Area Development District will administer the Grant Agreement on the City's behalf.

For additional information, contact Dave Ewen at the ADD.

### **NORTH JESSAMINE PROJECT GATHERING EASEMENTS**

The Jessamine-South Elkhorn Water District's sewer project is moving ahead as Jessamine County continues the slow process of securing approximately 90 easements, which must be obtained for the \$3.29 million construction effort that will serve 388 building sites in the northeastern part of the county. An Environmental Review has been prepared, and Environmental Clearance has been received from the Governor's Office for Local Development. A full release of Community Development Block Grant funds is expected shortly.

Of the 388 building lots to be provided service, 348 are occupied by dwellings, two are businesses, and 25 are vacant dwelling units. In addition, there are 13 vacant lots. The building lots are sited in or near Bates Creek Estates subdivision, located just south of the intersection of Ashgrove Pike and Bates Creek Road. The project will connect to Lexington's West Hickman Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant, which is very near the project area.

Project construction will include installing 5.2 miles of gravity sewer, 1.5 miles of service laterals, 2.3 miles of 10-inch force main, 127 manholes, and a 535-gpm sewage station. Funding for the project comes from a US Environmental Protection Agency grant of nearly \$1.6 million, an RD grant of \$321,239, an RD loan of \$407,706, and a HUD Community Development Block Grant for \$1.0 million.

For more information, contact Dave Ewen at the ADD.

## CENSUS BUREAU POPULATION ESTIMATES FOR CITIES SHOW CONSISTENT BLUEGRASS GROWTH

Estimates of population within cities—recently released by the US Census Bureau—show that most Bluegrass cities are growing. Some are estimated to be experiencing significant growth. Twenty-one Bluegrass Area cities are projected to have gained population between the 2000 Census and the population estimates for July 1, 2005.

Extrapolating from the most recent Census Bureau population estimates that were published about a year ago for counties and for the region as a whole for the July 1, 2004 period, one can suggest that the current population of the 17 county Bluegrass Area Development District is about 728,000. Based upon the recently released population estimates for cities, it is suggested that, for the net growth that the Bluegrass Area is experiencing, about two of every three of these new persons are located within the corporate boundaries of Bluegrass Area cities.

According to the newly released estimates, the Bluegrass Area has eight cities whose population exceeds 10,000. In ranked order, those cities are as follows:

<u>Rank</u>	<u>City Name</u>	<u>2005 Estimated Population</u>
1	Lexington-Fayette	268,080
2	Richmond	30,893
3	Frankfort	27,210
4	Nicholasville	23,210
5	Georgetown	19,988
6	Winchester	16,494
7	Danville	14,409
8	Berea	13,230

The city-by-city population estimates of all 33 Bluegrass Area cities are displayed in the tabulation that follows. Also shown are the 2000 Census figures for each city, the net change in population from the 2000 Census figures to the July 1, 2005 official population estimates, and the percent change during that five-year period.

**CITY POPULATION ESTIMATIES  
AS OF JULY 1, 2005**

<u>CITY</u>	<u>COUNTY</u>	<u>2000 CENSUS</u>	<u>JULY 1, 2005 ESTIMATE</u>	<u>CHANGE NUMBER</u>	<u>2000-2005 PERCENT</u>
Berea	Madison	9,851	13,230	3,379	34
Berry	Harrison	310	309	-1	-
Burgin	Mercer	874	873	-1	-
Carlisle	Nicholas	1,917	2,030	113	6
Clay City	Powell	1,303	1,344	41	3
Crab Orchard	Lincoln	842	866	24	3
Cynthiana	Harrison	6,258	6,311	53	1
Danville	Boyle	15,477	15,409	-68	-
Eubank	Linc./Pul.	358	371	13	4
Frankfort	Franklin	27,741	27,210	-531	-2
Georgetown	Scott	18,080	19,988	1,908	11
Harrodsburg	Mercer	8,014	8,126	112	1
Hustonville	Lincoln	347	356	9	3
Irvine	Estill	2,843	2,714	-128	-5
Junction City	Boyle	2,184	2,175	-9	-
Lancaster	Garrard	3,734	4,207	473	13
Lawrenceburg	Anderson	9,014	9,403	389	4
Lexington-Fayette	Fayette	260,512	268,080	7,568	3
Midway	Woodford	1,620	1,622	2	-
Millersburg	Bourbon	842	839	-3	-
Nicholasville	Jessamine	19,680	23,897	4,217	21
North Middletown	Bourbon	562	561	-1	-
Paris	Bourbon	9,183	9,334	151	2
Perryville	Boyle	763	755	-8	-1
Ravenna	Estill	693	676	-17	-2
Richmond	Madison	27,152	30,893	3,741	14
Sadieville	Scott	263	294	31	12
Stamping Ground	Scott	566	631	65	11
Stanford	Lincoln	3,430	3,452	22	1
Stanton	Powell	3,029	3,109	80	3
Versailles	Woodford	7,511	7,728	217	3
Wilmore	Jessamine	5,905	5,826	-79	-1
Winchester	Clark	16,724	16,494	-230	-1
<b>TOTALS</b>		<b>467,582</b>	<b>489,113</b>	<b>21,531</b>	
<b>AVERAGE</b>					<b>4.6</b>

**BLUEGRASS ADD LEADS THE COMMONWEALTH IN TERMS OF COMMUNITY WATER SERVICE AVAILABILITY**

Bluegrass ADD, together with the other 14 Area Development Districts in the state, worked during 2005-2006 to gather information to quantify and locate which households in Kentucky lack access to community water service. Since about 2000, the Kentucky General Assembly has taken a serious interest in increasing the number of Kentucky households that have community water service access. If a given construction project to extend water service is completely funded, but construction has not yet started or not yet been completed, the ADDs were instructed to omit those households from the water unserved tabulations. Information for each county was tabulated under the name of the water utility that presumably would serve a given area. According to the survey, almost one third of a million Kentuckians continue to lack access to a clean, dependable community water source. In the Bluegrass ADD, however, the number of persons without that access is only about 3,700—about one half of one percent.

The Bluegrass Area led the Commonwealth in terms of the percentage of persons who have access to a community water source. Stated in an inverse manner, the percentage of persons who are water unserved is by far smaller in the Bluegrass ADD than for any of the other 14 Area Development Districts. Staff of the Kentucky Infrastructure Authority presented a statewide report to a committee of the Legislative Research Commission in mid-August that showed the following information for the 15 Area Development Districts:

<u>Area Development District</u>	<u>% of Population Without Access to Community Water Service</u>	<u>Area Development District</u>	<u>% of Population Without Access to Community Water Service</u>
Barren River .....	6.1	Gateway .....	10.1
Big Sandy .....	26.3	Green River .....	7.0
<b>Bluegrass .....</b>	<b>0.5</b>	KIPDA .....	1.5
Buffalo Trace .....	4.7	Lincoln Trail .....	9.5
Cumberland Valley .....	8.0	Northern Kentucky .....	5.7
FIVCO .....	21.5	Pennyrile .....	3.3
Kentucky River .....	50.8	Purchase .....	25.1
Lake Cumberland .....	9.9	Statewide .....	8.4

The success of the Bluegrass ADD in meeting the water needs of area residents can be attributed to a number of factors. Among them would be:

- A kinder topography in the Bluegrass as opposed to some other areas of Kentucky
- The continuous and long-term Bluegrass ADD commitment to address water infrastructure issues
- A population density greater than in some areas of Kentucky
- An ADD Board of Directors and a local government leadership that has consistently paid attention to water infrastructure issues.

For more information on water issues, contact Don Hassall or Matt Belcher at the ADD.

### **WALL ALLEY RENOVATION PROJECT BIDS OPENED**

Winchester's Wall Alley Renovation project moved toward construction as bids were opened in late June. One bid was received and is being reviewed by the project's engineer, the city attorney, and the project team.

The development project, budgeted at \$526,060, includes improvements along the length of Wall Alley and adjacent to it. Specifically, the project includes relocation of utilities, landscaping and streetscape enhancements. A number of utilities servicing the area, including electric, water, natural gas, telephone, cable, and sewer will be the target of construction. Further, a total of nine utility poles currently servicing the area, located on the east side of the alley, are connected to commercial buildings. The lines will be buried or the poles relocated to a position further east of the alley to decrease or completely eliminate the effect of the unappealing aspect of the alley. Sewer and gas lines will also be moved as needed.

The effort is financed by a Transportation Enhancement Grant of \$420,848, and the City of Winchester is contributing required matching funds of \$105,212.

For additional information, contact Dave Ewen at the ADD.

### **RURAL DEVELOPMENT OFFICES LISTED FOR BLUEGRASS AREA COUNTIES**

The US Department of Agriculture's Rural Development continues to be a major partner in working to assist with funding for water and wastewater projects within the Bluegrass Area and across the Commonwealth. The primary contacts at Rural Development for Bluegrass Area communities/utilities are these:

#### BLUEGRASS ADD-VANTAGE

State Director: Kenneth Slone, 771 Corporate Drive, Suite 200,  
Lexington 40503; (859) 224-7300

Community Programs Director: Vernon Brown, 771 Corporate  
Drive, Suite 200, Lexington 40503;  
(859) 224-7336

Area III Office (Shelbyville)—deals with projects in Anderson,  
Bourbon, Boyle, Clark, Franklin, Harrison, Jessamine, Mercer,  
Powell, Scott, and Woodford Counties.

Area Director: Gene Floyd

Area Specialist: John Johnson

Area Specialist: Ernest Scruggs, Jr.

90 Howard Drive, Suite 3, Shelbyville 40065

(502) 633-3294, Ext. 4

Area IV Office (Morehead)—deals with projects in Nicholas  
County.

Area Director: Jimmy Hall

Area Specialist: Franklin Howe

Area Specialist: Pam Farmer

220 West First Street, Morehead 40351; (606) 784-6447,

Ext. 4

Area V Office (London)—deals with projects in Madison, Garrard,  
Estill, and Lincoln Counties.

Area Director: Doug Moore

Area Specialist: Barry Turner

Area Specialist: Tom Partin

95 South Laurel Road, Suite A, London 40744

(606) 864-2172, Ext. 5

#### **BEREA INITIATES REGULAR BUS SERVICE**

Bus service is now available in Berea. Beginning July 3, residents can now ride the bus all day for \$1. The bus system, operated by Kentucky River Foothills, runs from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. and makes 16 stops throughout the city as it makes its rounds. A passenger is allowed to buy a \$1 day pass when he gets on the bus. This allows the rider to ride to a destination and get a return trip for the same \$1 fare. Further, a package of 10 passes can be purchased for \$7 at Berea City Hall or at the Senior Center in Berea. The bus leaves Wal-Mart at the top of each hour, makes its appointed rounds and is back at Wal-Mart again at the top of the next operating hour.

The Berea City Council is supporting the bus service with \$83,000 in its 2006-2007 fiscal year budget. The remaining cost of operating the bus service is funded from a federal grant obtained for Foothills by Congressman Ben Chandler. For more information, contact Bruce Duncan at the ADD.

## **CABLE AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS CONFERENCE SET**

The Third Annual Kentucky Cable and Telecommunications Conference is scheduled for August 29, 2006 at the Hilton Suites at Lexington Green in Lexington. This one-day seminar will focus on important issues that local governments across Kentucky face with regard to the challenges of cable franchise renewal, customer service issues, transfers of control, cable rate regulation and administration of public, educational and governmental access.

Specific topics for presentation and discussion will include:

- Cable Franchise Renewal and Transfer of Control
- Telecommunication Excise Tax
- Federal Funding for Municipal Telecommunications Projects
- Cell Tower Placement
- Pitfalls & Successes in Producing PEG Access Content
- Internet Protocol TV (IPTV)
- Communicating Effectively with Policy Makers

The conference, which has a registration fee of \$175, has been approved for six and a quarter hours of County Elected Officials Training Incentive Credit as well as 6.25 hours of CLE credit by the Kentucky Bar Association. For general information, contact Dave Ewen at the ADD. For other seminar specifics and registration information, please contact Linda Ain by phone (859) 224-3035 or by email: [lindaain@insightbb.com](mailto:lindaain@insightbb.com).

## **BEECH FORK WATER COMMISSION HONORED**

At the recent annual conference of the KY-TN American Water Works Association, Powell County's Beech Fork Water Commission was honored in the category of Operational Excellence of its water treatment plant. These honors are not lightly awarded. Congratulations to the management and staff of the Beech Fork Water Commission.

## **TOYOTA MOTOR MANUFACTURING KENTUCKY NAMES NEW PRESIDENT**

Steve St. Angelo has been named the new president of Toyota Motor Manufacturing Kentucky. He replaces Gary Convis who had served as TMMK president since 2001. Convis has been promoted to TMMK chairman. Mr. St. Angelo is the sixth TMMK president since Toyota established its Georgetown plant 20 years ago.

## **DANVILLE INDUSTRY TO ADD JOBS**

FKI Logistex, Inc., one of the world's largest providers of material handling solutions, has announced that it will move some manufacturing operations from its Frederick, Maryland facility to plants in Danville and Cincinnati. Company spokesman Bruce Olive said he does not know

how many jobs will be added in Danville or in Cincinnati, but he did know that the Maryland plant would be losing 70 jobs in the consolidation. The facility in Danville is located on Lebanon Road. FKI Logistex works on product handling systems and conveyors like those that sort mail or baggage.

### **JESSAMINE COUNTY GAINS APPROVAL FOR TWO NEW HEALTH CARE FACILITIES**

In mid-June, the Kentucky Cabinet for Health and Family Services approved St. Joseph HealthCare's application for the construction of a \$41 million ambulatory care center. The facility, to be called St. Joseph Jessamine, will include a 24-hour emergency department, diagnostic imaging, laboratory services, physical rehabilitation services, and a pharmacy. The St. Joseph facility is planned to be built near the US 27 Bypass interchange with KY 169 and is scheduled for an opening in 2008.

Less than a week later, the same State Cabinet approved a certificate of need for a second new facility to be called the Ambulatory Care Center of Jessamine County. Associated Healthcare Systems, the parent company of Samaritan Hospital in Lexington, had submitted the later application. This facility will offer emergency treatment of major and minor trauma, medical imaging and diagnostic testing, chronic health management as well as laboratory, preventive health and education services. The Ambulatory Care Center of Jessamine County is proposed to be built on a 42-acre site at Hoover Road at US 27 south of Nicholasville. This facility may open as early as 2007.

### **RICHMOND UTILITIES HONORED FOR THE QUALITY OF ITS PRETREATMENT OPERATIONS**

Many communities have programs to work with local industries and others whose wastewaters are such that on-site pre-treatment is requisite before wastewater can be emptied to the municipal sewer system. The City of Richmond is one of those Bluegrass Area communities. At the July annual conference of the Kentucky-Tennessee Water Environment Association, Richmond Utilities was honored for its outstanding pre-treatment program. Congratulations go to the City of Richmond and to its utilities commission management and staff.

### **LANCASTER SET TO RELOCATE TO NEW CITY HALL**

In the next weeks, the City of Lancaster is set to move to a new home. City Hall will be moving to the front portion of the former hospital building that the Christian Care Center of Lancaster donated to the city. The new facility is located at 308 West Maple Street—next to the Garrard County High School. Acting Mayor Donna Powell described the new facilities as "more space and better space."

Plans are to call the City of Lancaster's new home the New Municipal Building. There is sufficient excess space in the city's new building that Lancaster plans to rent space to other groups such as the school system.

For more information, contact Lancaster Acting Mayor Donna Powell.

### **HARRODSBURG-MERCER COUNTY TOURISM COMMISSION RELOCATES TO DIAMOND POINT**

The tourism office in Harrodsburg/Mercer County has moved into one of the premier grand old houses in Harrodsburg—Diamond Point. This grand old home, built in the 1840s, is located near the city's northern edge and is considered to be a highly visible portal to the City of Harrodsburg. The 7,000 square foot house was purchased by Harrodsburg First in March 2003.

The Harrodsburg/Mercer County Industrial Development Authority and the Mercer County Chamber of Commerce have likewise developed plans to relocate to Diamond Point.

### **STANTON SET TO UNDERTAKE HUD BLOCK GRANT APPLICATION FOR WATER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENT PROJECT**

The City of Stanton appears to be approaching a situation that would permit it to seek HUD Community Development Block Grant funds to assist in undertaking a major water system improvement project. The Kentucky Division of Water has identified deficiencies within the potable water system—primarily related to finished water storage—that need to be addressed in the near term. City personnel, assisted by the staff from the Rural Community Assistance Program, are nearing the conclusion of income level surveys that would demonstrate that the city is eligible to apply for HUD grant funds. Preliminary results would suggest that in excess of 51 percent of would-be project beneficiaries are indeed low or moderate income persons. A possible problem with a HUD grant threshold issue appears to have been resolved that should cause no undue delay in the city's pursuit of HUD grant funds through the Governor's Office for Local Development.

A recent appropriation from the Kentucky General Assembly in the amount of \$675,000, taken with a prospective grant/loan from USDA's Rural Development, should mean that a HUD Block Grant should be able to complete the financial package on the \$1.8 million undertaking.

For more information, contact Stanton Mayor Virginia Wills or Don Hassall at the ADD.

### **FORMER MAYOR OF DANVILLE, ALEX STEVENS, DIES**

Alex Stevens had just about done it all. He taught school, was a school principal, and coached basketball at the high school and at the college levels. He was Danville's mayor as the 20<sup>th</sup> Century gave way to the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. At the time of his passing, Mr. Stevens was a member of the Danville City Commission. His widow, Paige Stevens has been appointed to fill his seat on the City Commission.

### **EPHRAIM McDOWELL HEALTH TO EXPAND FACILITIES BY \$66 MILLION**

Ephraim McDowell Health, the parent of Ephraim McDowell Regional Medical Center in Danville and the Fort Logan Hospital in Stanford, has committed to undertake a \$66 million expansion. Of that sum, \$40 million will be spent in Danville. A three-story addition will create a new entrance to the hospital and will house an additional 25 beds, a larger intensive care unit, a new women's care wing, gift shop, chapel, and cafeteria.

A new Fort Logan Hospital in Stanford will be located at the intersection of US 150 and US 27 on the city's northern edge. The new 54,000 square foot building will have an upgraded CT scanner and space for an MRI and nuclear medicine services to be added at a later date.

### **BOYLE COUNTY STEPS UP ITS SOLID WASTE RECYCLING SERVICES TO OFFER "E-SCRAP" RECYCLING**

Getting rid of old electronic gear is not as easy as it sounds. Most garbage collection providers do not allow such waste products to be commingled with household refuse. The Boyle County Recycling Center has a program—only a pilot program for now—to accept such wastes when they are brought to the center on the US 127 Bypass in Danville. Acceptable items include computers, hard drives, floppy discs, printers, scanners, workstations, mainframes, RAM, slot cards, routers, telephone networking and switching equipment, video cameras, cameras and video game consoles, semi-conductors, circuit boards, cable and wire, monitors, digital equipment, and typewriters.

For more information, contact Boyle County Recycling Center Director, Donna Fechter.

### **LANCASTER SET TO OPEN HIGHER EDUCATION CENTER**

A higher education center for Lancaster was dedicated in mid-June. Located within the northwest quadrant of the Public Square, the center will begin, as early as this autumn, to offer fresh educational opportunities for high schoolers who want to get a step up or to adults who aspire to take classes beyond the high school level. Eastern Kentucky University has teamed with the Bluegrass Community and Technical College to offer classes at the center. Among others on hand

for the dedication ceremony was ECU President Joanne Glasser. President Glasser said that she wanted "to thank State Representatives Lonnie Napier and Harry Moberly, as well as many civic and business leaders in Garrard County for their vision and leadership in this undertaking."

Congratulations to the City of Lancaster and to Garrard County for this educational coup!

### **WILMORE'S SENIOR COMMUNITY CENTER AT WESLEY VILLAGE IS DEDICATED**

With considerable pomp and circumstance, Wilmore's Senior Community Center at Wesley Village was dedicated in mid-June. A HUD Community Development Block Grant of \$1.0 million together with nearly \$2 million in private money made this dream a reality. The completed project cost is \$3.4 million.

The center features a 4,000 square foot auditorium that can accommodate religious services, movie showing, and the performing arts. There is space for both public dining and private dining. The center is also home to the Dunkelberger Library, which offers books and periodicals geared toward seniors. Later this year, the center will offer computer education, photography classes, crafts and needlework, and a Jessamine County history forum. The surrounding housing complex includes 140 to 150 residents in patio homes. Also on site is a health care facility.

For more information, contact Craig McAnelly at the ADD.

### **TOURISM — A "HOT BUTTON" TOPIC FOR KENTUCKY'S ECONOMY**

New figures released by the Kentucky Commerce Cabinet suggest that tourism increased by more than 16 percent in 2004-2005 as compared to the previous fiscal year and that 6,000 new Kentucky jobs were created within the tourism industry during the same time period. The Travel Industry Association (TIA) suggests that tourism added \$9.44 billion to Kentucky's economy in 2005 and employed 176,200 Kentuckians. According to the TIA report, nearly \$6.38 million was spent directly by domestic travelers in Kentucky in 2005. Add to that the indirect spending, and the total value of the tourism industry is \$9.44 billion.

Governor Fletcher said that the primary goal of his administration has been to expand economic development and opportunities for all Kentuckians. "This new report shows we have done just that in Kentucky's tour and travel industry, and we have done it successfully," said the Governor.

## **MERCER COUNTY SENIOR CENTER DIRECTOR RUBY DUNN RETIRES**

After 35 years of directing the Mercer County Senior Citizens Center, Ruby Dunn retired in June. Always a mover and a shaker, Dunn arrived in Mercer County in 1973 and developed a plan for starting a seniors center. As director, she oversaw the program and the staff, getting grants to keep programs running and meeting the needs of the community's seniors.

Dunn was also involved in implementing the Mercer County Head Start Program and was involved in the Blue Grass Community Action Agency and with Bluegrass Community Partnership. She recently received the Unbridled Spirit Award that is given each month by Governor Ernie Fletcher.

Congratulations, Ruby, on a job well done!

## **ESTILL COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE MOVES TO NEW HOME**

The Estill County Chamber of Commerce, just now a year old, has moved to a new location—104 Main Street in Irvine. Dr. John Allen is the new president of the chamber. "Ultimately, the chamber proposes to serve as a voice for the businesses of the Estill County community," Dr. Allen said. The Chamber of Commerce and the Estill Development Alliance are looking to start a tourism commission and to open a Welcome Center in Estill County in the hope that there will be a single point of contact for people visiting the county or moving to the county.

For more information on tourism issues, contact Lora Littleton at the ADD.

## **CHANGES PLANNED FOR THE BLUEGRASS WATER MANAGEMENT COUNCIL**

At its recent meeting on July 14, Assistant Director of the Kentucky Division of Water, Sandy Gruzsky, outlined some of the programs and the new initiatives of the Kentucky Division of Water. Many of the programs directly involve Bluegrass Area water and wastewater utilities.

The ADD's newly published *Water and Sewer Rate Book for 2006* was distributed to attendees at the Council meeting.

Plans were unveiled to initiate county clusters of working groups to deal in more detail with water and wastewater problems and plans, with an accent upon working together to deal with water/wastewater issues in an efficient and effective manner. Suggested as county clusters were the following combinations of counties:

- Franklin, Anderson, Woodford, Mercer
- Estill and Powell

- Harrison, Bourbon, and Nicholas
- Boyle, Garrard, and Lincoln
- Fayette, Scott, Clark, Jessamine, and Madison

Cities, counties, and water/wastewater utility districts were encouraged to develop and submit current project profiles for projects that received funding from the 2006 General Assembly through the Economic Development Fund, since no state funding can be released until project profiles have been reviewed and approved by the Water Management Council. Similarly, the development and submittal of project profiles was also encouraged for new projects.

For more information about the Water Management Council, contact ADD staffers Don Hassall, Matt Belcher, Paul Stansbury, or Kenneth Johns.

### **BERRY SET TO INITIATE WASTEWATER FACILITIES PLANNING EFFORT**

It has been almost 20 years since the Harrison County municipality of Berry constructed its alternative technology sewage collection and treatment system. Berry is the ADD's only municipality with a community wastewater collection and treatment system that has no discharge to a stream. The community utilizes grinder pumps, a lagoon, and spray irrigation on land.

The wastewater system, serving just over 100 households, is showing its age, however, and city leaders plan to undertake an update of Berry's wastewater facilities plan so that the city might qualify for outside financial assistance for system upgrades/extensions.

For more information, contact Don Hassall at the ADD.

### **BLUEGRASS WATER SUPPLY COMMISSION OPTIONS SITE FOR REGIONAL WATER TREATMENT PLANT**

At its July 18 meeting, the Board of Commissioners of the Bluegrass Water Supply Commission (BWSC) consummated the purchase of an option on a large land parcel adjacent to the east bank of the Kentucky River Pool 3, downstream of Frankfort, as a site for a new regional water treatment plant.

At the same time, the Commission acknowledged receipt of a communication from the Kentucky American Water to the effect that KAW is moving forward in an attempt to solve the water company's potable water supply shortage problems independent of the BWSC. While the door was left ajar for some sort of public/private partnership involving both the private water company and the BWSC, the letter from KAW was anything but encouraging.

#### BLUEGRASS ADD-VANTAGE

Being confident that the regional solution would be the most cost-effective manner to solve the potable water supply problems for both KAW and the municipalities that comprise the Bluegrass Water Supply Commission, this unwelcome news from KAW causes the BWSC to begin to reevaluate its potable water supply options in the event that KAW ultimately commits to deal with its water supply solution apart from the regional concept. If Kentucky American were to "go it alone", the unit costs for the solution to the problem would rise both for KAW and for the BWSC.

For more information, contact Don Hassall at (859) 269-8021 or BWSC Chairman Tom Calkins at (859) 885-1121.

#### **GAS PRICES GOT YOU DOWN? WIN A 2006 FORD ESCAPE HYBRID!**

Bluegrass PRIDE, though a partnership with Paul Miller Ford and Ford Motor Company, is raffling off a new 2006 Ford Escape Hybrid as a fundraiser. All proceeds will benefit the non-profit's water quality and solid waste programs for Central Kentucky communities. Tickets are \$50 and only 2,500 will be sold. The drawing will take place at 6 pm on Friday, October 13<sup>th</sup> at Paul Miller Ford in Lexington.

Visit [www.kentuckypride.com](http://www.kentuckypride.com) to purchase a ticket on-line or to download an order form. Tickets are also available for sale at the PRIDE office.

#### **BLUEGRASS PRIDE MAKING A MOVE**

Bluegrass PRIDE has a new home! Starting in mid-August, the organization will be located in Park Hills Plaza at the intersection of Man O' War and Pimlico Parkway, not far from the ADD office. The office will not have storefront; it is tucked back in a hallway near Bearno's Pizza. In order to make this move, PRIDE will be closed August 17-23.

Once they are settled in, please stop by:

3120 Pimlico Parkway, Suites 126 & 128

Lexington, KY 40517

The phone numbers will remain the same, 859/266-1572, or 866/222-1648 toll free.

#### **BLUEGRASS PRIDE SELECTS NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

Amy Sohner became Bluegrass PRIDE's Executive Director on June 24, 2006. She replaces Angela Dossett, the organization's first director. "I am excited about my new role with PRIDE and look forward to the challenges of leading the organization in its new role. Angela will definitely be missed, but we all wish her luck in her future adventures," Sohner said.

Amy has worked with PRIDE, first as Program Manager and then as Deputy Director, since 2002, shortly after its inception. Angela will stay on in an advisory capacity through August. Amy can be reached by calling 859/266-1572 or by e-mailing Amy@KentuckyPRIDE.com.

### FIVE ADD CITIES AMONG "TOP 20" IN GROWTH RATES

As the table below shows, one-fourth of the fastest-growing cities in Kentucky (with over 2,500 population) during the period 2000 – 2005 were in the Bluegrass ADD. This information was taken from the U. S. Census Bureau's estimates of city populations (as of July 1, 2005), which were released on June 21. The complete tables for Kentucky and all other states can be found online at: <http://www.census.gov/popest/cities/SUB-EST2005-4.html>

(BGADD Cities Are Bold)

Rank Order	City Name	Population estimates July 1, 2005	2000 Census	Growth Rate 2000 - 2005
1	Cold Spring	5,255	3,806	38.07%
2	London	7,787	5,692	36.81%
3	<b>Berea</b>	<b>13,230</b>	<b>9,851</b>	<b>34.30%</b>
4	Morehead	7,592	5,914	28.37%
5	Independence	19,065	14,982	27.25%
6	<b>Nicholasville</b>	<b>23,897</b>	<b>19,680</b>	<b>21.43%</b>
7	Union	3,379	2,893	16.80%
8	Walton	2,856	2,450	16.57%
9	Crestview Hills	3,362	2,889	16.37%
10	<b>Richmond</b>	<b>30,893</b>	<b>27,152</b>	<b>13.78%</b>
11	Wilder	2,981	2,624	13.61%
12	<b>Lancaster</b>	<b>4,207</b>	<b>3,734</b>	<b>12.67%</b>
13	Florence	26,349	23,551	11.88%
14	Anchorage	2,529	2,264	11.70%
15	<b>Georgetown</b>	<b>19,988</b>	<b>18,080</b>	<b>10.55%</b>
16	Lyndon	10,248	9,369	9.38%
17	St. Matthews	17,309	15,852	9.19%
18	Glasgow	14,062	13,019	8.01%
19	Mount Sterling	6,317	5,876	7.51%
20	Cadiz	2,550	2,373	7.46%

Data Taken From:

Table 4: Annual Estimates of the Population for Incorporated Places in Kentucky,  
Listed Alphabetically: April 1, 2000 to July 1, 2005 (SUB-EST2005-04-21)  
Source: Population Division, U.S. Census Bureau  
Release Date: June 21, 2006

## **POWELL COUNTY PROGRESSES ON TOURISM DEVELOPMENT AND MARKETING PLAN**

Powell County was the recipient of an ARC Flex-E-Grant to develop a tourism and marketing plan. This grant program is designated for economically distressed Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) counties and provides up to \$10,000 for plans and studies. The intent of the program is to help communities assess their economic situation and effectively act in response to the factors that cause economic distress.

District staff members have been meeting regularly with Powell County's local committee. The meetings have focused on maximizing current tourism dollars, expanding economic development, and analyzing future expansion of tourism in the Red River Gorge. One of the main components of the plan is to develop a bike route that is accessible to those seeking a more competitive course as well as pleasure riders. Other areas that are explored in the plan include: rock climbing, hiking, lodging, dining, racing, possible partnerships and funding sources.

The plan will also play a significant role in linking surrounding Clay City and Stanton to the economic revenue potential generated from both the Natural Bridge and Red River Gorge areas. For additional information or assistance with developing a tourism and marketing plan, please contact Lora B. Littleton at the ADD.

## **LAWRENCEBURG SMALL URBAN AREA STUDY UNDERWAY**

A new alternative is underway to the traditional Small Urban Area Studies of the past. Those tended to yield a list of major "highway needs" geared, more often than not, toward major route upgrades or bypasses to solve the congestion issues. The Kentucky Transportation Cabinet (KYTC) is proposing to change the overall approach to small urban area needs identification in hopes of bringing smaller, more fundable, projects to both the Six-Year Highway Plan and the regular operations/maintenance budget. Lawrenceburg was selected as a pilot project for this new method of examining small urban areas.

This project, coordinated by the KYTC Division of Planning, began this spring with an initial meeting with local officials in order to gain local input. Among the stakeholders involved in the process are: city officials, county officials, police, fire department, sheriff, school system and various transportation providers.

Data being used includes major traffic generators, crash information, highway information system, environmental justice information, and the local Comprehensive Plan. To date, several meetings involving local officials and stakeholders have been held. In July, a draft list of recommendations was developed and prioritized by the local group. Many of the recommendations are low cost "quick fix" items that can be implemented immediately.

The study is a cooperative effort of the KYTC Division of Planning, Department of Highways/District 7 and the ADD.

For further information, contact Bruce Duncan at the ADD.

### **ADD ASSISTS LANCASTER IN BUDGET PREPARATION**

After attending the ADD's City Budget Workshop on May 30<sup>th</sup>, the City of Lancaster requested the ADD's assistance in improving its budget process, based on the information provided in the workshop. District staff worked with the city on methods to analyze current receipts and expenditures as well as to forecast upcoming revenues and expenses. In addition, the city and the ADD developed computerized spreadsheets which were used to prepare the budget. For additional information, contact Dave Ewen or Paul Stansbury with the ADD Staff.

### **NEW DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION SAFETY CREATED**

Governor Fletcher has signed an Executive Order forming the Department of Transportation Safety, under the direction of Commissioner Tim Hazlette. This reorganization brings together and draws upon the strengths and resources of all of the state's current highway safety programs, thereby forming a larger, stronger, and more cohesive safety coalition whose vision will be to achieve the most improved and sustainable downward trend in highway fatalities and injuries in the nation.

The new Department assumes all functions (including the Drive Smart brand and program activities) of the former Division of Driver Safety, which has been abolished. The new division name is the Division of Traffic Safety Research and Education. The former Driver Safety team now combines forces with the Highway Safety Data team (Boyd Sigler and Ed Harding).

The Division of Traffic Safety Research and Education hopes to meet the challenges of : (1) developing, implementing, and evaluating Kentucky's Strategic Highway Safety Plan; (2) analyzing and evaluating highway and traffic safety data; (3) coordinating safety-related information with the Governor's Executive Committee on Highway Safety and with the strategic emphasis area teams designated by the Committee; (4) creating, maintaining, and monitoring highway safety grants and contracts from federal, state, and local agencies and other traffic safety foundations and organizations; (5) developing and promoting highway traffic safety information and programs for the Commonwealth; and (6) developing, implementing, administering, and promoting educational and informational programs pertaining to highway traffic safety.

Commissioner Hazlette's first direction is for the Department to maintain Drive Smart business as usual, continuing with scheduled events without interruption of statewide customer services.

## BLUEGRASS ADD-VANTAGE

Another division within the new Department - the Division of Traffic Assistance and Security - includes the former Division of Transportation System Management (TOC), the former Division of Toll Facilities, and the S.A.F.E. Patrol in the districts. The Division will provide critical highway condition and weather information on a 24-hour, 7-day basis, and HIGHWAY WATCH services through the remaining toll facilities, and traffic incident response command guidance to reduce or eliminate the prolonged blockage of our highways due to traffic collisions or mishaps.

In addition, the Motorcycle Advisory Commission for Highway Safety is attached to the new Department for administrative purposes.

For additional information, contact the new Department of Transportation Safety at 502-564-1438.

## **UPDATE ON HURRICANE REINTEGRATION EFFORTS IN BLUEGRASS AREA**

Over the past seven months, the ADD's Hurricane Counselor has identified more than 1,700 evacuees in the Central and Eastern parts of Kentucky. Of those, she has referred over 300 to the local One-Stop Center Career Consultants for support services, housing, transportation, counseling, education, vocational rehabilitation and training. In addition, 99 evacuees have secured employment. The Counselor has also conducted 52 information sessions in 17 cities across the state. For more information about the hurricane reintegration program, contact Paula England at the Bluegrass ADD.

## **ADD'S GIS DEPARTMENT EXPANDED, RESTRUCTURED**

Over the past few months, there have been several significant changes to the Bluegrass ADD's GIS department. Some staff have moved on, such as Jeff Levy and Tom Moreland. New staff have come on board in their place, James Whisenhunt and Michael Koenig, to join Kenneth Johns. A third person, Rick Hernandez, was added to the department about a year ago.

Also, the GIS department has been restructured, and thus, renamed the Department of Information Systems and Technology. This will allow the ADD to better focus on the demands of the ever-changing fields of technology and information. The driving force behind GIS is technology and information, but there is also another side to this — how to distribute the information and to assist people with technology to better understand and use the information provided.

The current GIS manager, Shane New, has been appointed Director of Information Systems and Technology. James Whisenhunt is now the GIS Manager. In addition to those already named above, the department is also staffed by Chip Clark (web design, graphic design, and publisher), Chase James (network administrator and web designer), and Tab Patterson (audio visual production).

With these new and exciting changes, ADD staff hope to better assist the District and its citizens.

### **BLUEGRASS ADD NOW HAS A "FLEET"**

The WIA Mobile Job Center is no longer the only vehicle in use by District staff. The ADD has acquired a 1999 Jeep Cherokee to be used by the Department of Information Systems and Technology for data collection and field work. The department has several GIS contracts with state and local governments that require it to go into the field and collect data for E911, planning and zoning, and other work. These projects also will have update phases, necessitating future field work as well. The vehicle has been outfitted with a DMI (Distance Measuring Instrument), a mobile desk, and non obtrusive warning lights.

### **AREA AGENCY ON AGING REPRESENTS THE BLUEGRASS REGION IN DEVELOPING REGULATIONS AND PROGRAM SUPPORTING GRANDPARENT CAREGIVERS**

Staff from the Bluegrass Area Agency on Aging and the Bluegrass National Family Caregiver Support Program have been attending ongoing meetings with staff from the Division of Aging Services, the Department of Protection and Permanency, the Administrative Office of the Courts, the school-based Family Resource Centers, the Department of Mental Health, local community groups, and concerned grandparents to revise draft copies of the regulation to be adopted in support of Grandparent Caregivers — 910 KAR 1:260 — the Kentucky Family Caregiver Program. To date, the group has discussed the timeframe and partnerships needed to facilitate the program; the spirit and intent of the regulation; eligibility guidelines; as well as waitlist, prioritization, and reenrollment policies.

Funds supporting the program amount to \$1.25 million in FY2007 and \$2.0 million in FY2008 and will be administered, managed, and dispersed by the Bluegrass Area Agency on Aging, with oversight from the Division of Aging Services. The maximum total of grants or vouchers per child will not exceed \$750 for each grandchild in any one fiscal year. Grants or vouchers from this program can be utilized by the grandparent caregiver to provide children's clothing, respite assistance, educational supplies or assistance, required legal services, medical and dental services, and other expenses as authorized.

Originally proposed as an emergency regulation in order to be rolled out prior to the beginning of the school year, the status has changed to that of a standard regulation, and the working group hopes to have funds available for enrollment and distribution by late fall of 2006. For more information, please contact Emily Christian or David Bassoni at the Bluegrass Area Agency on Aging at (859) 269-8021.

## **ASSISTANT SECRETARY JOSEFINA CARBONELL TESTIFIES ON REAUTHORIZATION OF THE OLDER AMERICANS ACT AT THE U.S. HOUSE SUBCOMMITTEE ON SELECT EDUCATION HEARING**

The U.S. House Subcommittee on Select Education held a hearing on May 2 to discuss potential legislation to reauthorize the Older Americans Act (OAA). In her testimony, Assistant Secretary Carbonell indicated that over the last forty years the OAA and the aging services network had produced a wide array of innovative programs to help older Americans retain their independence in the community. But she stated, "We must look forward to the changing realities facing our nation." Some of these realities include increasing numbers of people living longer and the expanded demand for long-term care. The components of the Administration's Choices for Independence (Choices) reauthorization proposal were outlined: empowering consumers, targeting high-risk individuals and building prevention into long-term care. Choices aims to help non-Medicaid eligible elderly take greater control of their long-term care and to empower middle-aged individuals to plan ahead for their long-term care. Assistant Secretary Carbonell stated, "The aging services network created by the OAA and led by AoA is well positioned to help ensure the modernization of long-term care in our country."

For more information about the Older Americans Act, contact the Area Agency on Aging at the ADD.

## **NEW SIX YEAR HIGHWAY PLAN IN EFFECT**

The Kentucky Six Year Highway Plan FY 2007-2012, passed by the state legislature and signed into law by Governor Fletcher, went into effect July 1, 2006.

The Kentucky Transportation Cabinet Six Year Highway Plan is a six year program that identifies bicycle, pedestrian, and highway improvement projects. This document is comprised of specifically defined improvements requiring years of planning and design before they are implemented. Funding is guaranteed for the first two years of the plan as it is part of the approved State budget. For this reason, funding for projects in years 3 through 6 is not guaranteed. Generally, projects with phases completed in years 1 and 2 can reasonably expect to move into subsequent budgets.

The Six Year Highway Plan FY 2007-2012 included 183 projects for the Bluegrass Region, at a total cost of approximately \$914 million.

BLUEGRASS ADD-VANTAGE

<u>County</u>	<u>Project</u>	<u>Project Expenditure (millions)</u>
<b>Anderson Woodford</b>	Rehabilitate the condition of the Tyrone Bridge on US 62	\$ 2.5
<b>Bourbon / Nicholas</b>	Various projects to widen US 68 from Paris toward Carlisle	58.4
<b>Boyle</b>	Extend new KY 2168 connector from KY 33 to KY 34 in Danville	15.0
<b>Clark</b>	Continue I-64 widening	34.1
<b>Clark</b>	Kidville Road interchange at Bert T. Combs Mountain Parkway	12.0
<b>Estill</b>	KY 89 reconstruct north of Irvine	10.4
<b>Fayette</b>	New Circle Road widening and improvements from Georgetown Road to Boardwalk (including Newtown Pike interchange).	21.4
<b>Fayette</b>	Newtown Pike Extension from West Main Street to South Limestone Street	38.2
<b>Franklin / Shelby</b>	I-64 pavement rehabilitation and bridge widening	58.9
<b>Franklin</b>	US 421 – Leestown Road to Chenault Industrial Park	8.5
<b>Garrard</b>	US 27 widening south of Camp Nelson (5 mile section)	32.6
<b>Garrard / Madison</b>	KY 52 widening to Wallace Mill Road in Madison County	24.7
<b>Harrison</b>	US 27 West Cynthiana Bypass	25.0
<b>Jessamine</b>	East Nicholasville Bypass	40.7
<b>Jessamine</b>	Widen US 68 (Harrodsburg Road) from Brannon Road to Wilmore	20.6
<b>Lincoln / Rockcastle</b>	US 150 widening from Crab Orchard to I-75	23.5
<b>Madison</b>	I-75 / Duncannon Road interchange	20.7
<b>Madison</b>	Berea Bypass	32.7
<b>Powell</b>	Construct westbound access to the Bert T. Combs Mountain Parkway at Exit 18	2.3
<b>Scott</b>	I-75 widening for 5 miles to the Grant County line	34.0
<b>Scott</b>	Georgetown Northwest Bypass	44.9
<b>Woodford</b>	Widen US 60 from the Martha Layne Collins Bluegrass Parkway to Pisgah Pike (including Hunterstown Road intersection)	2.0

The Six Year Highway Plan FY 2007-2012 is available online at <http://transportation.ky.gov/progmgmt/06syp.html>.

For further information, contact Bruce Duncan at the ADD.

## **DRAMATIC CHANGES IN U.S. AGING HIGHLIGHTED IN NEW CENSUS, NIH REPORT**

The face of aging in the United States is changing dramatically — and rapidly — according to a new U.S. Census Bureau report, commissioned by the National Institute on Aging (NIA). Today's older Americans are very different from their predecessors, living longer, having lower rates of disability, achieving higher levels of education and less often living in poverty. And the baby boomers, the first of whom celebrated their 60th birthdays in 2006, promise to redefine further what it means to grow older in America.

The report, *65+ in the United States: 2005*, was prepared for NIA, a component of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, to provide a picture of the health and socioeconomic status of the aging population at a critical time in the maturing of the United States. It highlights striking shifts in aging on a population scale and also describes changes at the local and even family level, examining, for example, important changes in family structure as a result of divorce. Selected highlights include:

### **The older U.S. population is growing rapidly as baby boomers age, and more people are living longer:**

- The first baby boomers will turn 65 in 2011, and people aged 65 and over are projected to represent 20 percent of the total U.S. population in 2030 compared with 12 percent in 2003.
- The United States is relatively young compared with other developed countries. Despite its aging, the United States has a lower proportion of adults aged 65 and older than that of most countries in Western Europe.

### **In general, older people in the United States are healthier than in the past, with lower rates of disability. Still, a significant proportion suffers from health problems and chronic disease, and causes of death have not changed dramatically:**

- About 80 percent of seniors have at least one chronic health condition, and 50 percent have at least two chronic health conditions, which often lead to disability. Arthritis, hypertension, heart disease, diabetes and respiratory disorders are some of the leading causes of activity limitations among older people.

**The older population is growing more in some geographic regions than in others, and is concentrated in metropolitan areas:**

- Between 1990 and 2000, the largest proportionate increases in the older population were mainly in the West, particularly in the Mountain States, and in the South, particularly in the South Atlantic states.
- Three out of four older people lived in metropolitan areas in 2000.

**There is a strong correlation between education and health. Older adults are increasingly more educated, and this continuing trend could have a positive effect on the health of older people in the future:**

- By 2030, more than one-fourth of the older population is expected to have at least a bachelor's degree, and the percentage of older women with a bachelor's degree will likely double, from 13.4 percent in 2003 to 27.8 percent in 2030.

**People aged 65 and older are less likely to be in the labor force today than in decades past, but many continue to work:**

- As employed men and women get older, their likelihood of working part-time increases. In 2003, about half of employed men aged 70 and over and almost two-thirds of employed women aged 70 and over worked part-time.
- Social Security continues to provide the largest share of income for many older Americans.

**The social characteristics of older people vary greatly, often by age within the post-65 group:**

- Three-quarters of the 10.5 million older Americans living alone in 2003 were women. The proportion varies greatly by age, with 29.6 percent aged 65 to 74, 47.6 percent aged 75 to 84, and 57 percent aged 85 and older living alone.
- In 2000, 4.5 percent of people aged 75 to 84 and 18.2 percent of those 85 and older lived in nursing homes. About three in four older nursing home residents are women.
- The majority of men aged 65 to 84 were veterans, reflecting the high proportion of men who served in the military during World War II.
- People aged 65 and older consistently vote in higher proportions than other age groups. In 2000, 67.6 percent of the older population, compared with 49.8 percent of those aged 25 to 44, said they voted; of all the votes cast that year, some 20 percent were by people age 65 and older.

## **HHS ANNOUNCES \$15 MILLION COLLABORATION ON PREVENTION FOR OLDER AMERICANS**

On July 6, U. S. Health and Human Services (HHS) Secretary Mike Leavitt announced a \$15 million collaboration with The Atlantic Philanthropies to improve the health and quality of life for older Americans at the community level. As the leader of President Bush's Healthier US Initiative, Secretary Leavitt has identified prevention as a priority issue in order to highlight the importance of preventive care and chronic disease management

"This collaboration, led by the Administration on Aging (AoA) and involving several HHS agencies, states, and various public and private organizations at the community level, will empower older people to take more control of their own health through lifestyle and behavioral changes that have proven effective in reducing the risk of disease and disability among the elderly," Secretary Leavitt said. "Simply put, this collaboration will put the results of our research investments into the hands of older people so they can use it to improve the quality of their lives."

Older Americans are disproportionately affected by chronic diseases and conditions such as arthritis, diabetes and heart disease, as well as by disabilities that result from injuries such as falls. Chronic conditions currently limit activities for 12 million older persons living in communities. These conditions collectively account for seven out of every 10 deaths, and more than three-quarters of all health expenditures in the United States.

The HHS research has generated a growing body of scientific evidence on the effectiveness of interventions that can help older people to improve their health status by better managing their chronic diseases, improving their nutrition and diet, exercising more, and avoiding injuries such as falls.

Building on that knowledge base and subject to the availability of funding, HHS will support efforts over three years in up to 12 states to mobilize public/private collaborations that will support the delivery of evidence-based programs for seniors at the community level. These programs will be administered at the community level through non-profit aging services provider organizations, such as senior centers, nutrition programs, senior housing projects and faith-based organizations. At least 30 local communities will have programs up and running within a year. HHS is providing support to the Center for Healthy Aging at the National Council on Aging (NCOA) to provide technical assistance to the state grantees and local projects.

In addition, through a grant of up to \$5 million to the Center for Healthy Aging, The Atlantic Philanthropies will provide additional financial support and technical assistance in up to five states that show significant potential in developing systems to reach large numbers of

older adults. In praising the announcement, Assistant Secretary for Aging Josefina G. Carbonell said, "Aging services providers are in a unique position to recognize and ensure that effective prevention programs are available to older people, including under-served populations who often need the programs the most." She added, "This exciting new initiative will once again mobilize AoA's national aging services network, in collaboration with public health partners and other health care providers, to work with seniors in their own communities to help them adopt lifestyle and behavioral changes that can improve the quality of their lives."

The Atlantic Philanthropies are dedicated to bringing about lasting changes in the lives of disadvantaged and vulnerable people. Atlantic focuses on critical social problems related to aging, disadvantaged children and youth, population health and reconciliation and human rights. Programs funded by Atlantic operate in Australia, Bermuda, Northern Ireland, the Republic of Ireland, South Africa, the United States and Vietnam. To learn more, please visit [www.atlanticphilanthropies.org](http://www.atlanticphilanthropies.org).

## VIDEO PRODUCTION GOES ONLINE

The Bluegrass ADD is offering a new service — video production. Tab Patterson joined the ADD in February of this year and has been videotaping various events within the District. He formerly worked for the Texas Farm Bureau in Waco, TX, as a video photographer and editor, starting there in 1987. In that position, he edited a wide variety of video from internal "Video Newsletters" to television Video News Releases and half-hour agricultural satellite videos for RFD-TV.

The videos being produced in the District will be made available for streaming on the Internet on individual county web pages. So far, the topics include:

410<sup>th</sup> Quartermaster troop deployment in Boyle County

<http://www.boyleky.com/information/home/boylecountytroops.wmv>

The restoration of the Old Presbyterian Meeting Hall in Lincoln County

<http://www.lincolnky.com/images/video/stanfordmeetinghall.wmv>

The Harrodsburg Beef Festival in Mercer County

<http://www.mercerky.com/video/beeffestival.wmv>

Reopening of the newly renovated court room in Lincoln County

<http://www.lincolnky.com/images/video/LincolnCourthouse.wmv>

## **ESTILL COUNTY INTRODUCES COMMUNITY FIREWISE CAMPAIGN**

Although Estill County has had its fair share of wildfires, the county is making strides to educate the community on the dangers and effects of forest fires. Utilizing Firewise grant funds from the Kentucky Division of Forestry, Estill County is reaching the community in new and exciting ways. The county recently purchased an educational trailer that has already been put into use. It contains equipment used to teach citizens how to be prepared should a wildfire ignite near their homes. The trailer is also equipped with a television in order to broadcast information about the Firewise program and how Estill County is implementing it. This information includes a short video demonstrating to residents how they can assess their home in order to see how well protected it is against wildfires.



In addition to the educational trailer, the county has begun airing three 30-second educational spots on the local cable channels. These will inform the public of the Firewise program and what is being done in the county to encourage safety and wildfire mitigation. The videos also introduce the educational brochures that are being distributed in the county. These are geared toward elementary, middle school, and high school students in order to teach them about wildfires and how to be safe in the forest. It is the county's goal to educate the community in hopes of reducing the number and effect of wildfires in the future. For additional information about the Firewise program, contact Travis Weber at the ADD.

## **LAW ENFORCEMENT AND THE ADD TEAM UP**

The ADD, in conjunction with the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet, Kentucky State Police, Kentucky Vehicle Enforcement and local law enforcement, coordinated an Operation Drive Smart Enforcement Blitz the week of July 9-15. The Blitz took place along the US 27 Corridor in Bourbon, Fayette, Garrard and Jessamine Counties. It was focused on reducing vehicle crashes, fatalities and injuries. The US 27 Corridor is one of 13 corridors identified for special emphasis in collision reduction through a data-driven process by the Governor's Executive Committee on Highway Safety.

An Operation Drive Smart Blitz involves state and local law enforcement agencies. These operations focus on reducing the contributing factors involved in vehicle crashes such as speeding, improper passing, aggressive and reckless driving, and other traffic violations. Violations relating to improper use of safety belts, unrestrained children and expired or no liability insurance, as well as equipment violations are also strictly enforced and adjudicated.

During the Blitz, “Targeted Enforcement Area” signs and Drive Smart visual speed radar units were placed along the corridor in each county. These portable units were intended to remind motorists to be aware of their speed and to comply with the posted speed limit as well as other traffic laws. Additional reminders were supplied in the form of blue lights and uniformed enforcement. There were also two safety checkpoints planned along the US 27 Corridor, one in Paris and the other at the Kohl’s in Nicholasville. The safety checkpoint in Paris was canceled due to severe weather.

The results of this Blitz were good. Over the last three years, an average week on the US 27 Corridor has about 40 total collisions with 15 of those being injury collisions. During the Blitz, there were a total of 36 collisions and only eight of those had injuries. In addition to the 50% drop in injury crashes, six outstanding warrants were served, 14 drug and 28 DUI arrests were made, and 50 people were cited for driving without insurance, many of whom had their vehicles impounded. Unfortunately, even with all of the advanced warning signage, newspaper articles and radio attention to the Blitz, 209 people were handed speeding tickets for speeds as high as 103 MPH in a 55 MPH zone.

Even though the Blitz is over, and there won’t be another for about six months, please continue to drive safely and wear a seatbelt every time you are in a car or truck.

## JOE COMES HOME

Avid cyclist and Powell County native, Joe Bowen, returned home in style in June. After completing his second trip across the United States on a bicycle, Joe was welcomed home in his honor. The Pedals and Blooms Bicycle Festival in Powell County welcomed Mr. Bowen home after his 14,000-mile trek while celebrating cycling in the Red River Gorge. During his journey, Mr. Bowen promoted Kentucky, Powell County, and the Red River Gorge as a scenic and adventure tourism destination for everyone.



As recipient of the Commonwealth’s first “Kentucky Unbridled Spirit Award”, Joe educated people all over the country and the world about what Unbridled Spirit actually means. He marketed the entire Bluegrass area through e-mails, websites, interviews, and various other means by which people could learn about the region and what it has to offer to tourists. In addition to highlighting the area as a tourism destination, Joe also drew attention to cycling in the Red River Gorge. Through his own cross-country excursion and the Battle on the Byway race that took place during the bicycle festival, Mr. Bowen was able to

showcase the popularity of cycling in an area predominantly known for hiking and camping. With the combination of Joe Bowen's distinction and the success of the Pedals and Blooms Bicycle Festival, which drew in over 100 participants from several states, cycling is sure to become a major attraction and event in the area. The bike festival is slated to become an annual event, which will continually encourage the sport of cycling in the area. For more information on this subject, contact Lora B. Littleton at the ADD.

### **BATTLE ON THE BYWAY**

The First Annual Pedals & Blooms Bicycle Festival was hosted June 16-18, 2006 in Stanton. The special event was thrown as a multi-county festival welcoming home Joe Bowen, a Powell County native who just completed a 14,000-mile bike ride across the United States. Bicyclists and spectators alike took part in a weekend in Eastern Kentucky's beautiful Red River Gorge area enjoying cycling events, music, craft displays, and delicious food.



The kick-off began Friday night in downtown Beattyville with live music and an art festival. Saturday morning children from Bowen Elementary gathered with their bikes to ride beside Joe as he made his welcome home arrival at the Stanton City Park. Over 150 registered cyclists from surrounding counties and states chose among four races: 80-mile single loop, a 50-mile balloon loop, a 48-mile balloon loop, and a family fun ride. On Sunday, a "Wild and Insane Criterium Race" was offered for those that are looking to test their cycling skills in a 6/10<sup>th</sup> mile, 9-turn race. The festival brought communities, cyclists, and nature together, making the Pedals and Blooms Festival an annual staple in the Red River Gorge area.

### **PRIMARY SEATBELT LAW GOES INTO EFFECT**

On July 12, the recently passed Primary Seatbelt Law went into effect. This means that you can be pulled over if anyone in your vehicle is not wearing a seatbelt. Currently we are in a transition period of about six months during which police will give out warnings to help us all get accustomed to the new law. As of January 1, 2007 officers will begin issuing tickets and \$25 fines to people not wearing seat belts.

Currently, 67 percent of Kentuckians buckle up, giving the state a ranking of 47<sup>th</sup> nationwide for seat-belt usage, according to the National

Conference of State Legislatures. Last year in Kentucky, 322 people died in crashes while wearing a seat belt, and 511 died while not wearing a seat belt. Officials and safety experts hope the primary law will change those numbers. And there is reason to be encouraged; in the 23 states with primary seat-belt laws, there have been significant increases in safety-belt usage, and a drop in fatal collisions. According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, crash victims in Primary Law states have a 17% greater chance of surviving than those in states with secondary laws.

David Williams, president of the state Senate, said he was not a supporter of the seat-belt law until a few years ago. "I thought that secondary enforcement was enough encouragement, but as I looked at statistics on the situation I became convinced of the additional lives that would be saved if we went with the primary law." The bill was approved this spring by votes of 23-15 in the Senate and 48-45 in the House.

In an attempt to make the law more palatable, there were three exemptions included in the language: 1) farm trucks registered for agricultural use only and having a gross weight of one ton or more, 2) a person who has in their possession at the time of the conduct in question a written statement from a physician or licensed chiropractor that they are unable, for medical or physical reasons, to wear a seat belt, and 3) a vehicle manufactured prior to 1982. The last exemption is due to the federal vehicle manufacturing regulations. Prior to 1982, vehicles were only required to be built with lap belts, which are not as effective as the lap and shoulder belts that are now required. In addition to these three exemptions, if the \$25 fine is paid before the court date on the citation, there are no court costs associated with the ticket.

## **NIMCAST KICK OFF**

On July 1, 2006 the Bluegrass Area Development District helped kick-off the 2006 NIMCAST (National Incident Management Capability Assessment Support Tool) for the Bluegrass Region again. The NIMCAST is a self-assessment questionnaire required for completion by State, local, tribal, and private sector and nongovernmental organizations. The NIMCAST will evaluate the above mentioned entities' abilities to effectively prepare for, prevent, respond to, and recover from a domestic incident, whether an act of terrorism or natural disaster. By completing the NIMCAST, emergency responding agencies from the Bluegrass Region can begin to manage disasters or emergencies by a single comprehensive response for incident management. An agency is strongly advised to complete the NIMCAST in order to maintain eligibility for Homeland Security funding and State or Federal assistance in times of a disaster or incident.

The Bluegrass Region has had participation from all 17 counties in completing the NIMCAST. The NIMCAST has been completed by various entities from each county around the region including, but not limited to: Judge/Executives, Mayors, EM Directors, Fire Departments,

## BLUEGRASS ADD-VANTAGE

Police Departments, Health Departments, Public Utilities, and School Districts. The Bluegrass Region has experienced an increase in participation from the 2005 NIMCAST, by adding approximately 30 new agencies from the region. The 2006 NIMCAST will be completed by approximately 250 different agencies or entities in the Bluegrass area, and will be submitted to the State on August 1, 2006.

### **RESIDENTS WARNED OF FRAUD FOLLOWING DISASTERS**

In the spring of 2002, Kentucky experienced several natural disasters, including flooding, tornadoes and hail, that affected thousands of Kentucky residents. In response to the storms, the Office of the Attorney General created the Attorney General's Disaster Fraud Task Force. Today, this program can be implemented in counties and cities across the state anytime there is widespread damage to businesses, homes and the community that requires major reconstruction over a long period of time.

The Attorney General's Office historically receives more complaints on fraudulent activity by contractors in the wake of disasters. Citizens are vulnerable and anxious to have their property repaired and normalcy restored. Unscrupulous contractors primarily target the elderly, uniformed and inexperienced. Kentucky residents have reported paying for work that is never performed or is performed very poorly.

Implementation of the Attorney General's Task Force requires all potential contractors in affected areas to register with the Attorney General's Consumer Protection Division and undergo background checks. Approved contractors are issued placards which must be displayed on their job sites. Following a natural disaster, local law enforcement can conduct sweeps throughout the area to ensure that contractors are registered.

For more information on the Attorney General's Disaster Fraud Task Force, please contact Paul Wingate at 502-696-5389.

### **CLAY CITY RECEIVES ADD ASSISTANCE IN ENGINEERING PROCUREMENT ON WASTEWATER PROJECT**

The City of Clay City is receiving ADD assistance as it seeks to procure engineering services in connection with its desire to deal with significant inflow and infiltration within the city's sanitary sewer system. Extraordinary flows measured during and following precipitation events have resulted in city's being found to be in significant noncompliance with its Kentucky Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (KPDES) permit.

ADD staff assisted the city in the development of a Request for Qualifications, which drew a response from ten different engineering firms. Clay City's mayor and city council have scored the Statements of Qualification and expect soon to interview a short list of the competing firms. It is likely that Clay City will reach an early conclusion concerning

the procurement of an engineering firm to monitor the sewer system and to develop a ranked list of deficiencies that would permit the city to reduce illicit flows to its sanitary sewer system and to move back in the direction of compliance with its state wastewater discharge permit.

For more information, contact Don Hassall at the ADD.

## **STANFORD RECEIVES ADD ASSISTANCE ON WASTEWATER ISSUES**

The measured flows at Stanford's wastewater treatment plant have been running at or above that plant's rated capacity for several years now. Recorded flows for calendar year 2005 (which was a dry year) were somewhat below figures for 2003 and 2004, but it does appear that the capacity of the Stanford wastewater treatment plant is being/has been reached. The ADD staff is presently working with Stanford city officials and with the Stanford Water Commission as that team begins to identify a financial package that will permit the city to undertake a hydraulic expansion of the Stanford wastewater treatment plant. HUD Community Development Block grant funds, Kentucky Tobacco Development fund monies, and Rural Development Water and Waste loans and grants are being considered as possible funding sources for Stanford.

For more information, contact Don Hassall.

**MEETING CALL**

Board of Directors	8/23 9/27 7:00 p.m.
Aging Council	8/9 9/13 10:00 a.m.
Natural Resources & Environmental Protection Advisory Committee	8/16 4:15 p.m.
Homeland Security Council	8/16 2:00 p.m.
Human Services Advisory Committee	8/21 1:30 p.m.
Development Advisory Committee	9/5 2:00 p.m.
Regional Planning Council	9/6 4:00 p.m.
Regional Transportation Advisory Committee	9/11 1:30 p.m.
Tourism, Historic Preservation, Recreation Advisory Committee	9/12 10:00 a.m.

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ALL meeting dates/times subject to change.

Chairman	Judge R.W. Gilbert
Vice-Chairman	Mayor Dodd Dixon
Secretary	Mrs. Linda Magee
Treasurer	Judge Larry Tincher
Executive Director	Lenny P. Stoltz II

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