

A Publication of the Bluegrass Area Development District

BLUEGRASS ADD-VANTAGE

BLUEGRASS WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD AND BLUEGRASS COMMUNITY AND TECHNICAL COLLEGE HELPING TO CURE NURSING SHORTAGE WITH THE HEALTHWAY INITIATIVE

Bluegrass Community & Technical College (BCTC) announced the formation of the “HealthWay Initiative: Developing Healthy Communities” at a press conference at its Leestown Campus location in Lexington. These new initiatives are made possible through a Bluegrass Workforce Investment Board grant and the partnerships of acute and long term care institutions in the Bluegrass ADD. The Bluegrass Workforce Investment Board has become involved as part of its mission “to enhance the skills of the region’s workforce,” according to Director Lori Collins.

Beginning this fall, BCTC will receive an allocation of \$200,000 per year for five years from the Bluegrass Workforce Investment Board. The funds will be used to help increase the number of educated nurses going into the workforce in Kentucky. Partners in the program include: Central Baptist Hospital, Cardinal Hill Hospital, Ephraim McDowell Regional Medical Center, St. Joseph Hospital, Homestead Nursing Center, and Pine Meadows Nursing Home. Working with these partners, BCTC plans to educate 125 nursing healthcare professionals in its nursing assistant, practical nursing and associate degree in nursing (RN) programs. This increase will assist in addressing the critical need for more health care professionals.

The growing health care crisis in Kentucky and the United States is well documented and, according to a study published in the Journal of the American Medical Association, the U.S. will experience a 20 percent shortage in the number of nurses needed in the health care system by 2020. In Kentucky, a 2002 hospital survey by the Kentucky Hospital Association found that an estimated 1,750 full-time jobs for RNs are currently vacant and that the number of associate degree nurses had decreased since the 1990s. Coupled with a growing older population, the need for nursing professionals is now reaching a critical point. “There is a major crisis brewing in health care,” said Dr. Jim Kerley, CEO/President of Bluegrass Community & Technical College. “The wave of the future will be more collaboration between the community, hospitals,

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educators and other groups. The HealthWay Initiative is a very proactive approach that would not have happened without the vision of our nursing program and community involvement," said Kerley.

Another aspect of the initiative is that a portion of the funding will be utilized to recruit workers who have lost jobs due to foreign trade or competition. Dr. Carolyn Lewis, Assistant Dean of Nursing at BCTC, states that she is committed to serving the needs of our communities and sees this program as an action plan to address the needs of the health care system as well as the individual students who choose to participate. "By 2020, health care will be diminished due to a lack of nurses, unless we work together now. Working together means being innovative and sharing resources at area health facilities in order to accommodate a larger nursing student population; this translates to healthier individuals, families and communities," said Lewis.

In the 2004-2005 school year, BCTC had 600 applicants to its nursing program and the capacity to accept only 115. The HealthWay Initiative will substantially increase the number of students that can be educated to work in the healthcare field. Additionally, BCTC is putting an action plan into place which will address the needs of many students who, due to family and work obligations, can only attend classes in the evenings and on weekends. Lewis further states, "We must meet the needs of the non-traditional students that choose nursing as a profession."

REGIONAL WATER SUPPLY EFFORT GETS A BOOST AS KENTUCKY AMERICAN WATER RESUMES TALKS WITH THE BLUEGRASS WATER SUPPLY COMMISSION

It was a somewhat confusing in late spring and summer of this year to the leadership of the Bluegrass Water Supply Commission after Kentucky American Water announced in March that it intended to abandon the "Let's Work Together" approach with the regional water commission in favor of a "go-it-alone" project. Kentucky American's stated plan would have had KAW move forward to resolve its water supply deficit situation without the input or participation of the Bluegrass Water Supply Commission (BWSC). Frustration showed along a number of fronts as two divergent views were expressed with regularity in the media and elsewhere.

In mid-September, however, a shift occurred when Kentucky American Water brought a proposal to the attention of the BWSC leadership. The proposal was unveiled for viewing by the public at the September 25 monthly meeting of the Bluegrass Water Supply Commission in Cynthiana. The proposal indicated what BWSC leaders had maintained all along — that it would save Kentucky American (and its ratepayers) millions of dollars if indeed the privately owned water company worked cooperatively with the BWSC. The presentation is lengthy and requires the close scrutiny of the municipalities that comprise the Bluegrass Water Supply Commission, and perhaps some

negotiations. One thing is sure, however. For the nine (and soon to be ten) participating BWSC municipalities, talking with the private water utility policy makers (Kentucky American Water) is preferred to not talking.

The Bluegrass ADD Board, in its August 24 meeting, acted to encourage the resumption of a conversation, and now that dialogue is taking place. Hopefully, both sides realize that it is in the best financial interests of each side to act cooperatively.

For more information, contact BWSC Chairman Tom Calkins or BWSC General Manager Don Hassall.



ADD ASSISTS GEORGETOWN IN HUMAN RESOURCES

Responding to a request from Georgetown Mayor Everette Varney, the ADD has provided ongoing assistance in administering the City's Human Resource program. From the end of June through mid September, ADD staff worked on a daily basis with the Mayor, City Council and various City Department Directors on special projects, personnel policy revisions, training, safety, as well as day to day administration of the Human Resource Department.

For further information, contact Paul Stansbury at the ADD.

HURRICANE RECOVERY SERVICES CONTINUE

As a result of the press release jointly issued by the Kentucky Department of Education (through the Office of Employment and Training) and the Department for Workforce Investment, hurricane evacuees from the Gulf Coast continue to be identified and served by the two hurricane reintegration counselors located in Kentucky. As a result of the large number of evacuees that have been identified throughout the state, the Katrina National Emergency Grant from the U.S. Department of Labor has been extended through September, 2007. Hurricane evacuees are still in the process of migrating from one location to another in hopes of finding a suitable place to settle with their extended families and friends. Many are just now relocating to the state of Kentucky after months of trying to re-establish themselves and their livelihood. For information regarding this program, please contact Paula England at the ADD.

MADISON COUNTY BREAKS GROUND FOR TERRILL SEWER PROJECT

On Tuesday, August 29, 2006, the Madison County Fiscal Court and the Northern Madison County Sanitation District broke ground on the construction of the Terrill Sanitary Sewer Project. Madison County Judge-Executive Kent Clark helped to secure funding through three different funding sources, totaling over \$1.3 million.

Madison County was awarded \$750,000 through the Kentucky Infrastructure Authority's Infrastructure for Economic Development Fund B Grant program, which takes tobacco settlement funds and turns them into grants to construct water and wastewater projects. This grant makes up approximately 57% of the total project cost. The other grant awarded to Madison County was through the Community Economic Growth Grant (CEGG) program. This grant of \$175,000 was awarded in March and amounts to approximately 13% of the total project cost. The grant comes from state community development funds.

The \$400,000 loan, made to Northern Madison County Sanitation District, is also through the Kentucky Infrastructure Authority and comes from Fund A, which is the Federally Assisted Waste Water

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Revolving Loan. It carries a low interest rate and a 20-year repayment period.

The Terrill Sewer Project will serve approximately 176 households in the community of Terrill, and will eliminate problems with failing septic systems.

For more information, contact Paul Stansbury at the ADD.



Madison County Judge/Executive Kent Clark and Jim Rowe, Northern Madison County Sanitation District President (right of center) lead the ground breaking ceremony. Also present were members of the Fiscal Court, NMCSO, representatives of BGADD, Nesbitt Engineering and Anderson Contracting.

CEDS COMPLETED, SUBMITTED

The 2006 *Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy* (CEDS) for the Bluegrass ADD was completed and submitted to the required agencies at the end of September. This 180-plus page document was required by the Economic Development Administration (EDA) in order for the District and its communities to remain eligible for EDA funding. Copies of the CEDS were also submitted to the Governor's Office for Local Development (GOLD). An electronic copy of the final document is available on the ADD's website: <http://bgadd.org/>

Although a new CEDS document will be prepared and submitted to EDA a year from now, the present version is intended to become a "living document," with the information on the Bluegrass Region being constantly updated as new data becomes available or significant changes occur.

Special thanks go to members of the CEDS Strategic Plan Committee who gave their time on this effort, in addition to already being members of ADD Advisory Committees. For further information on the CEDS, please contact Craig McAnelly or Matt Krebs at the ADD office.

ACQUISITION OF EASEMENTS IS SLOW GOING

Jessamine County and the Jessamine-South Elkhorn Water District's sewer project has sought and received a time extension, from the Governor's Office for Local Development, for advertising the project for construction bids. Acquiring the required easements has proven to be slow going. The County continues its progress in securing approximately 90 easements which must be obtained for the \$3.29 million construction effort that will serve 388 building sites in northeastern Jessamine County. The County has also prepared the Environmental Review and received a full Release of CDBG funds from GOLD.

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: installation of 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.

LANCASTER ENTERS ADMINISTRATION AGREEMENTS

The City of Lancaster, the recipient of five water and sewer project grants, has selected the Bluegrass Area Development District to provide grant administration services for each of the projects. The projects, totaling more than \$562,000 in Economic Development Fund grants, were capital improvement projects designated by the 2006 Kentucky General Assembly to receive monies processed through the Kentucky Infrastructure Authority.

Specifically, the projects include:

- Water and Improvements (Project # to be assigned)
\$100,000
- Water System Improvements (WX21079012)
\$71,500
- Sewer System Rehabilitation (SX21079004)
\$100,000
- Buckeye Street Sewer System Improvements (SX21079007)
\$90,705

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- WWTP Improvements (SX21079001)
\$200,000

Lancaster is currently in the process of soliciting RFQs for engineering services for these projects.

For more information, contact Dave Ewen at the ADD.

LANCASTER WATER DISTRIBUTION PROJECT BRINGS ROAD PAVING

Lancaster officials, after deliberation, decided to incorporate significant street repaving into the City's Water System Improvement Project. Due to the extremely high number of road cuts necessitated as part of the construction process, the City was able to achieve a cost savings by combining the project funds needed for road cut repairs with additional funds required for paving to have all city streets involved in the water project completely repaved. The roadway work is an added benefit brought about by this much needed \$1.56 million water system project which deals 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 also involves system improvements that were recommended as a 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. An additional \$50,000 will come from local funds for the road paving.

For more information, contact Dave Ewen at the ADD.

LAWRENCEBURG SELECTS ENGINEERING FIRM FOR PARKWAY SEWER PROJECT

The City of Lawrenceburg, following publication in late July of a Request for Qualifications for engineering services for its Bluegrass Parkway Sewer project, selected an engineering firm in early September to design the project. The project is progressing with a revision and submission of the Kentucky Wastewater Project Profile and the collection of information required to begin processing the e-Clearinghouse Report.

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.

CLARK CARE CENTER HAS GRAND OPENING

The Adult Day Care Center, located at the Generation Center in Winchester, had a grand opening of their newly-remodeled facility on September 11. Funding was made available through the Bluegrass Area Agency on Aging to help market the Center. The Clark Care Center is the only program in Clark County that provides respite care for individuals who are caring for loved ones at home. The Center gives the caregiver a chance to take care of business obligations or simply to have lunch with a friend. The demands of 24 hour care giving can be draining and a few hours a week away from those obligations can be a life saver to those individuals. At the Clark Care Center, a senior can receive a hot meal at lunch time and engage in activities such as age appropriate exercise classes, trivia games, and monthly craft projects. There are currently 12 people enrolled in the program. The hours are Monday, Wednesday and Friday from noon until 4:00 p.m. Diana Sims is the director and can be reached at 859-744-3235.

LAWRENCEBURG'S STRINGTOWN PROJECT SECURING EASEMENTS

The process of securing easements for Lawrenceburg's Stringtown Sewer Project has proved more difficult and time consuming than initially anticipated. The city requested and received an extension of time needed to advertise the project for bid and is using all due diligence in gathering the 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.

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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.

WALL ALLEY RENOVATION PROJECT BEGINS CONSTRUCTION

Winchester's Wall Alley Renovation project has recently begun construction. The contractor was selected, construction contracts were executed, and the pre-construction conference was held in early September, with work beginning at mid-month.

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.

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

For additional information, contact Dave Ewen at the ADD.

CONTRACT AWARDED FOR WILMORE PROJECT

The City of Wilmore, in early September, held its pre-construction conference and contract signing for its Wilmore / Nicholasville Water Distribution Interconnection project. The much-needed project will create an interconnection between the City of Wilmore's water distribution system and that of the City of Nicholasville. The connection will be on Jessamine Station Road at Drake Lane. Moreover, the interconnection will enable the two cities to transmit water to one another by way of 6-inch distribution mains during water shortages and water catastrophes.

The project is financed by a \$100,000 Tobacco Development Fund Grant award and processed through the Kentucky Infrastructure Authority. The Bluegrass Area Development District is administering the grant and on behalf of the City.

For additional information, contact Dave Ewen at the ADD.

BEREA WASTEWATER PLANT PROJECT MOVES TO CLOSE-OUT PHASE

The City of Berea has made excellent progress on the construction of its Wastewater Treatment Plant Expansion Project, which began in June, 2004. Recently, construction was completed, and the project has moved to the close-out phase. As required by the funding agency, the city held a public hearing in early September to inform citizens of the chance to provide comments regarding the project. Federal grant funds (Housing and Urban Development - CDBG) will be fully drawn and reimbursed to the city. Additionally, the city will begin preparation of formal project close-out documents in anticipation of submission to the Governor's Office for Local Development.

The project was funded in part by a \$1.0 million HUD Community Development Block Grant, which was applied to this \$10.145 million project to expand the municipal wastewater treatment plant. The J. C. Chambers Wastewater Treatment Plant was expanded from its former capacity of 2.34 million gallons per day (MGD) to a new and larger capacity of 4.3 MGD. A Kentucky Infrastructure Authority low interest loan of \$5.0 million and \$4.145 million in local cash reserves completed the financial package.

For more information, contact Dave Ewen at the ADD.

LANCASTER PURCHASES AERATION EQUIPMENT FOR WWTP

The City of Lancaster placed a purchase order for the manufacture of Orban disc aeration equipment to be used in new construction at the city's wastewater treatment plant. Construction at the plant is the result of a Tobacco Development Grant Agreement received in mid-July from the Kentucky Infrastructure Authority in the amount of \$281,730. Funds have been dedicated to making 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 at one time 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. This construction project will involve installation of the aeration equipment. The project, carrying estimated cost of \$285,000 to \$300,000, is expected to begin construction in October or early November.

For additional information, contact Dave Ewen at the ADD.

MERCER COUNTY LANDS STATE AGRICULTURE MUSEUM

The Kentucky State Fair was home to many attractions and events again this year, but Mercer County seemed to benefit a great deal from one event in particular. During the 43rd annual Kentucky Country Ham Breakfast, it was announced that Mercer County had been selected as the site for construction of the state's agriculture history museum. One of a number of counties initially vying for the project, Mercer eventually was selected over nearby Nelson County as home to the proposed agriculture center.

The museum will be constructed on a 50-acre parcel of land about five miles north of Harrodsburg, on the east side of US 127. The land was donated by Mercer County native and philanthropist, Ralph Anderson, and is part of the Anderson Circle Farm. Currently, the center's estimated cost is \$24-\$30 million. The Mercer County Fiscal Court has pledged to donate \$100,000 over five years toward the project. The county now faces the challenge of making urban utility services available to the site, which is beyond the present service area of Harrodsburg's sewer system. The North Mercer Water District will provide water service. Significant project funding is expected to be needed from subsequent Kentucky General Assemblies.

The center will offer walking tours that showcase historical agriculture commodities and techniques and be home to: a videoconference center, a meeting complex that will seat 500 to 800 people, various agriculture exhibits, and a retail store offering Kentucky products, and programs for schoolchildren. Based on the experience that other states have had with similar centers, it is expected that the museum could attract 200,000 or more tourists annually. Numbers like this will result in a large impact for not only Mercer County but also the region and the state. Construction could begin as early as 2008 or 2009 and would likely be completed in 2010, in time for the FEI Games.

MOBILE JOB CENTER TRAVELS THROUGHOUT THE DISTRICT

The ADD's Mobile Job Center (MJC) continues to see extensive use as it travels throughout the area. The vehicle is equipped with 11 computer workstations and satellite Internet access. It is being used to provide job assistance, training, and as a place to hold on-site job fairs for various employers, among other uses. The MJC has also been to various county fairs and community festivals in the area.

For further information on the Mobile Job Center's operations, please contact its manager, Mike Purcell, at the ADD office.

THRAC BEGINS MARKETING BLUEGRASS AREA FOR 2010 FEI GAMES

The ADD's Tourism, Historic Preservation, Recreation Advisory Committee (THRAC) recently began work on how to market the communities within the ADD for the 2010 FEI Games, as well as the qualifying games in 2008. Wanting to create the best possible economic

impact within all counties of the ADD, THRAC is working to identify how to market the area to potential tourists during this window of time. ADD staff has been working closely with officials from the Kentucky Horse Park as well as the World Games 2010 Foundation, Inc. to provide information to local communities.

Slated to take place September 25 - October 10, 2010, the Games will bring in visitors from all over the country and the world. Since this is the first time the Games will be held outside of Europe, many loyal followers of the Games will be interested to see what the American experience of the FEI World Equestrian Games will be like. With so many visitors coming into the Bluegrass area, surrounding communities will have the opportunity to showcase their unique attractions and hospitality to tourists. A large number of guests will be from within the country, thus increasing the chance of gaining repeat visitors to the area. THRAC, which has representatives from each of the 17 counties, will be the forum for creating a marketing strategy that includes all communities in the ADD. By having every community at the table, tourism representatives can more effectively plan their approach to the Games. This will help communities avoid conflicting activities and dates so that everyone may benefit.

ADD staff and the World Games 2010 Foundation, Inc. will remain in communication in order to keep communities informed of plans for the Games. For now, THRAC will make every other meeting a working session directed toward planning for the 2010 Games. It is important that every county have a representative at these meetings in order to remain up-to-date on information. The next working session of THRAC is currently scheduled for Tuesday, January 9, 2007 at 10 a.m. at the Bluegrass ADD office. For additional information, please contact Lora B. Littleton at the ADD.

NEW ADDITIONS TO VIDEO LIBRARY

Recent additions to our online video production library include:

Governor Fletcher's Chief of Staff, Stan Cave, speaks in Estill County.
<http://www.bgadd.org/images/video/StanCave.wmv>

Mark Birdwhistell (Secretary of the Kentucky Cabinet for Health and Family Services) at the Kentucky Elder Readiness Community Forum.
<http://www.bgadd.org/images/video/Birdwhistell.wmv>

Governor Fletcher visits Lincoln County and the ribbon cutting ceremony for the new bridge in Preacherville.
<http://lincolnky.com/images/video/GovernorVisitLincolnCounty.wmv>

Estill County's "One Day At A Time" march against drugs.
<http://www.bgadd.org/images/video/1DayAtATime.wmv>

For further information on the ADD's video services, please contact Tab Patterson at the ADD office.

US 27 IN NICHOLASVILLE TO I-75 STUDY SET TO BEGIN

The Kentucky Transportation Cabinet (KYTC) has contracted with a consulting team, led by Parsons Brinckerhoff Quade and Douglas, Inc., for a feasibility study to evaluate potential corridors for a new connector route from US 27 in the vicinity of Nicholasville in Jessamine County to a location on I-75 south of exit 104 (Athens-Boonesboro Road) in Fayette County and at or north of exit 90 (Dr. Robert R. Martin By-pass) in Madison County. The study area is large enough to allow ample alternatives, including a no-build option, to be examined.

The Project Manager is Stuart Goodpaster, KYTC District Highway Office 7. Mr. Goodpaster stated that the project will take approximately 12 months to conduct all needed technical analyses, and probably will take two to three additional months to wrap up.

Public involvement will be a crucial element of the project. There is much interest in the project in the three counties and in the Bluegrass Region as well. The public is expected to be very eager to engage in dialogue at meetings. A kick-off meeting with the elected officials in Jessamine, Fayette, and Madison counties is being planned. Additionally, a project work group of interested stakeholders (including KYTC, local governments, the ADD, the Lexington Area MPO, and others) is planned to provide guidance to the consulting team.

For further information, contact Stuart Goodpaster at 859-246-2355.

JESSAMINE COUNTY FISCAL COURT BUYS LAST OF BURNED DOWNTOWN NICHOLASVILLE BUILDINGS

The Jessamine County Fiscal Court has taken steps to purchase the last of the downtown buildings that burned in the disastrous Nicholasville fire of December 23, 2004. The Fiscal Court purchased three other adjacent fire-damaged buildings late last year. All of the fire-damaged buildings were a part of the historic downtown area and are located in the block immediately south of the Jessamine County Courthouse on Main Street.

A new office building to house the Jessamine County Attorney, Child Support Program, and the Pre-trial office will be constructed where the three buildings, initially purchased by the county, once stood. Plans for this additional building are not specific yet, but, according to Jessamine County Judge-Executive Neal Cassity, a new building on the site of the fire damaged building just purchased may include space for the new family court that is likely to be coming to Jessamine County.

COMMONWEALTH TO STUDY A TAKEOVER OF COUNTY JAILS

If there is one item that is contributing greatly to budget problems that many counties face, it is the spiraling cost of owning, staffing, and operating county jails. Earlier this year, State Auditor Crit Luallen released a report suggesting that the cost of individual county jails was too high. The report further suggested that Kentucky move toward a state-run system that would be less expensive to operate.

Kentucky has more than 80 local jails that house about 17,000 inmates at an annual cost of about \$244 million. The Kentucky County Judge-Executive

Association has previously endorsed legislation that would lead to state operation of the system of jails by 2010. A review of the current system of jails is due to be completed by the end of 2007.

LINCOLN COUNTY SET TO FURTHER EXTEND COMMUNITY WATER SERVICE TO RURAL RESIDENTS

The Lincoln County Fiscal Court recently received construction bids for the installation of water lines to an ever shrinking list of rural Lincoln County areas that lack community water service. The roads set to receive first-time community water service are: Boone Connector Road, Will Chancellor Road, Henry Clay Road, Old Ottenheim Road, and Hawkins Branch Road. The water extensions are being made possible by an appropriation from the Kentucky General Assembly. The grant will be administered through the Kentucky Infrastructure Authority.

For more information, contact Lincoln County Judge-Executive Ron Gilbert.

JESSAMINE-SOUTH ELKHORN WATER DISTRICT PETITIONS TO HAVE ITS SERVICE AREA REDUCED

In a somewhat unusual move, the Board of Commissioners of the Jessamine-South Elkhorn Water District has petitioned Jessamine County Judge-Executive Neal Cassity to have part of its territory be "stricken" and relinquished in order that the City of Wilmore might eventually serve the area with water. Neither the water district nor Wilmore would gain or lose customers if the petition is approved. The petition from Water District Chairman Nick Strong says that the change is sought to avoid future boundary conflicts with Wilmore, and "to provide certainty to developers and to the water consuming public as to which body will be providing their potable water supply."

The territory that the water district wants to surrender is more than 1,000 acres of largely undeveloped farmland to the north, west, and southwest of Wilmore and includes the Thompson-Hood Veterans Center that Wilmore already serves. One arm of the area sought by the water district to be relinquished goes all of the way to the Kentucky River, about a mile southwest of Wilmore.

HARRODSBURG SET TO GAIN 20 NEW MANUFACTURING JOBS

Modine Manufacturing has announced plans to close one of its plants in South Carolina and to bring a new production line to its Harrodsburg manufacturing facility, thereby bringing 20 new manufacturing jobs to Mercer County. The new production line will be using a brazing furnace that will allow the plant to obtain new contracts to make products such as automobile radiators. Modine employs about 8,000 people at 34 facilities in 15 different counties.

STANFORD RAISES WATER RATES TO FACILITATE WATER SUPPLY EFFORTS

The Stanford City Council has approved a water rate increase of about 5.7 percent in order to issue debt instruments that will allow the city to extend a 12-inch diameter raw water supply line from Buck Creek Reservoir in south-central Lincoln County north to the municipal water treatment plant. The city expects to borrow about \$1.25 million in order to match \$1.5 million in grants that the city has received for this project over recent years.

Stanford's growth, as well as the growth in the large areas of rural and suburban Lincoln County that are provided with drinking water either directly by the city or through the city-supplied McKinney Water District, have been such that the city's two existing reservoirs have been hard pressed to keep up with the demand for water in dry times. Stanford Mayor Eddie Carter said that, in 2005, the city almost had to ration water. The new raw water supply line from this additional water source is something that the city will need for continued growth and development, he also said.

LANCASTER NEW CITY HALL TO BE NAMED TO HONOR LONG-TIME MAYOR BILLY C. MOSS

Work is progressing on the effort to convert what was once the Garrard County Memorial Hospital to Lancaster's new City Hall. The name for the new city facilities will be the Billy C. Moss Municipal Center in honor of Lancaster Mayor Billy Moss who will conclude 34 years of service as the city's mayor when his term expires on December 31. Moss is the only remaining original founding member of the ADD's Board of Directors. Recently retired Bluegrass ADD Executive Director Jas Sekhon has said that he proudly reflects upon the fact that Mayor Moss was on the selection committee that hired him "way back when".

Mayor Moss has been ill for several months. When the city decides to hold the dedication and open house for the new municipal center, Acting Mayor Donna Powell said she hopes that Mayor Moss will be able to attend.

The large building will house not only the city hall, but also the Lancaster Police Department, the Lancaster Planning and Zoning office, Emergency Services, and the city's maintenance department.

For more information, contact Lancaster Acting Mayor Donna Powell at City Hall.

MORE LAND IS PURCHASED TO ADD TO THE PERRYVILLE BATTLEFIELD SITE

American history enthusiasts and preservationists sadly reflect that, as America becomes increasingly urbanized, more and more lands of historic significance are being paved over or are, in other ways, being forever lost. And so it is that, with a sense of pride, the announcement was made that an additional 2 ½ acres of land have been acquired on the periphery of Kentucky's biggest Civil War battlefield at Perryville. The acquisition, announced in August, is deemed to have tactical importance. Officials will now be able to restore some of the battlefield's bloodiest ground to look much like it did when the famous battle was fought in October, 1862.

The land tract recently purchased by the Perryville Battlefield Preservation Association includes a house that will become the park manager's residence. That situation will allow for the razing of the current manager's house which sits on some of the most significant ground at the Boyle County battlefield site. It was on that ground that an Indiana regiment suffered a 63 percent casualty rate—the highest rate of any regiment engaged in the famous battle. With the house out of the way, officials will expand the walking trails and interpretive signs and place cannons to depict where a Union artillery battery was deployed. "We'll be able to tell this story a lot better...and be able to explain the importance of this ground more than we have in the past," said Chris Kolakowski, the preservation group's executive director.

CAMPGROUND AT NATURAL BRIDGE STATE RESORT PARK NAMED ONE OF AMERICA'S BEST

America is waking up to a fact already known to many Kentuckians—that Natural Bridge State Report Park is a great place to camp. Powell County's Natural Bridge SRP was recently selected as one of the top 100 places in America to camp. The park was so designated based upon feedback from park rangers, park managers, and campers.

Campgrounds are placed on the list based upon criteria that include park scenery, educational services, and availability of hot showers, laundry facilities, hiking trails, swimming, visitor centers, as well as location. When asked to explain the park camping facilities' high rating, Assistant Park Manager Hope Howell said, "We keep our facilities really clean and we are located within a two hour drive of a large slice of America."

The two camp sites, Middlefork and Whittleton, are within the state park boundaries and are open from April 1 until very late autumn. The campground closing date in the fall is dependent upon the weather.

PARIS TO LEASE SPACE TO THE MAYSVILLE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

The Paris City Commission has agreed to lease 2,400 square feet of space within the Municipal Center, at no cost, to Maysville Community College. The availability of the new space will allow the college to offer college-level classes in Paris as a part of the Kentucky Community and Technical College System.

CONSOLIDATION OF FIRE SERVICES DISCUSSED IN GEORGETOWN/SCOTT COUNTY

Better service, efficiency, and effectiveness are some of the terms that were used to describe an idea that is under discussion in Scott County. The idea is the possible consolidation of the city and the county fire departments. By no means has consolidation of their vital services been approved, but the idea has been "floated" and is under open discussion. Local leaders are expected to study the concept to see if it has relevance to Georgetown and to Scott County residents.

WILMORE AMENDS IMPACT FEE ORDINANCE; FEE WILL NOT AFFECT PRE-APPROVED DEVELOPMENTS

Developers of new houses in Wilmore will have to pay a \$3,000 per unit impact fee to the city. A recent amendment to the ordinance that provides for the impact fee calls for a different and lower fee to be charged developers who started or planned projects before the ordinance initially took effect in January of this year. Affected developers fitting that description will pay only half of the fee - \$1,500 per unit - instead of the full \$3,000 per unit fee. The ordinance provides that builder will pay the fee when the building permit is sought. The fee is to offset the effect that new development has on municipal services.

If the “upscale” Forest Creek development becomes a reality, the developers will pay 100 percent of the \$3,000 per unit fee, said Mayor Harold Rainwater. On the other hand, if a builder tears down a substandard house within the city to build a new house in its place, the builder would not be charged any impact fee since that type of development does not have an adverse impact on city services like annexation does.

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION APPROVES CLEAN-COAL POWER PLANT IN CLARK COUNTY

The East Kentucky Power Cooperative has been given the green light from the Kentucky Public Service Commission to build a coal-fired power plant at the J.K. Smith Power Station near Trapp in eastern Clark County. The plant will generate 278 megawatts of power. It will be accompanied by five 90-megawatt gas-fired units. The site already has seven gas-fired units. The PSC concluded that East Kentucky Power needs the additional electrical generating capacity to meet the growing needs of its customers for electricity.

Additional approvals are still needed before East Kentucky Power’s plans can become a reality. Approval is still needed from USDA’s Rural Utility Service and from the Kentucky Division for Air Quality.

A positive economic impact is predicted for Clark County if the project is fully approved. About 700 workers would be employed during construction. Afterwards, 60 people would operate the facility. Construction is expected to generate \$1 million in local payroll taxes. Local officials say the project will mean tens of millions of dollars for motels, restaurants and other aspects of the Clark County economy.

The plant will burn Kentucky coal, using a technology called the “circulating fluidized bed process” which burns coal more cleanly than conventional equipment and without expensive scrubbers and other pollution-control equipment. The improvements to the J.K. Smith plant are expected to be completed early in 2010.

ADD AGING STAFF AND STATE SPONSOR AGING AND DISABILITIES CONFERENCE

Staff from the Bluegrass Area Agency on Aging helped plan and host the Kentucky Statewide Aging Network Conference, held September 6-8 at the Galt House in Louisville. Aging service providers from across the state attended the three-day event, as did approximately 600 people from across the Commonwealth. The keynote speakers for the conference were Lee Ann Thieman, author of "Chicken Soup for the Caregivers Soul," and Berea artist Mitchell Tolle. Both received warm welcomes from those in attendance, and the event marked the second time in two years that the Area Agencies on Aging and the State Division of Aging Services partnered to produce a training conference of this scale.

SADIEVILLE RECEIVES ADD ASSISTANCE IN AN EFFORT TO IMPLEMENT THE CITY'S WASTEWATER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

ADD staff is endeavoring to act as a go-between, on behalf of the cities of Sadieville and Georgetown, as the latter seeks to implement a wastewater project that would have Sadieville abandon forever its small wastewater treatment plant in favor of a connection to the Georgetown municipal sewer system. If that connection can be made, Georgetown will commingle the wastewaters generated by Sadieville sewer customers with its own wastewaters and will treat the waste at its Wastewater Treatment Plant No. 2 that is located near Toyota Motor Manufacturing on Georgetown's near north side. The City of Georgetown has already obtained considerable grant money to enable the construction of a pressure sewer line to capture the leachate from two former sanitary landfills for which the city has a continuing responsibility. The northernmost landfill, and the one to which Sadieville would have to bring its collected sewage, is the landfill on the Double Culvert Road about 2 ½ miles south of Sadieville.

In addition to significant grant support afforded to Sadieville by the 2006 General Assembly and funds pledged by the Scott County Fiscal Court, Sadieville is considering applying for a \$1.0 million grant from the HUD Community Development Block Grant program to complete the project's financial package. For more information, contact Don Hassall or Matt Belcher at the ADD or Sadieville Mayor Rob Wagoner.

STANTON CLOSER TO SEEKING HUD BLOCK GRANT ASSISTANCE ON WATER SYSTEM UPGRADE

Work is concluding on a laborious income level survey effort undertaken primarily by Stanton Mayor Virginia Wills and workers at the city office. The survey was necessitated by the rules of the HUD Block Grant program that require that HUD grant funds only be expended in areas that meet one

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of three national HUD objectives. The one national objective that the City of Stanton is trying to meet is the one that requires that the project benefit an area where the project beneficiaries are, at a minimum, 51 percent low or moderate income persons. The US Census-derived numbers for the City of Stanton would suggest that the low/moderate income level is slightly below the 51 percent level, while city officials contend that economic circumstances subsequent to the collection of six year old Census information would suggest that the service area of the Stanton water system serves an area whose low/moderate income status exceeds the 51 percent minimum standard.

Stanton already has a \$675,000 grant commitment from the 2006 General Assembly (through the Kentucky Infrastructure Authority) and plans to seek a Rural Development loan/grant of about \$275,000. An application seeking \$900,000 in HUD Community Development Grant funds is expected to be developed, pending the completion of the income level survey and a determination that Stanton has indeed met the low/moderate income requirements of the HUD Block Grant program. At question at this time is whether the grant application can be made during the 2006 program year for HUD grant funds or if the community will have to wait until the 2007 program year.

The ADD continues to seek to assist the City of Stanton in its efforts to develop a viable funding package for this effort. For more information, contact Don Hassall at the ADD.

BLUEGRASS REGION RECEIVES HOMELAND SECURITY GRANT

The Bluegrass Region has received nearly \$1.4 million from the Kentucky Office of Homeland Security from the 2006 round of Homeland Security Grants. The grant awarded to the Bluegrass Area Development District will be used by communities for the purchase of MDC's (Mobile Data Computers). The grant application submitted by the ADD included requests for MDC's from 25 communities in the District.

The Bluegrass Area Development District was awarded the largest grant amount in the Commonwealth for the purchase of MDC's. The Bluegrass Regional Homeland Security Council, along with local emergency response agencies from the Bluegrass Region, assisted in the completion and submission of the grant application. The effort put forth by BGRHSC and local emergency response agencies helped to highlight the desire and need for better emergency communications equipment in the Bluegrass Region. The new MDC's will assist local emergency responders from across the region to better respond to emergency situations and assist community residents in times of distress.

For further information, please contact Travis Weber at the ADD office.

CONSUMER DIRECTED OPTION COMES TO KENTUCKY

ADD staff recently met with officials of the Kentucky Cabinet for Health and Family Services to discuss the new Consumer Directed Option (CDO) program which was implemented statewide on September 30. Medicaid recipients who get services through the Home and Community Based (HCB) waiver program can now choose to get some or all of their non-medical waiver services through the new CDO program. Services included in the

program are: respite, personal care, homemaking and attendant care. CDO will let consumers choose who provides non-medical HCB services and how and when they receive them. The Area Agency on Aging will act as a support broker for the CDO program to assist participants to: enroll in the program; develop a plan of care and budget; locate service providers and negotiate rates; provide support in hiring, supervising and firing employees; coordinate with traditional providers and transition back to traditional services if they to choose to 'disenroll' from CDO. In addition, the Area Development Districts will be the financial management agencies for CDO in Kentucky.

For further information on the CDO program, please contact the Aging staff at the ADD.

INDUSTRIAL EXPANSION ANNOUNCED FOR GEORGETOWN

An expansion of the International Crankshaft plant in Georgetown was recently announced. The company manufactures forged crankshafts for the automotive industry. The planned expansion will require the relocation and reconstruction of the plant entrance road, Carley Court. The project includes the addition of about \$29 million of new equipment and another \$10 million for the building to house it.

The Georgetown plant provides parts to various automotive components, with Daimler-Chrysler being the company's largest client. International Crankshaft also builds crankshafts for Toyota

SAMS IS MOVING FORWARD IN THE BLUEGRASS

The SAMS (Social Administration Management System) project is moving forward and is getting closer to providing a full data transfer during October. SAMS is the statewide documentation and reporting system recently purchased, adopted, and mandated - by the state - to be used by all of the Area Agencies on Aging in their work with aging and disabilities clients. All of the service delivery rosters are now built and ready for use. An Area Agency on Aging staff member has a small computer lab set up in his office and has been bringing in local aging staff from across the District to work on populating these rosters and adding units of service. A SAMS Steering Committee will also be formed, comprised of SAMS users and members of the Aging Council. This group is expected to meet for the first time in October.

For further information on SAMS, contact Jeff Roback at the ADD office.

ADD AGING STAFF AND SHIP MEET TO COORDINATE PART D OPEN ENROLLMENT

Staff recently met with the State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP) Coordinator for the Bluegrass Area, Angela Zeek, to discuss plans for the Medicare Prescription Drug Benefit (Part D) Open Enrollment period, which begins on November 15 and ends December 31, 2006. Thousands of Bluegrass Area seniors had previously signed up for the Medicare Drug Benefit in their counties, through special events coordinated by SHIP and the Area Agency on Aging, along with Medicare auto-enrollments into the Extra Help Program for financially qualified Medicare recipients. During this

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open enrollment period, current participants may elect to change their current providers and new participants can elect to join in Part D for the first time.

“NEXT BEST YEARS OF YOUR LIFE” CONFERENCE HELD ON SEPTEMBER 29TH

Aging staff assisted in the planning for the “Next Best Years of Your Life” conference which was held on September 29 at the Fayette County Extension Office. This year’s conference theme was “Food, Finance, Fitness and Fun.” Workshops included a cooking demo on preparing meals for one or two people, a financial panel and a workshop on yoga, water therapy, and massage and chiropractic services.

KENTUCKY CAREGIVER PROGRAM PROVIDES ASSISTANCE FOR GRANDPARENT CAREGIVERS

Staff from the Bluegrass Area Agency on Aging and the National Family Caregiver Support program have been hard at work developing elements for the new Kentucky Family Caregiver Program (described in Kentucky regulations at 910 KAR 1:260), which is due to be implemented in late fall or winter of this year. The program is the result of action taken by the General Assembly, and is aimed at supporting the needs of grandparents who are primary caregivers to their grandchildren. Applications for funds (up to \$750 per child) are to be distributed, collected, and processed by ADD staff, based on criteria developed by the KY Division of Aging Services, in consultation with HCBS, the Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation, the Department of Protection and Permanency, the Area Agencies on Aging, and grandparents themselves. The payments will be made through vendors of goods and services identified by the Division, and eligible grandparent household income can be no greater than 150% of federal poverty guidelines.

For further information on the program, please contact Emily Christian at the ADD office.

PRIDE HELPS LEXINGTON BECOME A WASTEBUSTER

Bluegrass PRIDE has started work on its contract with the Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government Division of Solid Waste to manage the WasteBuster Program. This program’s goal is to increase recycling in schools, businesses and apartment complexes.

PRIDE was overwhelmed by the huge response by local schools; 38 private and public schools expressed an interest in participating. These schools will receive KERA- aligned lessons and activities, access to PRIDE and LFUCG staff, assistance in conducting a school wide waste audit, developing a waste reduction plan and starting or expanding a sustainable recycling program. They will also receive free recycling bins (Rosies) and weekly pick-up, provided by LFUCG.

More than 20 local businesses signed on to become a WasteBuster Business, by either starting a recycling program, or expanding their existing program. These businesses will receive a personal visit from a Bluegrass PRIDE and LFUCG staff member, assistance in setting up a recycling system,

promotional materials, recognition for their participation, and a newsletter with timely recycling information. Businesses will also learn how reducing the amount of waste they throw away can potentially lower their disposal costs.

WasteBuster apartments will receive a personal visit from a Bluegrass PRIDE and LFUCG staff member, promotional materials for current and future residents, educational presentation for residents on recycling, recognition for participation, paint hardener for each resident, and a newsletter with timely recycling information. As of the end of September, 448 apartment units were part of the WasteBuster program.

For more information about becoming a WasteBuster School, contact Maxine Rudder, Education Coordinator, at: Maxine@KentuckyPRIDE.com. For more information about apartment and business recycling, contact Esther Moberly, Program Manager, at: Esther@KentuckyPRIDE.com. Visit www.KentuckyPRIDE.com for information about all of PRIDE's programs.

SETA CONFERENCE LOOKS AT CHANGING WORKFORCE

"If change is happening on the outside faster than on the inside, the end is in sight. (- Jack Welch.)"

Those were the opening words of Helen Parker, DOL-ETA Southeast Regional Administrator, during the "U.S. Department of Labor Update" at the bi-annual SETA (Southeastern Employment and Training Association) conference attended by ADD staff on Sept. 18-22, in Mobile, Alabama.

One of the most innovative ideas highlighted at the SETA conference was the Dept. of Labor's recent WIRED (Workforce Innovation in Regional Economic Development) initiative that is seeding regional economic development through grants of \$15 million dollars over a three-year period to encourage regional communities to partner together, leveraging their collective public and private sector assets and resources to develop a more highly skilled workforce that can act as the linchpin to attract new economic development and employers. While it is only being piloted in 13 sites, it certainly is a sign of life and forward momentum in a system that has gained a reputation among business for being "slow-moving" and "change-resistant." (For more information, visit www.doleta.gov)

WIA staff members from each Central Kentucky Job Center location (Danville, Georgetown, Lexington, and Richmond) were selected to attend. Staff gained valuable insights from various conference workshops and speakers with considerable experience "in the trenches" of workforce development. The tone of the conference particularly emphasized the development of more and more "business-focused" workforce solutions. Thus, not only did the conference elicit new ideas and approaches for developing the workforce in the Bluegrass, but it confirmed that the Bluegrass Workforce Investment Area is "keeping pace" with the world around it, as it continues several of its own initiatives: partnering with healthcare organizations to create increased capacity for nursing students at community & technical colleges, expanded "On-the-Job Training" (OJT) opportunities that provide incentives to businesses to hire unskilled but eager-to-learn individuals, and working with training organizations to offer "lean manufacturing" skill training to more and more businesses within our region.

MEETING CALL

Board of Directors	10/25 7:00 p.m.
Executive Board	11/29 7:00 p.m.
Aging Council	11/8 10:00 a.m.
Natural Resources & Environmental Protection Advisory Committee	10/11 4:15 p.m.
Homeland Security Council	10/18 2:00 p.m.
Human Services Advisory Committee	10/16 1:30 p.m.
Development Advisory Committee	11/14 2:00 p.m.
Regional Planning Council	11/1 4:00 p.m.
Regional Transportation Advisory Committee	11/13 1:30 p.m.
Tourism, Historic Preservation, Recreation Advisory Committee	11/14 10:00 a.m.

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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