

A Publication of the Bluegrass Area Development District
BLUEGRASS
ADD - VANTAGE

BLUEGRASS SUBSTANCE ABUSE FORUM HELD

On November 10, the Bluegrass Area Development District hosted an informational forum to address the causes and effects of substance abuse within the Bluegrass Region. Several speakers were on hand to share their knowledge and expertise in these areas. Mayor Dodd Dixon of Winchester, also Chairman of the ADD's Human Services Committee, graciously agreed to emcee the event. Lenny Stoltz II, Executive Director of the Bluegrass ADD, welcomed the participants and expressed his gratitude for their attendance. He shared the role of the Bluegrass ADD in expanding the current relationships with local cities and counties to include other services besides "bricks and mortar".

Laurie Dudgeon, Executive Director of the Kentucky Office of Drug Control Policy, opened the day with information regarding the current efforts underway through her office. She praised the work of the local ASAP and Champions Boards throughout the Bluegrass Region. She highlighted the accomplishments of the last year and shared the goals for the future. Dudgeon also encouraged everyone to contact the Office of Drug Control Policy with any questions and to use the resources available to them through the office.

Janie Wechman, Executive Director of Scott Countians Against Drugs, Inc., presented information about successful programs that are currently being used in the elementary and middle schools throughout Scott county. A few of the programs she mentioned were Strengthening



Karen Engle, Executive Director of Project UNITE, was one of the speakers at the Bluegrass Substance Abuse Forum

GRANTS AVAILABLE: Transportation Enhancement, Recreational Trails, & Safe Routes to School programs – see "Transportation Funding," p. 4

OFFICIAL OF WORLD (EQUESTRIAN) GAMES FOUNDATION TO SPEAK AT ADD OFFICE: See article "THRAC to Host..." on p. 8

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Families, Project ALERT, Positive Action and Creative Arts For Ethnicity (Café). She credits the foresight of the community in forming this group in 1983.

Capt. John Jacobs of the LFUCG Drug Task Force and Jailer Gary Gilkison of the Woodford County Detention Center agreed that throughout the region a large majority of local and state prisoners are in jail because of the root problem of substance abuse. During their long careers in law enforcement, they have found that as many as 85% of offenders have a substance abuse problem that results in other crimes such as burglary, theft, domestic violence, child endangerment, motor vehicle violations and most violent crimes.

Doug Abner, Regional Director of Lifeline of East Kentucky, shared a video about the Lifeline program and the life-changing effects that it has on its participants. The video highlighted several persons from Eastern Kentucky that shared their stories of rehabilitation. He said that for many of them it is a small ray of "hope" in an otherwise "desolate" way of life.

Karen Engle, Executive Director of Operation UNITE, shared the vision that prompted Congressman Hal Rogers to create a regional coalition. As a result, there are 28 drug courts out of 29 counties in the region; there is a Court Watch system in place; a drug tip line was set up; and pictures of local individuals known to traffic drugs are posted on the website until they are captured. She credited the success of UNITE to all the people and agencies involved because substance abuse is not limited to a specific political party, a specific religion, a specific race or gender. Substance abuse affects all of us in some way, and in order to stop it we all need to come together as one group.

U. S. Representative Ben Chandler was the guest speaker during the luncheon. He echoed the sentiments expressed by the previous speakers in combating this problem from a regional level. He shared a very personal story of how substance abuse had affected him personally when a family member took his own life as a result of substance abuse. While he could not promise any specific funding for this initiative, he did vow to help in any way possible to assure its success.

A video of the day is available for viewing on the Bluegrass ADD website at www.bgadd.org. For additional information, please contact the office at 859-269-8021.

GOVERNOR FLETCHER PRESENTS GRANT OF NEARLY \$1.4 MILLION TO THE BLUEGRASS ADD

Governor Ernie Fletcher presented a check for nearly \$1.4 million from the Kentucky Office of Homeland Security to the Bluegrass ADD Board of Directors at its October 26 meeting. The ADD received these funds from the newly-awarded 2006 round of Homeland Security Grants. The grant funds will be used for the purchase of MDC's (Mobile Data Computers) for use by up to 25 ADD communities.

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The Bluegrass Area Development District and its communities are proud of the fact that this is the largest grant amount for the purchase of MDC's in the Commonwealth of Kentucky. Local emergency response agencies from across the region combined efforts and resources to request MDC's that can improve communications across the region. The effort put forth by 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 help local emergency responders to better respond to emergency situations and assist community residents in times of distress. Although no timetable has been announced for activation of the new MDC's, residents of the Bluegrass communities are eagerly anticipating the arrival of the new computers.



Gov. Fletcher (2nd from right) presented the Homeland Security Grant check to Lenny Stoltz (far left), ADD Executive Director; Judge Larry Tincher (2nd from left), ADD Treasurer and Chairman of the Homeland Security Council; and Judge R. W. Gilbert (far right), ADD Board Chairman.

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

TRANSPORTATION FUNDING CYCLES OPEN

Application periods are open during December and January for three popular funding programs. The Transportation Enhancement (TE) program, Recreational Trails Program (RTP), and Safe Routes to School (SRTS) programs all begin soliciting applications during this time. Bluegrass ADD communities have been very fortunate to receive funding from these programs in the past to produce a number of valuable projects. ADD staff expects that many worthy projects will be submitted for consideration under these funding programs.

The TE program opened its call for Intent to Apply applications on December 1, 2006. The program is funded by the Federal Highway Administration and is managed at the state level by the Office of Special Programs (OSP) in the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet. The TE program accepts applications for projects in a number of different categories including: pedestrian and bicycle facilities, scenic or historic highway programs, scenic beautification, historic preservation, and environmental mitigation among others. The OSP has been conducting training workshops throughout the state during November and December to make interested applicants aware of the program's guidelines.

The Recreational Trails Program also began accepting applications in December. Like the Transportation Enhancement program, RTP is also funded by the Federal Highway Administration. The program is administered at the state level by the Governor's Office for Local Development. Applicants for this year's round of funding will notice a variation from past application cycles regarding the maximum amount of funding requests and the match requirements. This program solicits applications for both motorized and non-motorized trails as well as trail amenities.

The Safe Routes to School program will begin soliciting applications in January. SRTS is also funded by the Federal Highway Administration. Like the TE program, SRTS is administered at the state level by the Office of Special Programs in the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet. Applicants may apply for funding for projects that enable and encourage school children to safely walk and bike to school. The OSP has been detailing guidelines for the program during the workshops held for the TE program.

Information about the TE and SRTS programs can be found at: www.tea21.ky.gov. Information about RTP can be found at www.gold.ky.gov. For questions or assistance with applications for these programs, please contact Lora B. Littleton at the ADD.

MEDICARE ANNOUNCES THE START OF 2007 OPEN ENROLLMENT FOR MEDICARE HEALTH AND DRUG COVERAGE

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) recently announced that Medicare beneficiaries have a six-week window in which to change or add coverage to their current Medicare health and prescription drug plans. The Medicare annual Open Enrollment Period started November 15 and continues through December 31, 2006.

"Now is the time for Medicare beneficiaries to carefully review their current plan to see how changes may affect their costs and coverage in 2007, and then compare their plan to other options available to them," said U.S. Health and Human Services Secretary Mike Leavitt. "If they are satisfied their plan will meet their needs next year, they do not need to take any action to keep their coverage."

Again this year, the Bluegrass Aging Network (senior centers, homecare case managers, adult day and the Area Agency on Aging), the State Health Insurance Programs, and a corps of volunteers are providing highly personalized information and assistance to beneficiaries in person in their communities and over the phone when necessary.

CMS is adding a new consumer tool focusing on plan performance. Medicare Part D Plan Performance metrics for 2006 are now posted on the Plan Finder Website. Consumers are able to see how plans are rated, along with specific data on how they performed on the following areas

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of customer service, including: telephone customer service, complaints, appeals, and sharing information with pharmacists.

In addition to the website enhancements, tools and resources such as the 2007 Medicare & You handbook, www.medicare.gov, and 1-800-Medicare, there are community-based information and enrollment events scheduled in most counties in the Bluegrass area. Medicare recipients should contact their local senior centers for the date of an event in their area.

ELECTION BRINGS CHANGES IN BLUEGRASS LOCAL OFFICIALS

On November 7, voters elected seven new County Judges-Executive and 17 new Mayors in the Bluegrass Region. Those officials taking office in January are shown below. (Incumbents re-elected are marked with an "i.")

Anderson County

County Judge-Executive:
Steve L. Cornish

Lawrenceburg Mayor:
Edwinna Baker

Bourbon County

County Judge-Executive:
Donnie R. Foley (i)

Paris Mayor:
Don Kiser (i)

Millersburg Mayor:
Samuel D. Chanslor (i)

North Middletown Mayor:
Jeff McFarland

Boyle County

County Judge-Executive:
Tony Wilder (i)

Danville Mayor:
Hugh Coomer

Junction City Mayor:
G. G. Harmon (i)

Perryville Mayor:
Anne C. Sleet

Clark County

County Judge-Executive:
Henry Branham

Winchester Mayor:
Ed Burtner

Estill County

County Judge-Executive:
Wallace C. Taylor (i)

Irvine Mayor:
Ernest Lee Farmer

Ravenna Mayor:
Charles Crowe (i)

Fayette County

County Judge-Executive:
Sandra M. Varellas (i)

LFUCG Mayor:
Jim Newberry

Franklin County

County Judge-Executive:
Ted Collins

Frankfort Mayor:
no election this year

Garrard County

County Judge-Executive:
John Wilson

Lancaster Mayor:
Donald P. Rinthen, Jr.

Harrison County

County Judge-Executive:
Alex Barnett

Cynthiana Mayor:
Jim Brown

Berry Mayor:
Donald E. Adams (i)

Jessamine County

County Judge-Executive:
Wm. Neal Cassity (i)

Nicholasville Mayor:
Russ Meyer

Wilmore Mayor:
Harold Rainwater (i)

Lincoln County

County Judge-Executive:
R. W. "Buckwheat" Gilbert (i)

Stanford Mayor:
Bill Miracle

Crab Orchard Mayor:
Bill Dyehouse

Hustonsville Mayor:
Cecil Maddox

Eubank Mayor:
Frey Todd (i)

Madison County

County Judge-Executive:
Kent Clark (i)

Richmond Mayor:
Connie Lawson (i)

Berea Mayor:
Steven Connelly (i)

Mercer County

County Judge-Executive:
John Trisler (i)

Harrodsburg Mayor:
Lonnie Campbell (i)

Burgin Mayor:
John D. Brown (i)

Nicholas County

County Judge-Executive:
Larry Tincher (i)

Carlisle Mayor:
Ronnie Clark

Powell County

County Judge-Executive:
Darren L. Farmer

Stanton Mayor:
Dale W. Allen

Clay City Mayor:
James A. Caudill (i)

Scott County

County Judge-Executive:
George Lusby (i)

Georgetown Mayor:
Karen Tingle-Sames

Stamping Ground Mayor:
Jared Hollon (i)

Sadieville Mayor:
Rob Wagoner (i)

Woodford County

County Judge-Executive:
John "Bear" Coyle

Versailles Mayor:
Fred Siegelman (i)

Midway Mayor:
Tom Bozarth

THRAC TO HOST 2010 WORLD EQUESTRIAN GAMES

SPEAKER

The ADD's Tourism, Historic Preservation, and Recreation Advisory Committee (THRAC) will host Mr. Rolf Linder, Senior Vice-President and Chief Marketing Officer of the World Games 2010 Foundation, Inc. On **Tuesday, January 9th at 10 a.m.** at the Bluegrass ADD office, Mr. Linder will present information to THRAC members and local elected officials about the upcoming 2010 FEI Games. The presentation will not only inform individuals of the event itself and how the planning for it will be conducted, but communities will also learn how they can participate in and benefit from the Games.

Since the announcement that the Kentucky Horse Park will host the World Equestrian Games in 2010, THRAC has been working to make sure that all the ADD communities are informed about the Games and the impact it can have on individual communities. Counties and cities are working to be able to host events complementary to the Games that will draw visitors into other parts of the Bluegrass area. This will mean an immediate economic impact, as well as create the potential for repeat visitors since many spectators to the Games will be from areas around and near Lexington. The Games will be an opportunity to show Central Kentucky to visitors from across the nation and around the world.

In addition to THRAC members, local elected officials and other parties interested in knowing more about the 2010 FEI Games and the potential impact to our region are encouraged to attend this meeting. For additional information, please contact Lora B. Littleton at the ADD.

REGIONAL WATER SUPPLY EFFORT CONTINUES

At the request of the Bluegrass ADD Chairman, Judge R. W. Gilbert, Bluegrass Water Supply Commission (BWSC) Chair Thomas Calkins presented a Bluegrass Water Supply Commission progress report at the October 25 quarterly meeting of the ADD Board of Directors. More than 120 persons were present to hear that report, including Governor Ernie Fletcher.

Mr. Calkins spoke with appreciation of the new emphasis of Kentucky American Water Company, which in mid-September suggested that a shared equity ownership arrangement in the water supply effort was possible. That Kentucky American presentation/proposal spoke of joint ownership involving a regional water treatment plant in Franklin/Owen County, together with a large-diameter transmission pipeline to connect with the existing Kentucky American water distribution network in north central Fayette County.

Subsequent to that report by Mr. Calkins, the BWSC developed and delivered to Kentucky American Water, in late October, a list of points that the BWSC would like to discuss with Kentucky American policymakers. This matter has not reached the negotiating phase yet, but

merely for the two sides to sit together and to discuss matters of mutual concern is seen as a positive sign.

Kentucky American has acknowledged receipt of the letter and the list of desired discussion points and has promised to address the letter and the list at an early date. With the Fayette County water referendum now seemingly a settled issue, it would appear that discussions between the Bluegrass Water Supply Commission and Kentucky American Water might be forthcoming soon.

For more information, contact Don Hassall, BWSC General Manager, at 859-269-8021.

LANCASTER HOLDS BID OPENING FOR WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT IMPROVEMENTS

The City of Lancaster opened bids in late October for the construction and installation of equipment to improve the aeration system at its wastewater treatment plant. The consulting engineer recommended selection of the low bidder, and the City Council concurred. A contract signing and pre-construction conference are anticipated in early December, with construction expected to begin in late December or early January.

Much of the project will focus on the installation of made-to-order Orban Disc Aeration equipment. This is being made possible through a Tobacco Development Grant Agreement received in mid-July from the Kentucky Infrastructure Authority in the amount of \$281,730. The estimated total project cost is \$335,600.

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.

For additional information, contact Dave Ewen at the ADD.

WORKFORCE INVESTMENT ACT – A SUCCESS STORY

WIA participant Emmitt Murphy initially came into the Central Kentucky Job Center in Lexington in order to find employment. After a thorough job search, we were unable at that time to find him a suitable, full-time position. Although he had a steady employment history, his previous jobs were all temporary positions. Mr. Murphy had a criminal history from 2003 that consisted of felony possession and felony child support. Although they were nonviolent crimes, they were felonies that were barriers to his employment.

On October 19, 2005, Mr. Murphy entered training at Delta Career Academy and graduated with his Class A CDL on November 5, 2005. Mr. Murphy received several pre-hires; however, he chose to accept

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employment with Gainey Transportation, Inc. His entry level wages were \$500-\$600 weekly.

Mr. Murphy reported back to the Central Kentucky Job Center – Lexington on November 7, 2006 that he is now a truck owner-operator for Gainey Transportation with a \$1,900-\$2,500 weekly salary. Mr. Murphy has also been able to purchase a 2006 Freightliner Columbia and is in the process of purchasing another one once he finds another driver.

Mr. Murphy stated, "This program is truly a blessing because it gives individuals another chance when society doesn't."

LANCASTER WATER DISTRIBUTION PROJECT NEARS COMPLETION

Lancaster officials are welcoming the near-completion of that city's significant and extended Water System Improvement Project. Punch lists are being developed and numerous sections of the project area are undergoing cleanup. Additional cleanup and inspection were expected to take place in late November and December. The formal loan agreement with Rural Development will soon be executed, an event which normally occurs upon substantial completion of construction.

The project involves 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 includes 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 includes a KIA-financed Tobacco Development Grant for \$170,000, and local funding of \$30,000. An additional \$50,000 is coming from local funds for the road paving.

For more information, contact Dave Ewen at the ADD.

GEORGETOWN LAUNCHING GARBAGE ROLL CART PILOT PROGRAM

In an attempt to reduce costs and increase worker safety, Georgetown is set to launch a pilot program involving the use of garbage roll carts. Most people simply refer to the large 96-gallon plastic carts as "Herbie Curbie." The city will purchase and assign a single cart to each household within the area of the city selected as the test neighborhood. Each cart will be marked with an address, and owners will be responsible for the cart's general upkeep.

The carts are easily mobile for most garbage customers. They can be filled with any trash item other than construction debris and brush. It is

expected that the program will help to reduce injuries to city employees as well as to increase the speed at which garbage is collected. Ultimately, the switch could lead to savings to the city primarily from reduced personnel costs. City government has pledged that there will be no layoffs of staff. The pilot program was set to kick off sometime in November.

USE OF "IN CASE OF EMERGENCY (ICE)" URGED

Kentucky paramedics and other emergency response personnel are spreading the word about a simple idea they want all Kentuckians to adopt. It's called "ICE", which stands for In Case of Emergency, and it can make a real difference in emergency situations when medical decisions have to be made rapidly.

The idea is both simple and practical for everyone, but is particularly useful and important for aging citizens. In an emergency situation, medical response personnel, like paramedics and EMTs, check a victim's cellular phone for clues to the victim's identity.

Using the ICE plan, cell phone users put the initials ICE before the names of people in their cell phone contact directories who should be contacted "in case of emergency." Looking for the ICE tag, police, fire or medical personnel can scroll through your cell directory to quickly find the tagged entry and call this emergency contact.

The ICE plan can save precious time when emergency medical personnel need life-saving information about a victim, like prescribed medications, allergies or medical conditions. Your ICE designee should be able to provide this information if contacted on your behalf in an emergency.

Be sure to inform your ICE contacts they will be called "in case of emergency" and be sure they know the health-related information that could help save your life and help doctors choose the best course of care for you in an emergency situation. "ICE" your cellular phone now and encourage your family members to do the same.

SUB-REGIONAL WATER AND SEWER MEETINGS COMMENCE

While it is often an advantage to have an Area Development District comprised of seventeen counties, occasionally that large number of counties can also constitute a disadvantage. While the Bluegrass Water Management Planning Council has been meeting at least quarterly for four years, it has been felt that its meetings are so large that an airing or discussion of specific problems of a single water/sewer utility, or problems involving two or three such utilities in close proximity, are taking a back seat to other business. Certainly, it is important that the 17-county Council continue to meet, but smaller sub-regional meetings are planned in various parts of the District to foster more substantive conversation about problems more local in nature. The first two meetings were held in early November as elected officials, utility

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managers, health department representatives, and consulting engineers met for afternoon sessions in Powell County and, in a separate meeting, in Estill County.

Additional sub-regional meetings are planned for clusters of counties beginning in December and continuing at least monthly through the spring of 2007. Eventually, it is expected that meetings can and will be held in sub-regional settings throughout the Area Development District. For more information, contact Matt Belcher, Don Hassall, or Paul Stansbury at the ADD.

REVITALIZATION AND PRESERVATION ON THE AGENDA FOR IRVINE AND ESTILL COUNTY

Major projects are giving a facelift to downtown Irvine. The City of Irvine recently completed another phase of its sidewalk project using Transportation Enhancement funds. A final phase still remains to complete the project – the construction and repair of sidewalks around the perimeter of the City’s Renaissance district. The City previously completed restoration of the Black Brothers Bus Stop, which is now home to the historical society. Both projects add to the City’s streetscape, thus making the downtown more appealing.

The Estill County Fiscal Court is also at work in the downtown area. The Court received Transportation Enhancement funding for preservation and restoration of the courthouse, which is prominently located in downtown Irvine. Constructed of stone, hewn from the local quarry, the courthouse is the major historic structure in the downtown landscape. Made of the same type of stone that was utilized at the Fitchburg Furnace, which is one of the top five largest dry stone masonry structures in the world, the courthouse’s preservation is all the more significant.

For additional information on these projects or general information on downtown revitalization, contact Lora B. Littleton at Bluegrass ADD.

LANCASTER SELECTS ENGINEERING FIRM FOR FIVE PROJECTS

The City of Lancaster solicited Requests for Qualifications from engineering firms for the design of five water and sewer projects for which funding has recently been made available. After reviewing the materials submitted, the selection committee recommended a firm to the City Council for formal selection. Lancaster’s City Council has approved the selection committee’s nominee and is in the process of negotiating a contract.

The water and sewer projects, totaling more than \$562,000 in Economic Development Fund grants, are all 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
- * Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvements (SX21079001)
\$200,000

For more information, contact Dave Ewen at the ADD.

MERCER COUNTY REGIONAL WASTEWATER FACILITIES PLAN MOVES CLOSER TO COMPLETION

The Mercer County Sanitation District is continuing progress on its Wastewater Facilities Plan, which was funded during the 2005 General Assembly session. Awarded to the Mercer County Fiscal Court, the Kentucky Infrastructure Authority's (KIA) Infrastructure for Economic Development Fund (IEDF) monies are being utilized to develop a plan for wastewater service in areas outside the City of Harrodsburg's collection system.

The project engineer made edits to the final draft in November for submission to the Kentucky Division of Water (KDOW). Plans were also made to hold a public hearing during December. Completion of these two steps brings the Mercer County Sanitation District that much closer to having an approved Wastewater Facilities Plan. Upon completion of the regional wastewater facilities plan, the District will look at moving forward with the plan's actions and recommendations. For information about the regional wastewater facilities planning effort, contact Lora B. Littleton at the ADD.

AGING AND DISABILITIES ISSUES ARE FOCUS OF PROPOSED NEW AGENCY

Governor Ernie Fletcher addressed the Special Advisory Commission of Senior Citizens in Frankfort on November 3rd, and shared his vision for long-term living for Kentucky's senior citizens and people with physical disabilities. During his remarks at the evening banquet, Gov. Fletcher announced plans to create a new department in the Cabinet for Health and Family Services (CHFS) to centralize policy coordination, services and leadership on issues of consequence to older Kentuckians and people with physical disabilities.

"The new Department for Aging and Independent Living will focus on ensuring our seniors and individuals with disabilities live independently and with dignity," Governor Fletcher said. "It will ensure they have a quality life as well as quality care."

The Governor further called upon members of the committee, elder and disabilities advocates, service providers and service recipients to help design and define the department. "With your help and support, this department will lay the foundation to ensure Kentuckians, both seniors and individuals

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with disabilities, will live independently and with dignity today, tomorrow and for years to come," he said. The proposed Department for Aging and Independent Living also will collaborate with other CHFS and external agencies serving persons with mental health and other types of disabilities.

The Special Advisory Commission of Senior Citizens was established by the Legislative Research Commission in 1977 to provide a forum for the exchange of knowledge and experience and for the development of legislative recommendations to address problems affecting senior citizens and all Kentuckians. Bluegrass ADD representatives to the commission are: Bert Sisk (Frankfort), Taxation Committee; John Schreiber (Cynthiana), Transportation Committee; Peggy Chadwick (Lexington), Health and Human Services Committee; Joy Payne (Lexington), Insurance Committee; and Jim Heth (Lexington), Consumer Affairs Committee.

LAWRENCEBURG SEEKS BIDS FOR STRINGTOWN SEWER PROJECT

With easement acquisition nearing completion for Lawrenceburg's Stringtown Sewer Project, the City advertised for bids in mid-November. The opening was set for November 30. A HUD Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) award of \$759,000 will be applied toward this \$1,628,000 project that will provide sewer service to an urbanized, unincorporated area (Stringtown) south of Lawrenceburg's corporate limits in Anderson County. In addition to the CDBG, other funds for this project include a State grant of \$830,000 from the Tobacco Development Fund plus \$39,000 of local funds provided from tap-on fees. The project is expected to serve 146 residential customers and three non-residential users.

For additional information on this project, contact Dave Ewen at the ADD.

ELDER ABUSE: A SILENT CRIME

Elder abuse is often a silent crime. Most of us never see it because most victims are abused behind closed doors by their own family members. And, too often, people who do see it choose not to get involved because it's "none of my business." But the law says it's our business. If you suspect elder abuse, you are legally required to report it.

Remember, each time an older person is neglected, abused or killed, society loses the sum of a life that included:

- The courage gained from overcoming personal hardships and handicaps;
- The strength earned by surviving sorrows and overcoming fears; and
- The wisdom achieved through experience and compassion.

Every year 472,000 elderly people are abused in the United States. Their loss diminishes us as a people and a country. Please become a positive difference in the lives of older people and their families. For more information contact the Area Agency on Aging at the ADD.

FAYETTE COUNTY ELDER ABUSE COUNCIL GETS NEW CHAIR

David Godfrey, managing attorney for the Access to Justice Foundation, is the new chair of the Fayette County Coordinating Council on Elder Abuse (FCEAC). The FCEAC meets the second Tuesday of every other month at 9:30 a.m. in the offices of the Department for Community Based Services at 1165 Centre Parkway. The council is undertaking the establishment of short-term shelter arrangements for victims of elder abuse, along with several outreach and education initiatives. FCEAC has also established a "bridge cabinet" which will hold supplies that the Adult Protective Service workers may need to assist their clients. Items such as fans, disposable bed pads and gift cards for grocery stores are needed. To contribute to the "bridge cabinet" or to become involved with the FCEAC, please call David Godfrey at 1-800-200-3633.

ESTILL COUNTY FORMS ELDER ABUSE COUNCIL

Jim and Sheila Wise of Estill County are the chairs for the Estill County Elder Abuse Council. They are both first responders working as paramedics for Estill county E.M.S. and have seen elder abuse first hand. The council has met several times and is looking at doing public outreach concerning elder abuse. The first project they have initiated is the development of a brochure. Currently the Council is meeting the third Monday of every month and is rotating meeting locations to visit all the agencies and businesses involved in the council. For more information or to get involved in this effort you may contact Jim or Sheila Wise at wiseguy@irvineonline.net or 859-749-3046.

SCOTT COUNTY REORGANIZES ELDER ABUSE COUNCIL

What was formerly the Northern Bluegrass Coordinating Council has been reorganized as a subcommittee of Community Connections of Scott County. The council previously covered 7 counties on the northern boundary of the BGADD; it has been reorganized to cover just Scott County in an effort to stimulate county involvement. The new council has been named SCEAT, which stands for Scott County Elder Abuse Team. Martha Wells from Georgetown Health Care Center is the chair. The primary goal of SCEAT is to raise awareness about elder abuse in the community. SCEAT has access to videos dealing with general elder abuse, financial exploitation and one specifically developed to educate law enforcement agencies that they will utilize in their presentations. The group plans to print a brochure and present it to the Community Connections group in May, which is Older American's Month. They are also considering implementing a "Vial of Life" program ("Project Lifesaver") and collecting cell phones for homebound elderly. To get more information about SCEAT, contact Marilyn Grove and the Scott County Senior Center at (502) 863-4041.

WILMORE SELECTS BLUEGRASS ADD FOR GRANT

ADMINISTRATION

The City of Wilmore has selected the Bluegrass Area Development District to provide administration services for two projects to be funded through the Infrastructure for Economic Development Fund for Non-coal Producing Counties Grant Program.

BLUEGRASS ADD-VANTAGE

One project involves a start-up program to begin the purchase and installation of automated water meter reading equipment. The Wilmore Automated Meter Reading Project, expected to cost nearly \$200,000, will include laptop software and metering devices to allow Wilmore to "radio-read" approximately 1,300 water meters in the City's residential and commercial areas.

The second effort, Wilmore's Wastewater Collection System Rehabilitation Project, involves the inspection and repair or rehabilitation of targeted wastewater collection lines in order to reduce the inflow and infiltration (I/I) of storm water and ground water. This project will help the City remain in compliance with the Kentucky Division of Water's requirements to reduce I/I in wastewater collection systems.

These projects are being financed by two Economic Development Fund grants of \$200,000 each, that were awarded by the 2006 General Assembly and processed through the Kentucky Infrastructure Authority. For more information, contact Dave Ewen at the ADD.

GROUND BROKEN AT MADISON COUNTY WEAPONS NEUTRALIZATION PLANT

It has been a long time in coming, but finally, the time has arrived. After years of delay, a ceremonial groundbreaking occurred in late October on the weapons neutralization plant at the Blue Grass Army Depot near Richmond. The ceremony, punctuated by comments from U.S. Senator Mitch McConnell, marked the beginning of the construction of a facility that will destroy tons of deadly chemical weapons. The deadliest materials at the Depot are housed in earth-covered igloos surrounded by a double barbed-wire fence.

The weapons, including mustard gas, sarin, and VX, are leftovers from World War II and from the Cold War era. Some of the weapons have been in storage at the Army Depot for longer than 60 years.

Senator McConnell spoke at a reception in the Keen Johnson Building at Eastern Kentucky University to celebrate the groundbreaking of the \$2 billion neutralization plant. "This is the day we break ground on the disposal facilities for heinous chemical weapons that have threatened this community for as long as they have been stored at the Blue Grass Army Depot," McConnell said. "It has been a hard road to get to where we are today."

In a strange twist of fate, the U. S. Department of Defense announced on November 22 that the federal budget deficit will force still another significant delay in the completion date for the destruction of the chemical weapons stored at the Blue Grass Army Depot at Richmond. This DOD announcement was made subsequent to the ceremonial groundbreaking for the weapons destruction plant. Reduced federal funding would slow the construction of the plant and would likely mean that fewer skilled persons would be hired to run the facility. Rather than operating seven days a week to destroy the weapons quickly, the plant would operate only about four days under the new DOD budget projections. The slowdown proposed by the DOD budget would mean

that the final destruction would not occur until about 2023. Earlier projections made under other earlier budgets would have had the job of weapons destruction completed by 2015. Local officials as well as Kentucky legislators in Washington are seeking to overturn the Department of Defense's latest timetable and to return to the 2015 completion date. Needless to say, it is unlikely that the last word on the program schedule has been uttered.

WILMORE RECEIVES EQUIPMENT FOR WATER INTERCONNECTION PROJECT

The City of Wilmore, following the pre-construction conference and contract signing, has now ordered and received the special equipment needed for the Wilmore / Nicholasville Water Distribution Interconnection project. The equipment was received in late October, and the City requested a drawdown of grant funding in early November to pay the vendor.

Wilmore's 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 on behalf of the City.

For additional information, contact Dave Ewen at the ADD.

HARRODSBURG ENTERS GRANT ADMINISTRATION AGREEMENT WITH ADD

The City of Harrodsburg, the recipient of an Economic Development Fund Grant of \$122,200 for its College Street Sewer Project, has selected the Bluegrass Area Development District to provide grant administration services. The project, as currently planned, will replace the existing 8-inch gravity sewer line along College Street with a 12-inch gravity sewer from manholes 03 to 09. Plans also call for modification of six manholes.

Additional engineering work has indicated that the project may be amended to address the rehabilitation of different sections of line, to better correct the problems that the College Street repair was intended to alleviate. The City and the consulting engineer are presently searching for the most appropriate alternative.

The Economic Development Fund Grant program provides funds for capital improvement projects designated by the 2006 Kentucky General Assembly and will be processed through the Kentucky Infrastructure Authority.

For more information, contact Dave Ewen at the ADD.

OLDER AMERICAN ACT PASSAGE APPLAUDED

The National Association of Area Agencies on Aging (n4a) is pleased that the Older Americans Act Amendments of 2006 were passed by the House and Senate just before recessing until after the elections. "N4a members and advocates across the country are to be commended for their tireless efforts in obtaining the overwhelming bipartisan support necessary to bring the reauthorization measure to the floor in both chambers this late in the session," said Charles Sisson, n4a President.

In the early hours of Saturday, September 30th, the Senate passed the Older Americans Act reauthorization bill (H.R. 6197) under unanimous consent. The House passed the bill on October 5th, and the bill was sent to the President for his signature.

The reauthorization legislation adds valuable new directions to Older Americans Act programs. N4a is particularly pleased that it includes new provisions that will enable Area Agencies on Aging (AAAs) and Title VI Native American aging programs to assist local communities and tribes in preparing for the aging population.

Other positive steps taken include provisions that:

- will embed the "Choices for Independence" initiative within the Act,
- emphasize health promotion and disease prevention activities including new efforts in the area of mental health,
- establish aging and disability resource centers in every state,
- increase authorized funding for the caregiver support programs, and
- enhance elder abuse prevention programs.

"The Older Americans Act Amendments of 2006 aim to meet the needs of current and future older Americans. The bill recognizes the strength of the aging network and the importance of the home and community-based services that the network provides to older Americans and their caregivers," said n4a CEO, Sandy Markwood.

N4a advocates on behalf of the local aging agencies to ensure that needed resources and support services are available to older Americans and their caregivers. For more information, go to www.n4a.org.

JESSAMINE PRESSING ON WITH ACQUISITION OF EASEMENTS

The Jessamine/South Elkhorn Water District and Jessamine County continue their struggle to acquire the easements necessary for construction of the North Jessamine Sewer project, as the County continues to work with the Governor's Office for Local Development in advancing the date required for advertising the project for bid. Significant progress has been achieved in attempting to secure the 90 easements needed, as the County and the Water District continue to work diligently to tie up the few remaining portions of the right-of-way needed for the project.

The sewer project is estimated to carry a construction cost of approximately \$3.29 million and will provide service to 388 building sites in northeastern Jessamine County. 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 were 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 U.S. 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.

TERRILL SEWER PROJECT CONSTRUCTION CONTINUES

Since groundbreaking in August, 2006, construction has been moving ahead on the Terrill Sanitary Sewer Project in Madison County. Work on the main collection system is progressing, and the project is nearing 25 percent overall completion.

The Terrill Sewer Project, a joint effort of the Madison County Fiscal Court and Northern Madison County Sanitation District, 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

JESSAMINE/SOUTH ELKHORN WATER PROJECT MOVES FORWARD

The Jessamine/South Elkhorn Water District is pressing forward with its Southeast Rural Jessamine Unserved Areas water project. Preliminary engineering design has now been completed, and an archaeological survey has been conducted in the service areas. The survey, required by the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), will determine if significant archaeological artifacts would be discovered and could be destroyed in the process of construction. Presently, the archaeological survey team is preparing follow-up data solicited by SHPO.

The project will serve approximately 80 households scattered throughout the more rural areas of Jessamine County that do not have potable water available. These areas are thinly populated, widely scattered and, consequently, difficult to provide service. In addition, because of the availability and hydraulics of the existing system, this project will also provide fire hydrants.

Funding for this project, expected to cost more than \$1.7 million, includes a 2003 Tobacco Development Fund grant of \$800,000 and a 2005 Tobacco Development Fund grant for an additional \$800,000. The remaining financing, \$121,500, will be contributed by the Jessamine/South Elkhorn Water District.

For more information, contact Dave Ewen at the ADD.

NATIONAL FAMILY CAREGIVERS MONTH PROCLAIMED FOR NOVEMBER

Following is the text of President Bush's Proclamation:

"Our country is blessed to have millions of compassionate citizens who bring love and support to family members and friends who are chronically ill, elderly, or disabled. During National Family Caregivers Month, we recognize these kind individuals who give of their hearts, resources, and energy to assist loved ones in need.

"Family caregivers exemplify the true spirit of compassion by providing support to their loved ones and assisting with their everyday activities and special needs. These selfless people must often make great personal sacrifices to maintain the care and support their family and friends require. Their assistance provides those who may be ill, aging, or disabled an opportunity to stay in familiar surroundings and remain a part of their community.

"My Administration is committed to supporting family caregivers and their vital role in our Nation's communities. The National Family Caregiver Support Program continues to provide information, counseling, and services and encourages cooperation among agencies and other providers that work with caregivers. These efforts assist caregivers and help ensure that all Americans receive the care they need.

"As we observe National Family Caregivers Month, we honor family caregivers who take time out of their lives to improve the lives of family and friends. Their efforts demonstrate the best of the American spirit.

"NOW, THEREFORE, I, GEORGE W. BUSH, President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim November 2006 as National Family Caregivers Month. I encourage all Americans to honor the selfless service of caregivers who support their loved ones in need.

"IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this thirtieth day of October, in the year of our Lord two thousand six, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and thirty-first."

LAWRENCEBURG SEWER PROJECT RECEIVES STATE CLEARINGHOUSE REPORT

The City of Lawrenceburg, having selected an engineering firm to provide design and construction services for its Bluegrass Parkway Sewer project, has received a conditional approval for the project from the Kentucky State Clearinghouse. As noted by the State Historic Preservation Office, some sections of the proposed line construction may need to be surveyed for archaeological significance.

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 for treatment at the City of Lawrenceburg's Wastewater Treatment Plant.

Funding for the project comes from an Economic Development Fund grant of \$1,000,000 appropriated by the 2006 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.

UK NAMES HELLER TO LEAD ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT EFFORT

Len Heller, a former University of Kentucky administrator, state government official and entrepreneur, has been named acting head of UK's new Office for Economic Development. Heller will report directly to UK President Lee Todd. It is expected that the ADD's economic development activities can establish linkages with the new UK effort to stimulate the economy.

US 62 HIGHWAY BRIDGE REOPENS TO CONNECT ANDERSON AND WOODFORD COUNTIES

The US 62 highway bridge connecting Anderson County and Woodford County was reopened in late October, to the relief of many. The bridge over the Kentucky River had been closed since late May for \$5.5 million in safety improvements and refurbishing. Cathedral hand railing was installed to make the bridge look more like it did 74 years ago when it was initially constructed.

Travelers who were inconvenienced for months by having to take the long way east or west around this busy route were much relieved by the reopening of the Blackburn Bridge.

TOYOTA CAMRY HYBRID ARRIVES WITHOUT FANFARE

Within the U.S., the Toyota Prius has been a top seller among hybrid automobiles for several consecutive years. In mid-October, the first U.S.-made Camry hybrid rolled off the assembly line at the Georgetown plant.

The Camry hybrid's debut comes after the May, 2005 announcement that the Georgetown plant would be the first to build a hybrid vehicle in the U.S. "The people that already build the best-selling Camry for the U.S. market will help make the Camry hybrid just as successful," said Camry chief engineer Yukihiro Okane. The Georgetown-built Camry hybrid "is going to capture the hearts of many more people in the U.S. and Canada," he said.

The hybrid models run off a rechargeable battery and a gasoline motor, often resulting in better gas mileage than a conventional gasoline-only engine. The engine can also shut off and switch to the battery when the car is standing idle. Some parts for the hybrid's powertrain, such as the 147-pound battery, come from Japan. The powertrains are then assembled at the Georgetown assembly plant.

Job creation from the Camry hybrid model is only about 50 "because it was so well designed to integrate hybrid and gasoline," said TMMK President Steve St. Angelo.

BLUEGRASS ADD-VANTAGE

The Georgetown plant is expected to build about 4,000 hybrid Camrys a month for an annual production of about 48,000 vehicles. That will contribute to an expected target of about 290,000 for all Toyota hybrid models sold next year, said a Toyota spokesman.

ST. JOSEPH HEALTHCARE BREAKS GROUND IN JESSAMINE COUNTY

In a celebrity-filled day, St. Joseph HealthCare broke ground in Nicholasville in late October for the establishment of a new ambulatory care center. The selected site is near the KY 169 intersection with the Nicholasville Bypass.

On hand were Governor Ernie Fletcher, county music star (and Nicholasville resident) John Michael Montgomery, as well as a lengthy list of local officials and other dignitaries. "Good care is close care," said Governor Fletcher who is himself a physician. The care center, scheduled to open in 2008, will provide 24-hour emergency services plus diagnostic imaging, including CT scans and X-rays. Laboratory services and space for several doctors' offices will also be available.

As with other St. Joseph sites, it is planned that images taken in Nicholasville can be electronically linked to Lexington so that specialists there can see them. The care center will not be able to admit overnight patients, but it will be built to hospital standards and codes so that inpatient beds can be added in the future. The care center will have about 300 employees.

Even more medical facilities are being planned for Nicholasville. Associated Healthcare Systems, the parent company of Samaritan Hospital in Lexington, plans to locate an ambulatory care center on Nicholasville's south side. Both St. Joseph and Associated Healthcare want to build 50-bed hospitals in Jessamine County.

BERRY RECEIVES BROADBAND GRANT FROM USDA RURAL UTILITIES SERVICE

Congressman Geoff Davis and representatives of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) jointly presented the City of Berry and SouthEast Telephone with a facsimile check for \$209,891 in late October. The USDA grant program is designated for the creation of broadband networks for rural communities that are currently without high-speed Internet service. The grant will create a technology center on the first and second floors of Berry's City Hall. The center will be equipped with 10 computer workstations to enable Berry residents to access high-speed Internet free of charge. Moreover, the grant provides free broadband access to critical community services such as fire, law enforcement, and emergency services.

On an earlier occasion, Governor Ernie Fletcher said that the *Community Connect* grants would give communities access to the world of resources available on the Internet. "My administration is committed to full broadband deployment for every Kentucky community, and these grants support Kentucky's *Prescription for Innovation* to help ensure that no community is left behind," he said.

PRIDE WANTS YOU TO RESOLVE TO REDUCE YOUR WASTE LINE!

After the excess of the holiday season and in keeping with the holiday tradition, Bluegrass PRIDE is inviting Central Kentucky residents to make a few New Year's Resolutions with their community in mind. Kentuckians produce more waste and recycle less than the national average. Everyone plays a role in this problem, so PRIDE is asking all Central Kentuckians to make resolutions to reduce household waste.

To participate in Bluegrass PRIDE's resolution program, review the form below. Check off the resolution(s) to which you will commit for 2007, sign the form and mail it to PRIDE at: PO Box 910384, Lexington, KY 40591. You can also complete the form and find support information for many of the resolutions on PRIDE's website, www.KentuckyPRIDE.com. Resolution forms received by January 31, 2007 will be entered in a drawing to win prizes such as PRIDE tote bags, reusable lunch containers, composters, gift certificates, and more!

I/we resolve to:

- Use reusable travel mugs when getting beverages to go
- Encourage businesses I/we frequent to start or expand recycling programs
- Use rechargeable batteries and then properly dispose of them
- Replace disposable paper coffee filters with a permanent gold, stainless steel coffee filter for your coffee maker
- Reduce packaging waste by buying in bulk
- Buy items that are marked as made from Post Consumer Recycled Material
- Start a compost pile or a worm bin to reduce the amount of food scraps thrown away
- Start a recycling program at my place of work to recycle paper, ink cartridges, CDs, aluminum and steel cans, plastic bottles, and cardboard
- Organize/participate in a neighborhood clean up
- Consider borrowing or renting materials instead of purchasing them
- Donate unwanted items to thrift stores or join free exchange website such as www.freecycle.org

Signature _____ Phone _____
 Printed Name _____ e-mail _____

PLEASE NOTE: Contact information will not be rented or sold to third parties.

- Please check if you would like Bluegrass PRIDE to follow up on your waste reduction resolve.
- Please check if PRIDE may recognize your commitment on our website and in our newsletter, *StreamLine*.
- Please check if you would like to receive PRIDE's newsletter, *StreamLine*.

MEETING CALL

Natural Resources & Environmental Protection Advisory Committee	12/13 4:15 p.m.
Executive Board	12/18 11:00 a.m.
Homeland Security Council	12/20 2:00 p.m.
Regional Planning Council	1/3/2007 4:00 p.m.
Regional Transportation Advisory Committee	1/8/2007 1:30 p.m.
Tourism, Historic Preservation, Recreation Advisory Committee	1/9/2007 10:00 a.m.
Aging Council	1/10/2007 10:00 a.m.
Development Advisory Committee	1/16/2007 2:00 p.m.
Board of Directors	1/31/2007 6:30 p.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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