

A Publication of the Bluegrass Area Development District

# BLUEGRASS

A D D - V A N T A G E

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## LENNY STOLTZ RECOGNIZED BY BLUEGRASS TOMORROW

This year's Josephine Abercrombie Award was presented by *Bluegrass Tomorrow* to Lenny Stoltz II, Executive Director of the Bluegrass Area Development District. ADD staff members were on hand at Bluegrass Tomorrow's annual breakfast meeting to witness the presentation.

The Award, established in 2001, is presented each year to "an individual who exhibits vision, has demonstrated superior commitment and dedication and has given selflessly to improve the Bluegrass Region". According to Rob Rumpke, President/CEO of *Bluegrass Tomorrow*, the Abercrombie Award is the organization's highest honor.



Ron Trischler, (left) Chairman, Bluegrass Tomorrow Board of Directors presenting award to Lenny Stoltz.

Other individual winners of this year's Vision Awards were Jay McChord, Dick Robinson and Craig Browning. Winning institutions and organizations included the Mercer County Community Advancement Partnership, Kentucky Riverkeepers, Centre College, the Lyric Theatre in Lexington and the University of Kentucky. Dr. August Julian was presented with the Robert N. Clay President's Award for her commitment to active participation in and support of Bluegrass Tomorrow.

BLUEGRASS ADD-VANTAGE

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## **FHWA ROAD SIGN DEADLINES APPROACHING**

There has been much misinformation regarding pending Federal Highway Administration requirements that local municipalities and county agencies have a road sign reflectivity management program in place by January 2012. While there has been an outcry from local governments opposing the implementation of these new requirements as cost prohibitive, as of this time the deadlines remain unchanged.

Retroreflectivity refers to a highway sign's nighttime ability to reflect light directly back to the vehicle operator, which greatly improves sign visibility and driver safety. This reflective ability degrades over time based on the materials used, weather conditions, angle of the sign relative to the sun and sign age. It is therefore necessary to monitor these signs and replace them when appropriate.

### **Program Requirements:**

January 2012: Establishment of a sign maintenance plan that addresses, on a recurring basis, the new minimum requirements.

January 2015: Compliance with new requirements for all red and white regulatory signs, such as stop and speed limit signs, yellow warning signs and green/white guide signs.

January 2018: Compliance with new requirements for overhead guide signs and street name signs.

The Bluegrass ADD is currently developing several GPS-based programs designed to help member jurisdictions quickly and cost-effectively meet pending 2012 federal requirements. By taking advantage of ADD personnel, software and test equipment, interested counties can share the cost of compliance, improving efficiency and reducing individual expense.

For more information contact Bruce Duncan, Transportation Director, or Michael Koenig, GIS Specialist

## **RIDLEY RECEIVES RISING STAR AWARD**

BGADD staff member Margaret Ridley recently received the 2011 Rising Star award from the Lexington Young Professionals Association (LYPA). The LYPA Rising Stars program is designed to honor individuals under the age of 40 who are emerging leaders in the Lexington community. Margaret was selected for her commitment to impacting the community in a positive manner through professional and non-

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professional service and achievement. She was recognized at the LYPA Awards Banquet on September 21.

Margaret is a Public Administration Specialist at the ADD. She provides technical support on various local government issues as well as grant writing and administration functions to the 17 counties and 33 cities of the BGADD. She also



serves as the staff director for the ADD's Tourism, Historic Preservation, and Recreation Advisory Committee (THRAC).

In addition to her daily work at the BGADD, Margaret is very active in the community. She is currently chair of the Ronald McDonald House Red Shoe Society and a member of the Lexington Library Young Professionals Committee, the Maker's Mark Secretariat Center Committee and Eastern Kentucky University's Master of Public Administration Advisory Committee. Margaret is also a Certified Tourism Ambassador for the Lexington Convention and Visitors Bureau and a United Way "Get on Board" graduate. She holds a Masters degree of Public Administration from Eastern Kentucky University and a bachelor's degree in History and Geography from Samford University.

### **ADD STAFF TRAINED IN DEMENTIA CARE**

Three staff members from the ADD Department of Aging - Loretta Henderson, Jamie Peck and Lydia Jacobs -- recently received training in dementia care. At *Essentials of Dementia Care: Train the Trainer*, hosted by the Alzheimer's Association, they were introduced to the four types of dementia: Alzheimer's disease, vascular dementia, Lewy body dementia and frontotemporal dementia. The program also included training in communicating with and relating to dementia sufferers, as well as preventing and responding to challenging behaviors.

Henderson, Peck and Jacobs will train other ADD staff members who will then be equipped to assist clients and their caregivers in understanding the disease. **November is National Alzheimer's Disease Awareness Month and National Family Caregivers Month.**

### **FUTURE OF RUPP ARENA, DOWNTOWN ENTERTAINMENT DISTRICT UNDER STUDY**

Downtown Lexington is the focus of a master design plan commissioned by the Arena, Arts and Entertainment Task Force. Gary Bates of SpaceGroup, a Norway-based architectural and design firm, said at an introductory meeting on September 7 that no decision has yet been made on the future of Rupp Arena and "all options are on the table".

Bates, who held the Brown Forman Chair in Urban Design at the University of Kentucky in 2008-2009, is familiar with Rupp and its significance to both the university and the wider Bluegrass community. He expects to present preliminary ideas within the next few months, based on input from the task force, stakeholders and the general public as well as feasibility studies and internal research. Task force members stressed the long-term importance of the area and the need to "think big".

### **ON-THE-JOB TRAINING PROGRAM CREATES SUCCESSFUL PARTNERSHIPS**

Mickie Sullivan worked for the Census Bureau for over a year. When her job ended in July of 2010, she began drawing unemployment insurance, which expired after eleven months. After many job searches at the Danville office of the Central Kentucky Career Center, Center staff suggested she complete an application with National Office Furniture (NOF), a company which had recently signed an On-the-Job Training (OJT) contract with the Center. Sullivan was offered full time employment with NOF in June 2011 and completed her OJT in early September. She is currently working 40+ hours per week as a CNC Operator, where her employer considers her to be one of the hardest working operators on staff.

Jennifer Baker worked for Outcomes in Stanford, Kentucky for nearly four years as a Health Advocate. In May 2010 she was dislocated from her job. Eager to find employment and using the Central Kentucky Career Center services in Danville for job search assistance, Jennifer also applied for an NOF

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opening as a Sewing Operator. She was offered employment In late July 2011 and completed her OJT in October. Baker says she feels confident in her employment with NOF and is grateful to have had this opportunity to come her way. Both women are earning an hourly wage of \$10 plus incentives based on their weekly production levels.

## **CDBG FUNDS FOR COMMUNITY PROJECTS IN THE BLUEGRASS**

Is your Senior Center in need of renovation? Is there a vacant building that you would like to turn into an arts facility or community center? Is there a historic downtown theater that needs to be updated? There may be a grant opportunity available for you!

The US Department of Housing and Urban Development offers Community Development Block Grants (CDBG) each year. Community Projects funding is awarded to projects that address human service needs and provide facilities and services to low-income persons, eliminate slum or blight or meet another urgent need in the community. All cities and counties, with the exception of entitlement communities, are eligible to apply for the funds.

For more information on applying or to see if your community is eligible, contact Margaret Ridley at [mridley@bgadd.org](mailto:mridley@bgadd.org).

## **ADD AVAILABLE TO ASSIST WITH TECHNOLOGY CHALLENGES**

Today's technology offers many tools that can improve the effectiveness and efficiency of local government but require technical resources or financial means not readily available in many communities. The ADD's highly-trained and experienced GIS and IT staff have the technical expertise to support public officials in providing the best possible service to their constituents. Programs and documents can often be provided in traditional printed as well as electronic form, and many can be designed to run on mobile devices so they can be used directly by work crews in the field, with the capability of editing on the fly and in real time.

Available services include:

- Web-based maps offering residents internet access to information such as voting districts and poll

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locations, elected officials, school districts, bus routes, governmental departments, city limits and PVA info and more, customizable to the community's specific needs.

- Water District, 911 First Responder and Storm & Sanitary Sewer District maps and map books, available as printed and electronic documents, on the internet and for mobile devices.
- Virtual reality walk-throughs of critical facilities and public buildings for use by emergency responders, password protected and internet accessible.
- Development and maintenance of 911 Call Center electronic maps.
- Web page creation and maintenance.
- IT services and maintenance.

For more information, contact Shane New or James Whisenhunt

## **BLUEGRASS PRIDE COMMUNITY GRANTS NOW AVAILABLE**

Bluegrass PRIDE is a non-profit organization that provides environmental resources and information to schools, community groups, local governments and citizens in Central Kentucky. Through a partnership with Congressman Ben Chandler and the Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC), PRIDE will be providing community grants to local governments, public entities and non-profit groups for projects that will result in a cleaner, healthier environment for the shared ARC/Bluegrass PRIDE counties. These grants will be available for the cleanup and restoration of illegal dump sites, riparian habitat restoration, the establishment or expansion of recycling programs, wetland construction and other similar projects.

Reimbursement grants of up to \$10,000 will be awarded to eligible counties of Clark, Estill, Garrard, Lincoln, Madison and Powell. A 20% match is required for ARC distressed counties, with a 50% match required for all others. The local match can be donated in materials, in-kind labor, equipment and/ or cash. Grant applications are due January 6, 2012.

For more information, contact Margaret Ridley at [mridley@bgadd.org](mailto:mridley@bgadd.org)

## TWO KENTUCKY LEGISLATORS HONORED FOR THEIR WORK WITH THE AGING AND DISABLED

Representative Susan Westrom (KY H-79) was honored on October 27 with the Mayfair Manor Signature Health Care Hall of Fame Award for her outstanding community involvement and personal achievements. Rep. Westrom earned both Bachelors and Masters degrees in Social Work from the University of Kentucky and has been a staunch advocate for seniors, children and families. She has also diligently pursued legislation on a broad array of topics including bills related to small business, real estate, health and welfare, medical issues and



*Rep. Susan Westrom with  
Melissa Moore, Mayfair  
Manor*

consumer protection. Rep. Westrom sponsored legislation that was instrumental in the development of ITN Bluegrass, the regional affiliate of the Independent Transportation Network. The passage of her bill enabled ITN volunteers to use their own vehicles to provide rides to members by exempting them from commercial insurance requirements. ITN Bluegrass has been able to provide over 10,000 rides as a result of Rep. Westrom's support.

State Representative Jimmie Lee (KY H-25) was honored with an award from the National Adult Day Services Association (NASDA), which solicits nominations for champions of adult day care from across the country. Rep. Lee received this award at the national conference held in Milwaukee Wisconsin on September 24. He has worked closely with the Kentucky Association of Adult Day Care to promote this community-based option for the elderly and individuals with developmental disabilities, and in 2006 lead the way for a vital rate increase for medical model Adult Day Care facilities. Adult day care programs provide a safe, stimulating environment for individuals who require ongoing supervision and much-needed respite for their caregivers.

## BREAKING GROUND FOR DOWNTOWN LEXINGTON DISTILLERY PROJECT

A new distillery near the site of Alltech's Kentucky Ale facility in downtown Lexington will produce the first bourbon to come out of the city in nearly 100 years, according to

company president Pearse Lyons. Construction of the \$4.5 million facility, which began in September, is expected to continue through fall of 2012. Products will include Town Branch Bourbon, named for the stream that runs under downtown Lexington, Pearse Lyons Reserve whiskey and Bluegrass Sundown, a bourbon and coffee beverage.

Alltech has already begun producing the bourbon, now aging in a warehouse in Bardstown. It will be moved to a recently-purchased commercial building in Lexington when production begins in the new facility. Lyons says he hopes the new distillery, which will be built of Kentucky limestone with glass walls showcasing the stills and tanks, will become a tourist destination. The expansion is expected to create about twelve new permanent jobs and 50 temporary construction jobs.

### EMPLOYEE PROFILE

**Name:** Kim Carman

**Title:** WIA Financial Quality Control Specialist

**Department:** WIA

**Birthday:** November 20

**Years w/ ADD:** 1 1/2

**Hobbies:** I enjoy exercising, reading, all kinds of outdoor activities including tennis and jogging, concerts, writing, bourbon, and KY basketball, both UK and U of L. I attend Southland Christian Church.

**Favorite TV Show:** House, NFL football, 2 ½ Men, Grey's Anatomy

I was laid off from Sunbelt Rentals in 2009 due to the economic downturn, and while drawing unemployment, made an appointment with Amy Glasscock, Workforce Specialist at the Lexington Career Center. Amy was very helpful in sending me job leads and, as it turned out, my current position here at the ADD was one of those leads. I interviewed with Nancye and was immensely excited when offered this particular job, because it combines my Accounts Payable background with my interest and passion for the field



of Human Resources/Workforce Investment. I enjoy meeting all kinds of people and love to write essays or articles about subjects that interest me or that I feel strongly about. I'm glad to be a part of the WIA team and the BGADD staff!

### **ANDERSON COUNTY AWARDED GRANT TO IMPROVE ANIMAL SHELTER**

Anderson County Fiscal Court's animal shelter was recently awarded funds from the Department of Agriculture for Animal Shelter Construction and Improvement, with the help of a grant application submitted by the ADD. The Shelter is to receive \$55,000 towards renovations and upgrades to the current facility, including the installation of permanent siding to adequately heat and cool the kennel area, improvement of kennel floors and fencing and the addition of an animal entrance. Upgrades to the Shelter will elevate the quality of care to the animals, increase the potential for adoption and improve the overall environment for animals and county employees.

### **BURGIN OPENS BIDS FOR WATER DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT**

A bid opening for the Burgin Water Distribution System Improvements Project was held at Burgin City Hall on November 15. The project will address a number of deficiencies in the Burgin water distribution system including numerous small galvanized water lines, several dead-end lines, low pressures and flows during times of heavy demand, low or non-existent chlorine residuals in some areas, periodic service outages, leaded joints, inadequate spacing of fire hydrants and frequent breaks and leaks.

The project will install approximately 12,160 linear feet of 6-inch PVC water line, 24 6-inch gates valves, four 4-inch gate valves, ten wet taps and two dry taps of existing water lines, ten fire hydrants, five street crossings/reconnections of customer service lines and four highway bores.

The project is funded by \$332,000 from the HUD Community Development Block Grant program, \$329,000 from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and \$10,000 from the City of Burgin.

Contact Betsy Laski at [blaski@bgadd.org](mailto:blaski@bgadd.org)

## **EDA GRANT TO CONSTRUCT WATER TANK IN LAWRENCEBURG**

The City of Lawrenceburg has been awarded a \$1.1 million Disaster Relief Opportunity grant from the Economic Development Administration. The funds will be used to construct a 500,000 gallon elevated water tank.

In May 2010, heavy rain and flooding along the Kentucky River severely impacted Wild Turkey distillery operations and increased water demands on the city system, resulting in operational changes at the city's water treatment plant and forcing the water treatment plant to add a third shift to meet the demands of the community's water customers. The new water tank will ensure that the needs of residents and industrial customers are met. The project is a long-term solution to water supply issues during times of flooding or other disasters, when access to water could be jeopardized for the city's municipal water customers, the Distillery and the Lawrenceburg-Anderson County Economic Development Authority's industrial park, and is crucial for industrial expansion and for job creation in the area.

## **BLUEGRASS ADD PRESENTS CHARACTER FIRST! AWARDS**

Margaret Ridley, Public Administration Specialist at BGADD, has continually exemplified a presence of joyfulness since starting at the ADD approximately one year ago. She can be found humming a tune at the coffee pot or laughing her way through adversity to complete a grant application, but in all she does she exemplifies joy. Her positive attitude reflects beyond the walls of the Bluegrass ADD and has helped elevate the reputation and status of our organization. In the fall of 2011, Margaret received the Rising Star Award from the Lexington Young Professionals Association. More recently she was appointed by Governor Beshear to the Kentucky Artisan Center Authority Board. These awards are a reflection of the joyful attitude that Margaret displays in her life, and they help elevate awareness of the mission and activities of the Bluegrass ADD.

Karyn Leverenz has exemplified the quality of benevolence since the day she began at the ADD. She is constantly seeking to help others with their work and has been recognized across the department as a team player. While interviewing

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for an internship, she mentioned her passion to work with or help animal shelters in the region. Given permission to spend some time researching animal shelter opportunities, Karyn and Margaret partnered to find a way to make a difference in Anderson County. Their research recently resulted in a \$55,000 grant for Anderson County from the Kentucky Department



of Agriculture to make improvements to its animal shelter, including providing heat and air conditioning for animals housed there. Karyn’s actions have demonstrated her benevolence to all creatures both great and small.

**HOMELAND SECURITY GRANT RECIPIENTS ANNOUNCED**

The Kentucky Office of Homeland Security has announced recipients of its 2011-12 Homeland Security Grants. The Office had \$4.1 million dollars available for distribution after Kentucky’s allocation was reduced 58% by the U S Department of Homeland Security (DHS ), and received 303 applications totaling \$28.8 million in requests. Nearly 20 percent of the state’s available funding was awarded to Bluegrass cities and counties:

Anderson County	\$35,000	Harrison County	\$39,000
Boyle County	\$7,000	Berea	\$39,000
Winchester	\$42,000	Madison County	\$35,000
Fayette County	\$360,800	Mercer County Fire	\$28,000
Frankfort	\$38,000	Nicholas County	\$40,000
Franklin County	\$39,500	Woodford County	<u>\$30,000</u>
Garrard County	\$44,000	Total	\$775,500

**MADISON AIRPORT GETS PAINT JOB; TRAFFIC, FUEL SALES UP**

Sales of jet fuel at the Madison Airport more than doubled from August to September, airport manager Jason Bonham reported at a meeting of the Airport Board on October 4. Bonham is an employee of Eastern Kentucky University, which assumed management of the airport in August.

Bonham stated that the facility sold 1,560 gallons of jet fuel in September, 874 more than the month before. Regular aviation fuel sales were also up 220 gallons to 4,397. He attributed the increased sales to new marketing efforts and to keeping prices low.

Having an automobile for fliers to use after landing has also helped generate business for the airport, according to board chair Dr. Wilma Walker. She expressed the board's appreciation of the Richmond City Commission's recent donation of a decommissioned police cruiser for the airport's use.

Fuel sales are not the only things looking brighter at the airport, Walker added. The airport's hangar/office building recently improved its exterior appearance with a new coat of paint. The painting, done by Steve Mahan of Lexington at a cost of \$15,639, was authorized by the board in September.

The Board discussed additional improvements to the building including office interior painting, installation of an awning and a plumbing upgrade. It also tentatively agreed to spend about \$3,500 for an update of the facility's stormwater and groundwater management plan as required by the state Division of Water. Trimming of the new pavement edges of the airport, which have been found to be too high, also is planned for the near future, Walker said. The work will require closing of the runway for about two days.

Three Board members, Walker, Dr. Adrienne Millett and Ken Schwendeman, were present for the regularly scheduled meeting, and one, Chester Powell, participated via telephone conference. Board secretary George Wyatt was unavailable.

## **CENTRAL KENTUCKY CAREER CENTER CONNECTS EMPLOYERS, JOBSEEKERS**

Central Kentucky Career Center staff conducted a career fair on Saturday, October 1 to assist in recruiting entry level employees for Nicholasville manufacturer Rock Tenn. Working with human resources manager Andrea McDaniel, WIA Business Services Specialist Erica Sluder organized the event to help find qualified applicants for the packaging and paperboard manufacturing facility.

Rock Tenn hoped to fill fifteen openings with a beginning hourly pay rate of \$13.86. The three-hour job fair, held at the Jessamine County Area Career and Technical Center, attracted 284 applicants. Rock Tenn interviewed approximately 70

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people on site and came away with 30 potential new hires. As of the end of October, four applicants were identified for employment offers, with a start date in mid-November.

McDaniel applauded Sluder and the Career Center staff for its assistance with the event. "You and your group are what made it a success," she said. "Everything went really smoothly and we owe it all to you."

Career Center staff also assisted General Electric's Lexington Lamp Plant with a hiring event on November 1 to fill several Machine Operator positions. The event, held at the Embassy Suites in Lexington, attracted 71 applicants. Career Center staff assisted applicants with registration in the FocusCareer jobseeker system and completion of GE's online assessment. 41 jobseekers who passed the initial skills assessment were scheduled for a second follow-up assessment at the Lexington Career Center in the following days.

This is the second GE hiring event led by Career Center staff, the result of an excellent relationship created through job posting and application administration that has led to the Center's increased role in GE recruitment of local talent.

The Frankfort office of the Central Kentucky Career Center also partnered with the Paul Sawyer Library to host a career fair on November 5. A total of 110 job seekers attended, seeking job opportunities with the National Guard, Employment Plus, Pizza Hut, Integrity Staffing, Lowe's, the Paul Sawyer Public Library, Forever Communication, Chiro One Wellness Center and the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

#### **BLUEGRASS ARMED FORCES COMMUNITY COVENANT TO SUPPORT MILITARY, FAMILIES**

The Bluegrass Armed Forces Community Covenant was signed by all County Judge-Executives and Mayors in the Bluegrass ADD in February 2010, establishing a committee designed to foster and sustain community partnerships to improve the quality of life for military members and their families in the Bluegrass region. The ADD has supported the Covenant Committee in the form of space on our website, which will soon feature a copy of a recently designed brochure.

Covenant Committee members will be working to solicit local businesses and organizations for donations for deployed military members. They are seeking discounts on goods and services, encouraging acceptance of TriCare insurance

by health service providers and encouraging “adoption” of military families. The Covenant Committee does not intend to duplicate the role of other organizations; instead, its mission is to offer support at the community level for our region’s military members and families. Bluegrass region businesses, civic groups and individuals are encouraged to participate in any way they can.

For more information, visit [http://bgadd.org/community\\_covenant.htm](http://bgadd.org/community_covenant.htm)

### **BOYLE COUNTY/LINCOLN COUNTY SEWER PROJECT COMPLETED**

The Phylben Village-Airport Road Sewer Project in Boyle and Lincoln Counties is complete. Construction began at the end of August 2010 and was determined substantially complete on June 16, 2011, with a one year warranty which will expire June 15, 2012. The project was a combined effort by Boyle and Lincoln Counties and the City of Danville, initiated when health department environmentalists from both counties concurred that the concentration of lots with septic tanks in the project area constituted a public health hazard.

The completed project brings a new sanitary sewage collection and conveyance system to 170 residential and four commercial customers in the Phylben Village-Airport Road area of southern Boyle County/northwestern Lincoln County. 86 of the 170 residential customers are in Boyle County and 84 are in Lincoln County. Each of the project beneficiaries were already customers of the Danville water system and are now new Danville sewer customers. In addition, a large diameter Junction City-to-Danville interceptor sewer line, also completed using CDBG funds, transmits the collected wastewaters north to the Danville wastewater treatment plant.

The project was funded by a \$1.3 million HUD Community Development Block Grant, a \$1.074 million loan/grant combination from USDA Rural Development, a \$500,000 from the Appalachian Rural Commission and \$10,000 each from Boyle and Lincoln Counties.

For more information, contact Betsy Laski at [blaski@bgadd.org](mailto:blaski@bgadd.org)

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**DECEMBER 2011 - JANUARY 2010 MEETINGS**

Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Advisory Committee	12/7 3pm
Workforce Investment Board	12/20 9am
Homeland Security Advisory Council	12/21 1pm
Board meeting	12/14 10am
BRPC	1/4 11am
Regional Transportation Committee	1/9 1:30pm
THRAC	1/10 10am
Workforce Investment Board (WIB)	1/17 9am
409 Council	1/20 9:30am
Board Meeting	1/25 7pm

All meeting dates/times are subject to change.  
Unless otherwise noted, meetings are held in the  
ADD conference room.

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Chair  
Judge/Executive Donnie Foley

Vice-Chair  
Mayor Edwinna Baker

Secretary  
Judge/Executive John Wilson

Treasurer  
Mayor Russ Meyer

Executive Director  
Lenny P. Stoltz II

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