



The **RAIL** **SPLITTER**

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Lincoln Trail Area Development District

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CHR REPRESENTATIVES ATTEND AUGUST BOARD MEETING

The Lincoln Trail Area Development District Board of Directors welcomed three officials from the Kentucky Cabinet for Human Resources (CHR) to the August, 1994 Board meeting. The officials attending were: Commissioner John Clayton, Department for Social Insurance; Deputy Commissioner Kathleen Noe, Department for Mental Health and Retardation; and Deputy Commissioner Ed Miller, Department of Employment Services. Throughout the summer, CHR officials have attended Area Development District meetings across the state to update local officials and representatives on the activities of the cabinet and to solicit feedback regarding the cabinet's performance.

WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE ON AGING



Thelma Chelf, Chairperson of the Lincoln Trail Human Resource Council makes a presentation at the Regional White House Conference on Aging.

The regional White House Conference on Aging was held on August 4, 1994 in Owensboro. Thelma Chelf, Chairperson of the Lincoln Trail Human Resource Council presented the comments received from the Lincoln Trail District's Conference which was held in May. Those present at the Conference included: senior citizens from the Lincoln Trail, Barren River and Green River Districts; representatives from the offices of U.S. Senator Wendell Ford and U.S. Representatives Ron Lewis, 2nd District, and Tom Barlow, 1st District; representatives of service provider agencies; staff of Western Kentucky University; and many other interested persons.

The statewide conference was held on September 21-22, 1994 in Louisville. Several individuals from the Lincoln Trail District were in attendance representing the Aging Advisory Council, contract agencies, LTADD staff, community volunteers and others. Kentucky is privileged to have been chosen to be a site for the eight state Southeast Region Mini White House

Conference on Aging which will be held on October 11, 1994 at the Galt House East in Louisville from 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. The forum will be conducted by the Executive Director of the 1995 White House Conference on Aging, Bob Blancato. Everyone is encouraged to attend this forum and participate in the shaping of services for the next decade.

ADD STAFF NEWS

Welcome to the following persons who have recently joined the LTADD staff:

Chris Berry, JTPA Fiscal Officer

Kim Meyer, Regional Land Use Planner

Amy Sipes, Secretary

Congratulations to Dana Medley, Executive Secretary, and her husband Chris, on the birth of their daughter, **Hayley Rose Medley**, on July 14, 1994.

KY TOURISM

The Kentucky Tourism Council's Fall Conference on Tourism will feature a strong lineup of nationally recognized speakers.

The conference, scheduled for October 24-26 in Lexington, will emphasize information useful for community leaders who want to get more involved in developing tourism. A wide variety of educational sessions are on tap, with topics ranging from marketing and hospitality training to office administration and ethics reform. The conference is organized with the state Tourism Cabinet's participation.

Highlights will include announcement of plans for a statewide conference next summer preceding the first-ever national White House Conference on Tourism. The national conference also will be previewed.

Among scheduled speakers is Michael Jenkins, of the Dallas-based development company Leisure and Recreation Concepts. Others include Ed Griffin Jr., vice president of Meeting Professionals International; Roger Dow, vice president and general sales manager for Marriott Hotels, Resorts and Suites; and travel writer Steve Millburg, who covers Kentucky for Southern Living Magazine.

The conference will be held at the Lexington Marriott's Griffin Gate Resort. Registration for non-members is \$200. For more information, contact the Kentucky Tourism Council at (502) 339-7177.

SALT RIVER ELECTRIC RECEIVES \$400,00 GRANT

The Salt River Electric Cooperative Corporation of Bardstown was notified on August 25, 1994, that the Cooperative had been selected as the recipient of a \$400,000 grant under the Rural Electrification Administration's (REA) Rural Economic Development Loan and Grant Program. Salt River will use the grant to establish a revolving loan fund which will serve to Cooperative's service area of Bullitt, Spencer, Nelson and Washington Counties.

In accordance with Salt River's application, the initial loan from the fund will be used to assist the Kentucky Turnpike Water District in financing the construction of 20 miles of water lines, a pumping station and an elevated water tank. The Water District is located in Bullitt County. The Cooperative will be able to utilize recaptured funds on other projects in the service area.

The REA program is designed to promote rural economic development and job creation projects. Rural economic development is further defined as job creation or preservation of community facilities improvement projects in a rural area. Salt River's successful application will ensure that another resource exists for community and economic development purposes in the Lincoln Trail Region.

1994 GOVERNOR'S PACESETTERS HEALTH FESTIVAL

The 1994 Governor's Pacesetters Health Festival was held in conjunction with the Kentucky Bluegrass State Games on July 29, 1994, at the Civic Center in Frankfort. Serving as the Master of Ceremonies for the festival was Masten Childers, II, Secretary of the Cabinet for Human Resources. Secretary Childers opened the event with the presentation of Pacesetters Awards, the lighting of the torch for the Bluegrass State Games and the Pacesetters Parade of Colors. The Pacesetters Awards are given to individuals age 55 years and older who excel in the following areas: 1) Most Miles Walked, 2) Most Miles Walked - Physically Challenged, 3) Oldest Active Pacesetters, 4) Pacesetter Motivator, and 5) 1,000-Mile Certificates.

The Pacesetters also had the opportunity to participate in many activities, including: the Skeeter Johnson Dance Clinic, the walk around downtown Frankfort, trolley rides, arts and crafts booths, informational booths, a health fair, and special entertainment that was provided by other senior citizen clubs from across the Commonwealth.

LOCAL RECORDS GRANTS ANNOUNCED

The Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives recently announced that 49 public agencies from across the Commonwealth had been awarded Local Records grants totaling \$519,382. Three of the recipients were from the Lincoln Trail Area. These entities and their projects included:

*The City of Bloomfield - \$4,645 for ordinance codification services.

*The City of Caneyville - \$4,645 for ordinance codification services.

*The City of Muldraugh - \$1,822 to microfilm records according to state archival standards, to produce public use copies of the microfilm, and to purchase records retrieval equipment for the city clerk's office.

STATEWIDE SENIOR GAMES HELD IN ELIZABETHTOWN

The statewide Senior Games were held in Elizabethtown on September 23-25. The Games were made up of 24 events, including: track and field events, bowling, golf, and swimming. Along with sports activities participants in the games were treated to local food and entertainment.

Over 300 persons participated in the Games and brought with them other friends and family members to cheer them on!

The Kentucky Senior Games will serve as the qualifier for the National Senior Games scheduled to take place in San Antonio, Texas in May of 1995.

REVOLVING LOAN PROJECTS APPROVED

The Lincoln Trail Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) had two projects approved during July and August which will add an additional 45 jobs to the region's workforce. On July 20, 1994 the LTADD Board of Director's approved a loan in the amount of \$70,000 to Chris's Creations of Bardstown, a local cabinet manufacturer. The firm will add another 30 positions to its current workforce; the result of a \$2.6 million investment. Chris's Creations is a "home-grown" industry, having started in the principals' home in 1978. Since its establishment, the business has succeeded to a point where sales in 1993 exceeded \$2.6 million!

At its August 17, 1994 meeting, the LTADD Board approved two RLF actions. The first involved an allocation of an additional \$30,000 to the Chris's Creations project, and the second resulted in the approval of a loan to the Lincoln Tool Company of Hodgenville. The loan was in the amount of \$100,000 and will be used to purchase additional equipment. The project costs will total \$650,000. The business will be the newest addition to the LaRue County Industrial Park. The job creation totals are projected to be around 13 after the second year of operation.

Since its inception, the LTADD RLF has made 19 loans totaling over \$1.1 million. The RLF was created in 1988, with the primary funding being a \$500,000 grant from the Economic Development Administration.

NELSON COUNTY RECEIVES CDBG FOR WATER LINE EXTENSION

The Nelson County Fiscal Court has received approval for a \$299,620 Community Development Block Grant from the Department of Local Government to extend 18.1 miles of six and four inch water lines and to construct a 100,000 gallon water storage tank in rural Nelson County. The Larue County Water District, in cooperation with the Nelson County Fiscal Court and the Bardstown Municipal Water System will provide treated water to the Nelsonville community. The County has also applied for \$608,000 in Farmers Home Administration funds to offset the total estimated project cost. The project will serve approximately 238 new customers.

ETHICS TRAINING HELD

A training session aimed at providing information about and assistance in the preparation and adoption of Ethics Codes and Investment Policies for local governments was held at the Lincoln Trail ADD Offices on August 24, 1994. A large crowd representing 14 cities and four counties from across the Lincoln Trail Region participated in the session.

The training was conducted by Orlie Wright, Jr., Deputy Commissioner of the Department of Local Government (DLG), Tom Armstrong, State Local Finance Officer (also with DLG), Bill Thielen, General Counsel for the Kentucky League of Cities, and Karen Garrison, Legislative Coordinator for the Kentucky Association of Counties.

Those in attendance received comprehensive information about the legislation enacted by the Kentucky General Assembly during the 1994 session that mandates local governments to establish a Code of Ethics and an Investment Policy by January 1, 1995. Participants received sample documents and information to use as guides for the development of their local codes and policies, and utilized the opportunity to ask questions and receive advice pertaining to their local needs and concerns with regard to these issues.

MARION COUNTY INDUSTRIAL FOUNDATION GRANT AWARD ANNOUNCED

United States Senator Wendell Ford announced on August 24, 1994, that the Marion County Industrial Foundation will receive a \$112,500 grant from the U.S. Department of Commerce. Specifically, the grant will come from funds authorized under the Economic Development Administration's Title IX, Sudden and Severe Economic Dislocation (SSED) Program.

The funding will be used to partially offset the costs of purchasing a vacant building in the Lebanon/Marion County Industrial Park. The 10,000 square foot building will house a new industry for approximately 24 months while the company constructs a new facility nearby. The building will then be used as a spec/incubator facility for the community to attract additional industry.

The grant award will enable the community to implement their strategic plan and partially offset the loss of two garment manufacturing firms in the last two years. The closing of these firms resulted in an immediate loss of approximately 370 jobs. At one time, the same companies employed as many as 700 persons.

In announcing the grants, Senator Ford said, "I'm pleased the city will be receiving these important funds. Attracting new industries is one of the keys to expanding the community's economic base and job opportunities. We have to do all we can to spur this economic growth and I see this project as an important step in that direction."

MEADE COUNTY RECYCLING CENTER A SUCCESS

Meade County opened the doors of its new recycling center on April, 1, 1993. Since its opening, the center has experienced a steady growth in community support for recycling. In fact, broad based community support was largely responsible for development of the center. Initially, the county received a \$50,000 KIA grant to construct the building, but had limited funding for the purchase of equipment. Local industries and civic groups, seeing the need for recycling in the community, came together and supplied equipment and funds for the operation.

The center presently accepts aluminum cans, clear and brown glass, milk jugs, soda bottles, corrugated cardboard and newsprint. It also has areas designated to take scrap metals, demolition debris, white goods and used oil. Since opening, it has diverted over 250 tons of material from the landfill, which is in turn credited against the county's garbage collection contract.

Expansion of the center is planned for later this year when it will begin a compost and yard waste program, and a scrap tire collection program. If you have questions about the program, or would like to arrange a visit, you can call Tommy Tucker at (502) 422-2868.

(Reprinted from *Recycle Kentucky! Kentucky Recycling Authority*, Volume I, Issue 2, Spring 1994)

MANY COMPLAINTS FILED UNDER DISABILITIES ACT

After two years of experience with the Americans With Disabilities Act, (which prohibits disability-based discrimination in employment and requires employers to provide reasonable accommodations when necessary to enable people with disabilities to work) charges of violations are higher than the government had anticipated.

According to an article in the *Employee Relations Law Journal*, 16,050 charges of ADA violations were filed with the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission during the act's first 14 months. The commission expects that such cases ultimately will become 30 percent of its workload.

Part of the problem seems to be that many employers are not well versed in the provisions of the law, in some cases leaving themselves open to punitive as well as actual damages. Special problems, the article indicated, may be employer difficulty with impairments that are difficult to "see." Back ailments are the most common source of ADA charges (20 percent), and mental impairments (10 percent) are the second most frequent. The article said there is a relative lack of EEOC guidelines in the mental health area.

It was pointed out that employers should be careful when drafting job descriptions to include nonphysical as well as physical qualifications for the work. This may be necessary to cover essential job functions that some persons with mental disabilities might not be able to perform. The full effects of the law, it was pointed out, will not be known until the courts have developed a substantial body of case law. A high volume of trials and court decisions within the next two years was predicted.

One possible side effect of the ADA legislation that has been noted is the possible danger that some employers will refuse to provide health insurance or other benefits to avoid ADA problems.

(Reprinted from *Kentucky Horizons*. A Publication of the Legislative Research Commission, Volume 6, Number 12, September, 1994)

CALENDAR . . .

- 10/9-11 Southeastern Association of Area Agencies on Aging Conference - Galt House East - Louisville, KY
- 10/13-14 West Kentucky Corporation Economic Summit '94 - Kentucky Dam Village State Park
- 10/19 LTADD Board of Directors Meeting - Fort Knox
- 10/19 West Kentucky Economic Roundtable - Paducah, KY
- 11/2-4 JTPA Annual Conference - Executive Inn - Owensboro
- 11/8 Election Day - **Vote!!**
- 11/10 Kentucky Certified Community Partnership Annual Luncheon - Lexington, KY
- 11/11 Veteran's Day - LTADD Office Closed
- 11/15-16 Creating the Televillage - Kentucky Rural Telecommunications Center - Tampa, FL
- 11/16 LTADD Board of Directors Meeting - LTADD Office - Elizabethtown, KY
- 11/16-18 Kentucky Association of Counties Annual Conference - J.R.'s Executive Inn - Paducah, KY
- 11/24 Thanksgiving Day - LTADD Office Closed
- 12/21 LTADD Board of Directors Meeting - LTADD Office - Elizabethtown, KY
- 12/25 Christmas Day - LTADD Office closed on 12/26

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Lincoln Trail Area Development District

James E. Greer, Executive Director

OFFICERS

- Judge Tom Moorman**
Chairman **Breckinridge County**
- Judge Tommy Turner**
First Vice Chairman **LaRue County**
- Judge Bobby Brady**
Second Vice Chairman **Washington County**
- Mayor Richard Brandenburg**
Secretary **Vine Grove**
- Gene Spragens, Jr.**
Treasurer **Marion County**

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The Lincoln Trail Area Development District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, religion or disability, and provides, upon request, reasonable accommodation including auxiliary aids and services necessary to afford an individual with a disability an equal opportunity to participate in all services, programs and activities of the agency.

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