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The Rail Splitter

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Lincoln Trail Area Development District
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Lincoln Trail ADD Presents Representative Ron Lewis with NADO Congressional Partnership Award

Washington, DC - Gene Spragens, Chairman; Wendell Lawrence, Executive Director; and Mike Burress, Deputy Director, of Lincoln Trail ADD of Elizabethtown, KY, along with representatives of KIPDA, GRADD, and BRADD, presented **Representative Ron Lewis** with a NADO Congressional Partnership Award for his leadership and commitment to regional economic development.

The Congressional Partnership Awards, is a program of the National Association of Development Organizations (NADO) honoring members of Congress who have demonstrated leadership in promoting regional economic development policies. The award recognizes members of Congress who have exhibited outstanding support of NADO policies and priorities in addition to cooperation with regional development organizations in their state. In presenting the award, the ADDs all stressed that



From left: Mike Burress, Deputy Director; Rep. Ron Lewis, LTADD Chairman Gene Spragens, Jr.; and Wendell Lawrence, Executive Director.

Two LTADD Cities Awarded Transportation Enhancement Funding

The Cities of **Lebanon** and **Cloverport** have received Transportation Enhancement (TE) funding through a special set-aside for Renaissance Kentucky cities. The **City of Cloverport** received TE funds for continuation of its streetscape improvements within the Renaissance Kentucky designated area. These improvements will take place along Elm and Houston Streets in Cloverport. In 1999, Cloverport received TE funding for streetscape improvements along Main and Poplar Streets. The **City of Lebanon** received TE funds for the development of a 21st Century Tourist and Welcome Center. This project involves the restoration of a historic building to be used as a welcome center as well as sidewalk and utility improvements to enhance pedestrian safety and improve the appearance of the area.

Representative Ron Lewis's diligent and determined efforts for the reauthorization of the Economic Development Administration and strengthening the role of rural local elected officials through the Workforce Investment Act process have helped the LTADD create jobs and build a healthy community.

Three LTADD Cities Awarded Trails Grants

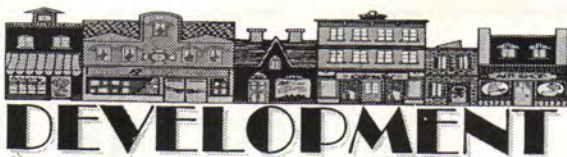
The Cities of **Vine Grove**, **Cloverport**, and **Clarkson** recently applied for and were awarded grants from the FY 2000 Recreational Trails Program (RTP). The RTP is a federal-aid assistance program to help communities develop and maintain trails for both motorized and non-motorized recreational trail uses. The RTP was authorized by the Transportation Equity Act of the 21st Century (TEA-21). The Federal Highway Administration administers the RTP at the federal level, and the Kentucky Department for Local Government and 14-member Kentucky Trails Advisory Board are responsible for RTP administration in Kentucky.

The **City of Vine Grove** was awarded a \$28,250 matching grant for Phase II of the Brushy Fork Trail Development Project. Vine Grove's project will include the development of a 500-foot paved trail connecting

the Optimist Club Park and downtown, construction of a pedestrian bridge across Brushy Fork, and renovation of the old water plant for use as a trailhead facility and interpretative center.

The **City of Cloverport** was awarded a \$7,900 matching grant for Phase II of the Steps in History Walking Trail. Cloverport's project will include the renovation of 71 historic steps leading up School House Hill, installation of a handrail along the walkway and steps to protect trail users, and construction of a 4-foot wide paved trail from the walkway to and around the water tower.

The **City of Clarkson** was awarded a \$25,375 matching grant for the Clarkson City Park Trail Project. Their project will include the construction of a 1-mile, 8-foot wide paved trail, placement of benches along the trail, and placement of trailhead signage.



Four Lincoln Trail ADD

Cities Apply for Renaissance Kentucky Designation

Bloomfield, Elizabethtown, Irvington and Springfield each applied for designation as a Renaissance Kentucky City. Renaissance Kentucky is the Governor's initiative to revitalize Kentucky's downtowns through an alliance of state agencies which will provide resources and funding opportunities for participating cities. This initiative is designed to bring the full capacity of state government together to address downtown revitalization efforts. The program has a three level designation: bronze, silver, and gold, which allows each city to participate at a level appropriate for the city's current progress level. **Bloomfield and Irvington** have applied for bronze designation and **Elizabethtown and Springfield** have applied for silver designation. The goal of Renaissance Kentucky is to recognize and honor those cities that have maintained or restored their central downtown areas as safe, vibrant, efficient and functional urban cores and to provide support and assistance on development strategies for those cities who want to improve their downtowns. Lincoln Trail ADD currently has three silver designated cities which include: **Cloverport, Lebanon, and Vine Grove.**

Water Supply Planning Council

The Regional Water Supply Planning Council met at the LTADD office in Elizabethtown on July 17th. The guest speaker was **David Morgan**, Director of the Water Quality Management Section of the Kentucky Division of Water. Dr. Morgan spoke on the anticipated changes in the role of the water supply planning councils as the result of new State legislation (Senate Bill 409), on the plan amendment process, and the plan updates which will be due in three years.

Section XIV of the Phase II Water Supply Plans (for the 8 Lincoln Trail counties) that were approved last fall, requires the Water Supply Planning Council to meet annually. This meeting fulfills that requirement and provided an opportunity for local officials and water supplier/distributors to be updated on changes in State-mandated water supply planning requirements.

Regional Planning Council

The Regional Planning Council met on Thursday, June 8th at 6:30 p.m. at the LTADD office in Elizabethtown. During this session, two seminars were conducted involving Public Meeting and Legislative Requirements. **Ms. Janet Johnston, Associate Director** of LTADD discussed Open Meetings and Open Records Laws. **Mr. Ed Poppe, Chair**, addressed basic procedures of commission meetings.

The Regional Planning Council meetings provide beneficial information to the area's planners and planning commission members. In order to provide training and activities to all planning commission members in the LTADD, the Council decided to meet in different locations within the region. **The next Regional Planning Council meeting will be held in Lebanon, in September.** For more information, please contact Rachel Phillips at the LTADD office.

LTADD'S NEW PAS



Dean Nelson is LTADD's new Public Administration Specialist. He is from Enterprise, Alabama, which is a city roughly the size of Elizabethtown and is near Panama City Beach, Florida, and Fort Rucker, the Army's helicopter training base. Dean earned a Bachelor of Arts in Social Work and Masters in Public Administration at Auburn University. His classwork included general MPA core courses, and he concentrated in non-profit development. Dean also interned at a public-private economic development agency, the Enterprise Economic Development Corporation.

Dean and his wife Heather just celebrated their first anniversary on June 12. Heather is also from the Enterprise area and earned her Bachelor's degree in Liberal Arts from Auburn University at Montgomery. Dean and Heather are happy to be in Kentucky because they say that in south Alabama, they only have two seasons -- HOT and not so hot.

LTADD Staff Participate in GPS Demonstration



Community Development Staff Conferences, Workshops, Seminars:

- April 7:** **Becky Proctor & Patrick Haggerty** - HUD Fair Housing Seminar, Louisville
- May 4-5:** **Rachel Phillips** - Water Supply Planning Workshop, Rough River State Park
- May 9:** **Mike Skaggs** - FHWA Highway Program Financing Course, Frankfort
- May 18-19:** **Rachel Phillips** - KAPA Spring Conference, Lake Barkley
- May 18-20:** **Janet Johnston & Becky Proctor** - Statewide Preservation Conference, Louisville
- May 19:** **Mike Skaggs** - Statewide Preservation Conference, Louisville
- May 24-25:** **Janet Johnston** - Tourism Symposium, Bardstown
- June 5-6:** **Mike Skaggs** - ArcView Training, Frankfort
- June 5-8:** **Jann Oellien** - State GIS Conference, Bowling Green
- June 20:** **Becky Proctor** - HOME Application Training, Frankfort
- June 21:** **Becky Proctor** - KHC Lead-Based Paint Training, Frankfort

Lincoln Trail ADD To Develop Abraham Lincoln Heritage Corridor

With the oversight of the LTADD Preservation, Recreation, and Tourism Committee (PRT), LTADD will develop an "Abraham Lincoln Heritage Corridor" in Kentucky. This project will involve the following steps:



- Identification of all Abraham Lincoln historical sites and markers;
- Identification of the major highway routes connecting these sites;
- Mapping of all sites and historical markers;
- Inspection of the condition of all historical markers and signs;
- Determine if any new signs or historical markers need to be placed;
- Coordination with Indiana and Illinois and any efforts or projects that those states may have completed or have in the works;
- Identification of funding sources to assist with the development of this project;
- Development of community support;
- Coordination with the LTADD Regional Transportation Committee; and
- Any other steps that may come about during this process.

The goal of this project is to develop a mechanism that details Abraham Lincoln's heritage in Kentucky and package it as a single tourist attraction for the Commonwealth. This will be accomplished by providing brochures and other promotional materials detailing all of the sites including a map of all sites and historical markers.

LTADD's Community & Economic Development Staff Participate in Retreat

On Friday, June 16, LTADD's Community & Economic Development staff participated in a full-day retreat at Otter Creek Park. During the morning session, the CED Section reviewed the history of the Kentucky ADDs and LTADD and the role of the Community and Economic Development Section. The CED staff also participated in the development of a mission statement and goals and objectives for FY 2000-2001.

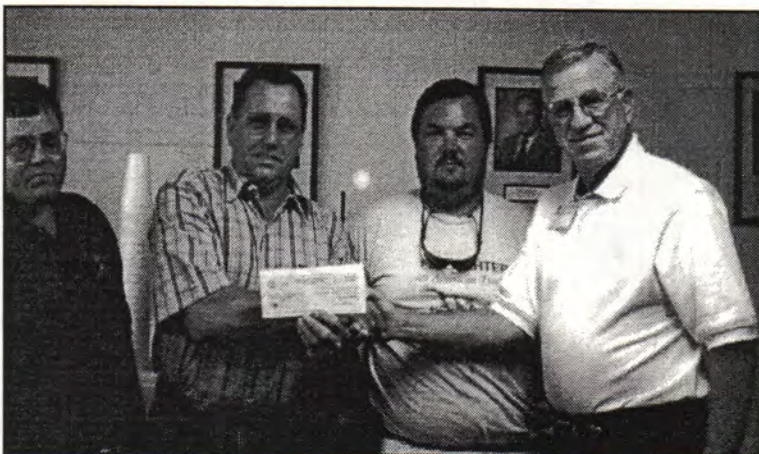
During the afternoon session, CED Section staff participated in a Low Ropes Course. Otter Creek Park staff led the CED staff in a series of outdoor challenges designed to foster problem solving, self-confidence, self-trust, and trust in others, while having fun. The CED staff successfully completed the Stargate, Mohawk Walk, and other team building challenges on the beautiful wooded course.



LINCOLN TRAIL COMMUNITIES RECEIVE AREA DEVELOPMENT FUNDS

During the 1998 session, the Kentucky General Assembly allocated monies to the Area Development Fund (ADF). The ADF provides funding for capital improvements, including construction, reconstruction, renovation, or maintenance of public buildings, acquisition of real property, purchase of major equipment items, solid waste management, extension or installation of utilities, and industrial site development projects. The funding for the ADF program comes from the state coal severance tax, and the program is administered by the Department for Local Government through the 15 ADDs.

The total FY 2000 ADF allocation of \$55,203 was divided among its 8 counties. Each County Committee, consisting of the Judge/Executive and Mayors of incorporated cities, reviewed the project requests and determined the distribution of its ADF monies among the incorporated entities. Since January 2000, the LTADD Board of Directors has reviewed and approved ADF applications from 20 cities and counties. After Board approval, the LTADD submits the ADF project profiles to DLG for final approval, and then upon receipt of ADF funds, state

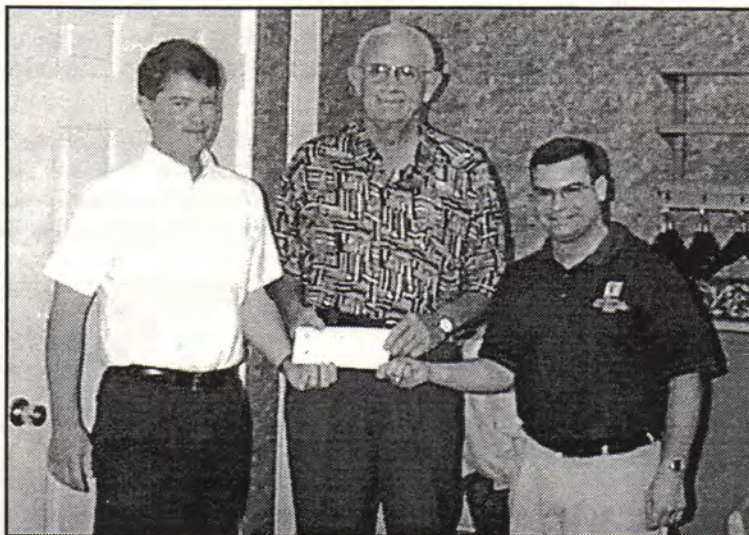


Muldraugh ADF - Left to Right: Representative Jim Thompson, Mayor Danny Tate, Fire Chief Danny Dresel, and Senator Virgil Moore.

Senators and Representatives and LTADD staff present the ADF checks to the local communities.

On April 18, Janet Johnston, LTADD Associate Director, presented **Mayor James Embry** and the **Caneyville City Council** with a \$1,524.98 ADF check for the purchase of a water leak detector.

On May 1, **Representative Dwight Butler** presented the **Irrington City Council** with a \$1,380.07 ADF check for the purchase of computer equipment for the Irrington Police Department.



Cloverport ADF - Left to Right: Representative Dwight Butler, Mayor Tom Wheatley, and LTADD CD Specialist, Patrick Haggerty.

On May 8, Patrick Haggerty, LTADD Community Development Specialist, presented **Mayor Ronnie Bobblett** and the **Bloomfield City Council** with a \$7,203.99 ADF check for the purchase of police equipment.

On June 12, **Senator Virgil Moore** and **Representative James Thompson** presented **Mayor Danny Tate** and the **Muldraugh City Council** with a \$1,625.58 ADF check for debt retirement on the city's fire truck purchase.

On June 12, Patrick Haggerty presented **Mayor Gary Crenshaw** and the **Lebanon City Council** with a \$1,840.10 ADF check for the installation of batting cages at Graham Memorial Park.

On June 19, **Representative Dwight Butler** presented **Mayor Tom Wheatley** and the **Cloverport City Council** with a \$1,380.08 ADF check for the replacement of the Community Building roof.

Leitchfield's City Clerk/Treasurer Elected KMCA President

Leitchfield's City Clerk/Treasurer, **Kerry White**, was recently elected for a 2-year term as president of the Kentucky Municipal Clerks Association. "The Kentucky Municipal Clerks Association promotes the professional development of Municipal Clerks in the Commonwealth. The goals established by KMCA are: provide a forum for enhancing professionalism within the Municipal Clerk's office; encourage professional growth and development; establish an interchange of ideas and support systems among the Association members; and, increase the overall image of Kentucky Municipal Clerks."

Kerry is a Certified Municipal Clerk and is active in the regional, statewide, and international clerks associations. He served as treasurer, vice-president, and president of the Lincoln Trail Municipal Clerks Association and also served as treasurer and vice-president of the Kentucky Municipal Clerks Association. As KMCA president, Kerry will also serve as a member of the Kentucky League of Cities Board.

Proper Rates Are Critical for Financial Health

Excerpted from Water Sense, Spring 2000, Volume 6, Issue 2

The water mains in Smallville were laid in the early 1900s. The terra cotta pipes were state of the art when they were installed, but now they're beginning to show their age.

The method for setting water rates probably dated back as far as the distribution system itself. Rates were set so that costs — mostly the salaries of two operators and supplies, such as chlorine — were covered. If a problem arose, the town dipped into the general fund to cover the expense. It had been that way for as long as anyone could remember.

Local politicians learned that to talk about significant rate increases meant sure defeat, come election time. They were reluctant to make such proposals. Low water rates satisfied the residents of Smallville, so prices stayed that way and, for a long time, things were fine. But by the start of the new century, things weren't fine anymore. Iron and manganese began leaching into the town's wells, giving residents unpalatable water with an orange or brown tint, staining clothes washed in it. Frequent breaks in the lines resulted in big expenses they couldn't afford. With no reserve fund in place and customers clamoring for improvements, Smallville's leaders found themselves in a predicament.

Why bother with rate setting?

While Smallville is a fictitious place, many towns can relate to the scenario described above. For a variety of reasons — often political, sometimes economic — these towns have been reluctant to set water rates any higher than necessary to cover immediate costs. This is a situation that is coming back to haunt communities across the country.

The real cost of water was one discussion topic at the Futures Forum, sponsored by the EPA and held in Washington, D.C., in December 1999. "While the average household water bill of \$15 a month generally covers the basic cost of current service," the Futures Forum noted, "it is unlikely to cover the costs of future needs. If a water supplier's rates do not provide for collection of a depreciation expense or a reserve fund to accommodate future plant improvements, it is questionable how future needs will be met." Simply stated, community officials must set rates that reflect the actual cost of water, both now and into the future. "If a system doesn't pay for itself completely, its sustainability over time is threatened due to lack of sufficient revenue. Moreover, it runs the risk of creating 'rate shock' when some day down the road, it discovers that it needs to raise rates substantially to compensate for not having had adequate rates for several years."

Rates have different structures

Most communities have a rate structure that falls into one of the five categories: (1) blanket, one-charge, or uniform flat rate; (2) descending, declining, or decreasing block rate; (3) ascending or increasing block rate; (4) flat or single block rate; or (5) seasonal rate. Each structure has its inherent advantages and disadvantages. Whatever method your system uses, replacement of deteriorating infrastructure must be planned for and included as an expense in your rate structure," Gary Williams, executive director of the Florida Rural Water Association.

How often should a system review its rate structure?

Rate setting experts are nearly unanimous in their view that a rate review should be conducted each year. They also agree that an endeavor such as this is best done by a committee, rather than by an individual. Four obvious members are the town clerk; the water plant operator; an elected official, such as a town councilor or county commissioner; and a banker or other member of the financial community. If a rate increase is inevitable, it is probably wise to include a member of the community—one who is widely regarded as being fair-minded.

While meeting costs is the primary goal of a rate study, there are other considerations. Rates should be structured in such a way to ensure that customers pay equitable fees for the service they receive. The costs involved with providing water to a retired couple are different from the costs involved with serving a local grocery store or car wash. The customers' bills should be proportional to the system's cost of providing them with service.

According to a 1998 report by Stratus Consulting of Boulder, Colorado, most water customers realize that they are getting a good deal on drinking water and are willing to pay more for it. As rates increase in the coming years to cover the costs of aging infrastructure and tougher regulations, it is undoubtedly useful to know this about consumers. The amendments to the Safe Drinking Water Act encourage public involvement. Indeed, fair and adequate rates won't happen without input from the community.



"OLD CAR DAY

AT THE ADD"





Employment & Training News

Welfare-to-Work (WtW)

Eligibility for Welfare-to-Work will be relaxed as a result of the Welfare-to-Work and Child Support Amendments of 1999. Current 70% eligibility requirements state that an individual must be a long term welfare recipient and face two or more barriers to employment. Under the new amendments, an individual will be eligible under the 70% eligibility criteria if they are a long term welfare recipient. The amendments also allow for non-custodial parents to be served under the 70% criteria.

We anticipate that many more individuals will be eligible for Welfare-to-Work services under the new amendments. Currently staff are meeting monthly with other community partners to put together a new plan of action to implement the new amendments on October 1, 2000.

EMPLOYMENT & TRAINING STAFF CONFERENCES, WORKSHOPS, SEMINARS

Staff from the Employment/Training (E/T) Section attended two trainings during the past quarter. Both training sessions were quite informative and benefited staff greatly. The first training targeted front-line staff of the Workforce Investment Act (WIA) program, while the second involved information valuable to all people working with the WIA program.

The first session was held on April 14, 2000, at the Bowling Green Regional Conference Center. The presenter was Sandra Hastings from Bolton, Connecticut. Sandra trains professionals across the nation and helps them develop and maintain specific goals and procedures in such programs as the Workforce Investment Act. Sandra's seminar was entitled "Success in Your New Role. What Every Front-Line Worker Needs to Know About the New Workforce Investment Act," and brought forth numerous valuable ideas and techniques for front-line staff to implement on the local level. Over the course of the day, Sandra discussed the One-Stop system, One-Stop partners, different levels of services available, and important aspects of the One-Stop Center. Staff gained a deeper understanding of ways to grow as front-line workers.

The second session was held on June 23, 2000, at Pritchard Community Center in Elizabethtown. The purpose of this training was to introduce staff to the Employ Kentucky Operating System (EKOS) which will revolutionize the way records are kept and clients are handled in the One-Stop system. Secretary Allen D. Rose opened the training with a warm welcome and a brief introduction to the EKOS system. Afterward, representatives from the following agencies offered their thoughts on the new system and offered support for EKOS: Department of Vocational Rehabilitation, the Department for the Blind, Department for Employment Services, and Department of Adult Education and Literacy. The seminar was informative and practical.

OPEN HOUSE

On July 20, 2000, the Lincoln Trail Workforce Investment Board held an open house at the Lincoln Trail Area Career Center. The career center, located at 916 North Mulberry in Elizabethtown, offers the public a central location where information can be received on employment opportunities, the current labor market, employment training options, internet access, career planning, and other employment related topics.

Several local agencies offer their services at the career center on either a permanent or itinerant schedule, or through satellite hook-ups.

WIB Youth Council

The Workforce Investment Board Youth Council spent time this quarter seeking and reviewing proposals for programs to serve the area youth during the 2000-2001 program year. A bidder's conference was held in May to officially announce the availability of funds and to distribute the request for proposal. Approximately 20 people attended. In June, four proposals had been submitted and reviewed by members of the Employment Training staff and members of the Youth Council serving on a review committee. Interviews were held with all individuals/agencies submitting proposals. Upon completion of the review and interviews, a recommendation was made to and approved by the Workforce Investment Board. Program proposals approved will provide area youth with a variety services contributing to academic and occupational growth.

Title V Older Workers Job Training Program

Several Title V enrollees attended and assisted with the Senior Celebration at the Pritchard Community Center in May. This has been a busy year for the Program. We had a total enrollment of 25. The unsubsidized employment goal was met. Computer training was received by 11 enrollees this quarter. A classified advertisement was placed in all the local news papers offering Job Training Opportunities for the new program year. We look forward to enrolling and assisting Senior Citizens with job opportunities.

AGING PROGRAM UPDATE

Senior's Day Out

Mark your calendars for **August 30, 2000**, and plan to be at the Towne Mall in Elizabethtown at 9:30 a.m. and spend the day at *Seniors Day Out*. This is our third annual Senior Crime College but with a new twist, involving food and entertainment as well as informational booths, to go along with the very serious information provided on *telemarketing fraud*, *identity theft* and other *con artist scams*. This year's event is sponsored by **TRIAD** in conjunction with the **Attorney General's Office**, the **Elizabethtown Police Department**, and the **Hardin County Sheriff's Office**. If you have any questions or would like additional information, please call 270-769-2393.

U.S. House Targets Theft of Social Security Numbers

Update on Congress - A Tool for Activists, July 2000

A key U.S. House panel is preparing bipartisan legislation to crack down on the growing problem of the theft and misuse of social security numbers.

At a recent hearing of the Subcommittee on Social Security, Inspector General James G. Huse Jr. of the Social Security Administration testified that in 1999 the SSA received more than 62,000 allegations of misuse or theft of a Social Security number. That number is expected to grow sharply in the future as more businesses request people's social security numbers for identification purposes and more personal information becomes available on the Internet.

The widespread use of social security numbers for identification is making those numbers vulnerable to theft by criminals and others who use them to set up fraudulent credit card and other financial accounts. The innocent owners of the stolen social security numbers often find their credit ratings destroyed when thousands of dollars are transacted under their numbers.

Currently, federal law generally does not restrict the use of social security numbers for identification purposes unrelated to Social Security purposes. Also, law enforcement activities against fraudulent use of social security numbers are not centralized in one federal agency.



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| July | 25 | Lincoln Trail Municipal Clerks Association Meeting, 10:00 a.m., LTADD |
| | 27 | Lincoln Trail Aging Service Providers Meeting |
| Aug. | 16 | LTADD Board of Directors Meeting |
| | 21-23 | Governor's Local Issues Conference, Louisville |
| | 23 | Municipal Clerks Association Meeting |
| | 24 | Lincoln Trail Aging Service Providers Meeting |
| | 30 | Senior's Day Out, Towne Mall, Elizabethtown |
| Sept. | 4 | Labor Day - LTADD offices closed |
| | 20 | LTADD Board of Directors Meeting |
| | 21 | Preservation, Recreation, & Tourism Committee, 1:30 p.m., LTADD |
| | 21-24 | Kentucky Senior Games |
| | 27 | Lincoln Trail Workforce Investment Board Meeting |
| | 27-30 | Kentucky League of Cities Conference, Louisville |
| | 28 | Lincoln Trail Aging Service Providers Meeting |

Since most dates are tentative, please refer to meeting notices or call the LTADD office for correct dates, times and locations prior to traveling to attend.

2000
Kentucky
Senior Games
September 21st thru 24th
Elizabethtown, KY

*Qualifying Year
for the
National Senior Games*

Call
270-769-2393
for Applications

Medicare Will Now Pay For Experimental Therapies

Update on Congress - A Tool for Activists, July 2000

Many older citizens have been excluded from potentially helpful experimental treatments for a range of illnesses, from cancer and heart disease to dementia, because Medicare has not automatically covered such therapies.

Now, under a new executive order signed by the president, Medicare will pay for "routine patient care" for Medicare recipients who want to take part in experimental medical treatments.

Although up to now the government generally has paid for collecting and analyzing data, it has not covered the patient's medical expenses or the costs for physicians, equipment, or treatments.

Because of the cost issue, few seniors up to now have been used in clinical trials, even though older citizens are more likely to suffer from the illnesses being studied. For example, 63 percent of cancer patients are 65 or older, but they make up only 33 percent of those in clinical trials. Similarly, older women comprise 44 percent of breast cancer patients, but only 1.6 percent of women over age 65 are in clinical trials for the disease.

Lincoln Trail Area Development District

Wendell C. Lawrence, Executive Director

(270) 769-2393

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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.

Lincoln Trail Area Development District

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