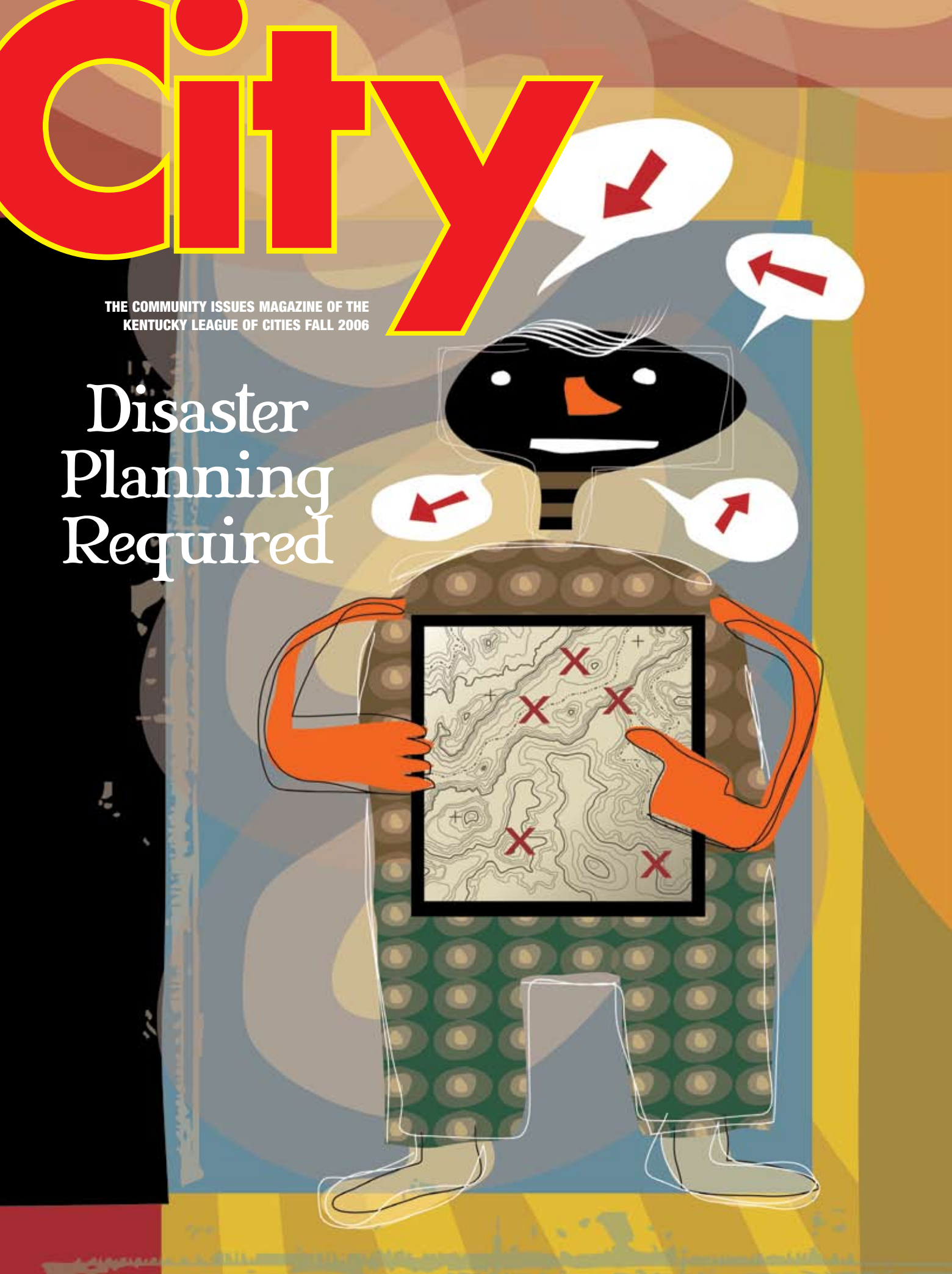
City

THE COMMUNITY ISSUES MAGAZINE OF THE
KENTUCKY LEAGUE OF CITIES FALL 2006

Disaster Planning Required



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CONTENTS

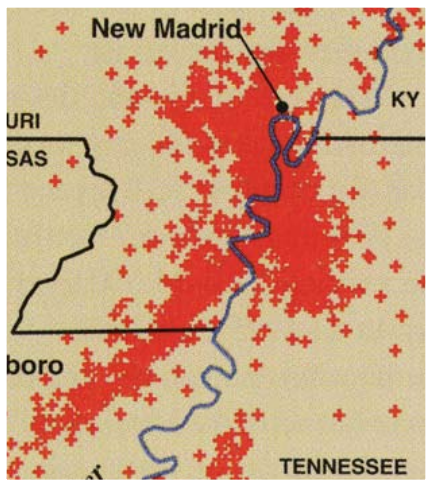
FALL 2006 • VOL. 8 • NO. 4

FEATURES

8
Preparing for Disaster

Planning is required for long-standing lethal dangers and threats of the moment.

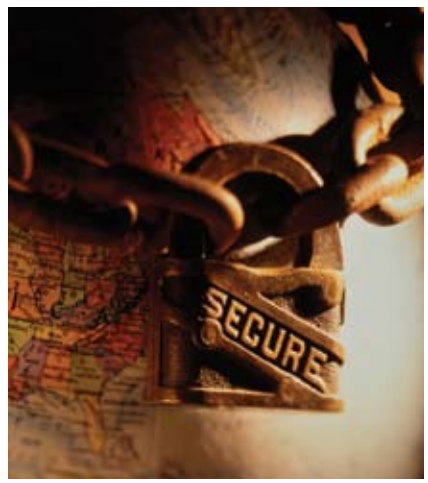
BY MICHAEL JENNINGS



16
Earthquakes

Predictions are tough to make, but the threat is real.

BY MIKE LYNCH



20
Homeland Security

Homegrown resources of Kentucky's workforce and research help with national security.

BY SARAH RAZOR

DEPARTMENTS

Correction:
The location of the Whitehall historic home was incorrect in the Summer issue of City. The home is located in Louisville.

Cover Illustration by Jim Edmon - www.edmondesign.com

CityScapes

BY SYLVIA L. LOVELY

Sylvia L. Lovely is the Executive Director/CEO of the Kentucky League of Cities, headquartered in Lexington.

Disengaged citizens threaten long-term security

The fifth anniversary of 9/11 came just after the tragic Kentucky crash of Comair Flight 5191 on August 27 in Lexington. Although not the result of a terrorist attack, it nevertheless undermined our sense of security.

This was a personal shock for our family. My husband Bernie chairs the airport board and, like many others in the area, we knew many of the passengers on Flight 5191. Our sense of loss was nothing, of course, compared with that experienced by the 49 families who lost their loved ones that Sunday morning.

The anniversary of 9/11 found me with the opportunity to address a group of government managers – and I was told the group was disillusioned and in need of inspiration.

Knowing what to say was difficult. How does one inspire in an age of anti-government sentiment, a time where terror knows no bounds and the 24-hour news brings all manner of natural and manmade disasters directly into our living rooms (hurricane Katrina being a horrific example of the former that reinforced the feeling that government is among those things that don't work any more).

Disillusionment is our nation's common malady. We hear the message continually:

- "I am overwhelmed."
- "There is no leadership. Who is dealing with issues like health care and whether I will have a job next year?"
- And the real zinger: "Why should I bother to vote or care? I can't make a difference in this great big world."

The fear – be it of terrorism, natural disaster, airplanes that fall out of the sky and more – is always with us.

There are those who believe that "instant" everything is ruining the world. After all, we now have instant news, and we expect our most vexing problems to be solved right away.

We wait for leaders to emerge without emerging as leaders ourselves. We retreat into enclaves and surround ourselves increasingly with family and friends – people who either agree with us or are amenable to changing the subject when the going gets rough.

And yet there is a yearning for something more, something that we had just a glimpse of in the days following the 9/11 attacks. Strangers saying hello, partisanship taking a holiday, little things gaining in importance, an authentic sense of shared community – all came to the fore in our response to the tragedy. Sadly, the new attitude didn't last long. But it did show us that we can, and must, find hope and inspiration out of tragedy.

Tragedies and the need for security can take many forms and can be delivered by both humans and nature. But

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The Kentucky League of Cities (KLC) is a voluntary association of cities, created in 1927, to assist municipal officials in representing the interests of cities and to provide services to members which will foster improved local government in Kentucky.

KLC provides a forum for its 357 local member cities across the Commonwealth to address their common needs, challenges and opportunities. Some service program divisions of the League include: legal assistance, group insurance plans and risk management services, capital financing and management services, training and leadership development, downtown and economic development programs, information and research services.

City
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the threat to our country manifested in the continuing disengagement of citizens is as serious as a hurricane. Our communities and our country can thrive only through the efforts of committed and driven citizens.

That is where we must begin, with individual citizens in a world that paradoxically grows larger by the minute.

The new rules of the 21st century present particular challenges for our efforts to become engaged and to build strong workplaces and communities. Some people believe that we are moving from the technological age to a new age of connecting with one another and humanizing the technology that enables more independence of thought and action. As they always have been, people are the key, and prosperity will be built only by creating a place where they want to live, work and raise their families.

The new rules of the 21st century present particular challenges for our efforts to become engaged and to build strong workplaces and communities.

What does it all mean at the street level? It's about leadership, plain and simple. It's about rolling up our sleeves and getting down to the work of building great workplaces and communities.

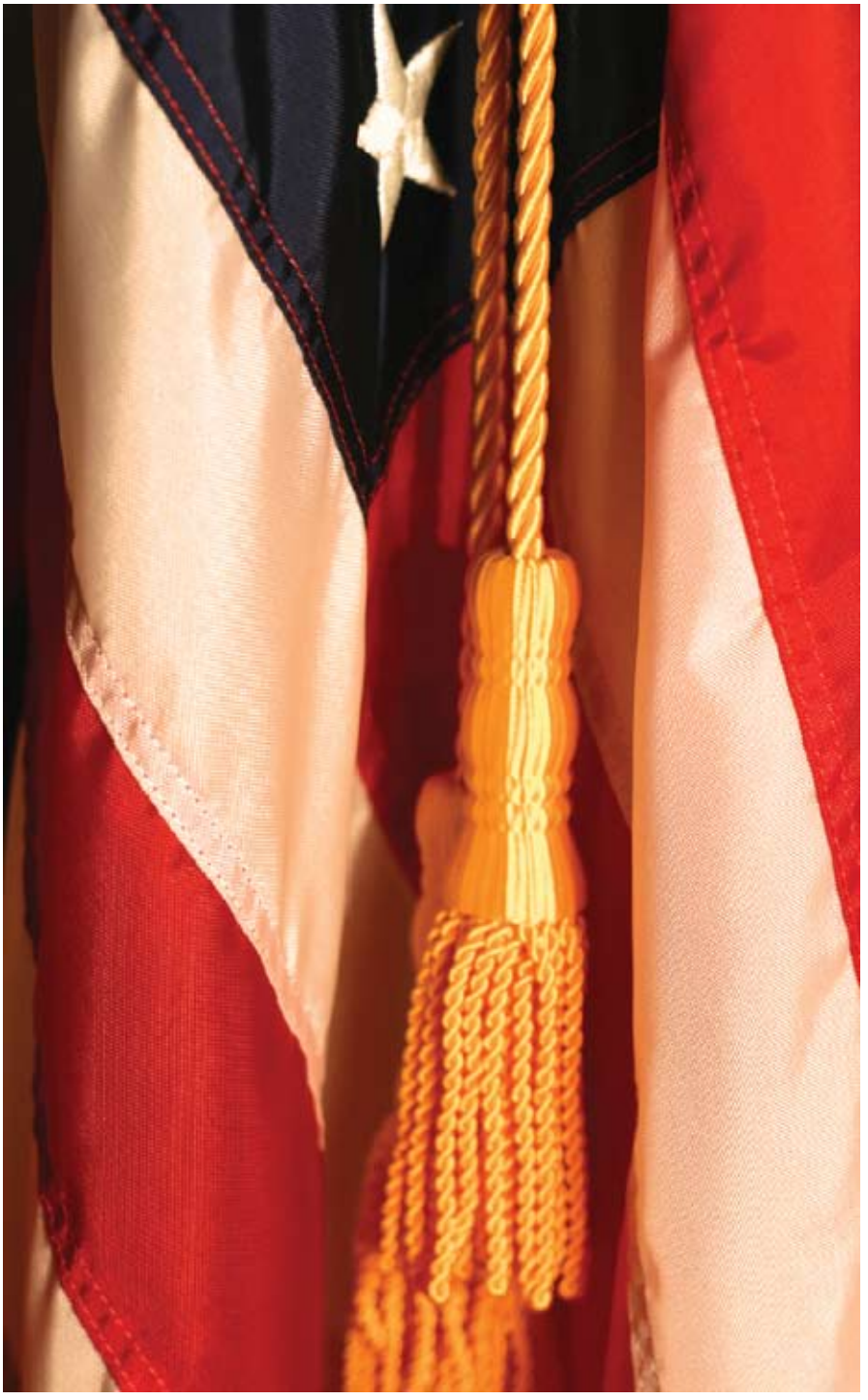
One story out of Lexington's tragedy resonates in particular, coming from the eulogy for a young woman who was to have been married in a few weeks. She was described as brilliant and athletic. One day, as her sister nursed a sore ankle on the sidelines during a soccer game, she walked up to her, bent over and said in a strong voice: "Get up" and get back in the game.

At the end of the day, we can only get up and get back in the game. The lives of communities are not unlike the lives of their inhabitants. We plan, we visualize, we build for generations we will never know, but we do it because it is the right thing to do and because, as humans, we must build something to last beyond the brief moments that we are here.

City REFLECTIONS

BY MIKE HAYDON & SYLVIA LOVELY

A mayor's parting words frame progress, challenges



Introduction by Sylvia L. Lovely

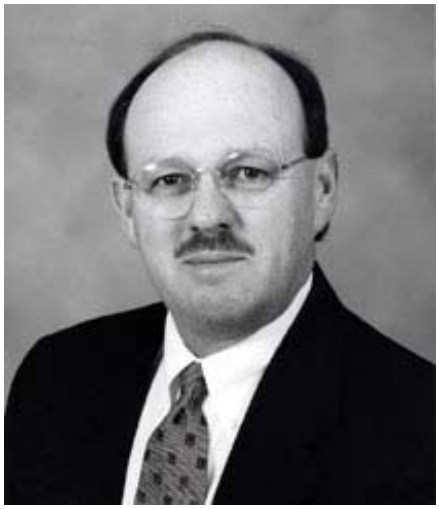
It is election season and thus an interesting time in the life of a democracy. It is especially meaningful for me because of my unique line of work. It wasn't for nothing that my children, while growing up, would ask from time to time: "Why do you know so many mayors?"

Inevitably, each election season means that some of the elected officials we've come to know will leave office. We also see others assume the mantle of leadership in a role that is particularly difficult in today's world.

But we appreciate it when someone who was particularly good at the job sees fit to leave us with an explanation. In this instance, we say goodbye to Mayor Mike Haydon of Springfield, a beautiful small town that is doing big things in the rolling hills just south of Lexington.

Mayor Haydon has chosen not to run for office again, but he is leaving us with some parting words. For these words we are grateful, for they remind us that every single day great people step up, making no excuses, and simply choose to make a difference.

I think it is important to share excerpts from the letter that Mayor Haydon wrote to the *Springfield Sun.*



Mayor Mike Haydon

• • • •

When I ran for mayor four years ago, it was my goal to put forth a "quality of life" platform for the people of Springfield. Rather than promising to do specific things, I promised to put my "energy, experience, enthusiasm and education" to work creating a new vision for what our town could be. In short, I promised different results. Gratefully my campaign message was accepted by a majority of those voting.

Now here we are four years later. To say that I am pleased with the results we've achieved during my tenure would be an understatement. There is simply no way I could have imagined where we would be today compared with where we were then! I won't list our specific achievements. Those are already a matter of public record.

What is probably less clear are the challenges we face over the next few years maintaining our momentum. To name a few: our tax base is barely able to fund the ongoing level of services that our

City WRITERS

Michael Jennings is a freelance writer living in Louisville. He was formerly a reporter for *The Courier-Journal* and an associate editor for *The Sunday Challenger* in Covington.

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City LETTERS

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people deserve and have come to expect; our economy is fragile and overly susceptible to national and state economic cycles; our park and pool are both showing years of wear and tear. Both are in desperate need of significant capital infusion that we likely cannot afford without some long overdue county financial support to meet growing countywide expectations.

Inevitably, each election season means that some of the elected officials we've come to know will leave office. We also see others assume the mantle of leadership in a role that is particularly difficult in today's world.

Other challenges that always come with growth and prosperity are sure to emerge as well.

Despite our progress, every person in Springfield expects us to do better. They want Springfield to be seen by others as a smart, clean, growing, progressive community, a place where good things are happening.

In order for us to change the way others see us,

though, we first must change the way we see ourselves. The evidence already suggests that we are doing that. Community pride is growing, and there is nothing wrong with that. In fact, community pride is an essential element of the quality of life I talked about when I ran four years ago.

I have enjoyed serving and am proud of my service. Many of the ideas I've pushed have become reality. It has taken hard work, dedication and vision by our city council, our staff, a number of civic groups as well as a host of mostly unrecognized volunteers. I am grateful to them all.

Other ideas like: formation of a joint City-County Parks Commission; consolidation of city and county fire protection services; establishment of a Lebanon-Springfield Transit Authority; and strengthening public support for tourism have yet to be realized.

If we're going to continue to enjoy improved quality of life, however, those and other creative ideas, such as enhancing local police protection through merger of city and county police departments as well as adoption of some of the ideas coming out of the New Pioneers "think tank," need to be part of the public debate.

No one should be mayor forever, and I certainly never intended to be. As I've already said, I'm very proud of what Springfield has achieved during my tenure, and I am grateful to those who supported me and contributed to our success. Together, in my judgment, we have set a high standard. I offer my sincere best wishes to the next administration in raising that standard even higher.

A final note from Sylvia Lovely

From one who has had the privilege of working with tireless public servants like Mike Haydon and his brothers and sisters across the Commonwealth, thank you for your service. You inspire us to work even harder to see that dreams come true in every one of the cities that dot the landscape of Kentucky.

PREPARING FOR DISASTER

Planning required for long-standing lethal dangers and threats of the moment

BY MICHAEL JENNINGS

On the morning of Dec. 16, 1811, inside a cabin near Kentucky's geographic center, the members of George Heinrich Crist's family were tossed violently from their beds.

"The roar I thought would leave us deaf if we lived," a shaken Crist wrote later the same day. "When you could hear, all you could hear was screams from people and animals."

Crist's Nelson County cabin withstood the first of that winter's series of earthquakes emanating from the New Madrid fault more than 200 miles to the west. Some of his neighbors' homes did not.

Crist wrote down the best he could manage in the way of an emergency preparedness plan: "If this earthquake or what ever it was did not happen in the Territory of Indiana then me and my family is moving to Pigeon Roost as soon as I can get things together."

Fast forward to 2006 and Kentuckians, from the top tier of state government to the modern equivalent of George Crist and his family, are still striving to assess disaster risks, form plans to cope and, crucially, implement those plans before disaster strikes.

> 'If this earthquake or what ever it was did not happen in the Territory of Indiana then me and my family is moving to Pigeon Roost as soon as I can get things together.'

That task has been complicated in recent years by new forms of terrorism and heightened fears of a worldwide pandemic. At the same time, nature has delivered stark reminders, including last fall's devastating hurricanes, that focusing on the threat of the moment is a fool's errand if it means overlooking the age-old, lethal power of storms, floods and earthquakes.

In responding to the multiplicity of risks, Kentucky has to a large extent mirrored the federal government, which adopted a unitary planning model embodied in the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. While remaining administratively separate, the three agencies likeliest to lead the state's response in a major disaster—the Office of Homeland Security, the Division of Emergency Management and the Department for Public Health—have similarly interwoven their planning and training, the goal being a seamless response when lives hang in the balance.

For example, Public Health has adopted the same 14-region system that Emergency Management has used since 1999 to choreograph

Battlefield

Planning

its disaster response plans. In each region, Emergency Management can deploy a volunteer team of emergency workers trained to deal with hazardous materials or weapons of mass destruction. Public Health can deploy health workers in a similar fashion.

The public health commissioner, Dr. William Hacker, said readiness steps his department took after the September 2001 attacks and subsequent anthrax scare revealed weaknesses in the state's ability to deal with mass casualties or disease victims. Since then, Public Health has opened a preparedness branch that assigns coordinators, epidemiologists and public health trainers to offices across the state.

To prepare Kentuckians for a possible pandemic—the likeliest cause being avian flu or some other new, deadly variant of the flu virus—Public Health has sponsored about 50 local planning sessions in communities across the state. Hacker said he knows of no state that has done more to promote pandemic preparedness at the grassroots.

Today, Kentucky is "a much better organized state" to deal with a public health crisis, Hacker said. "We work very closely with our other emergency responders, agencies—much more so than we have years in the past."

As preparedness planning in Kentucky has grown more closely knit, spending priorities have become more tightly focused.

Today, there is broad agreement among emergency planners at all levels on the urgency of trading the police car squawk box for technologies that enable all "first responders"—police, firefighters and emergency medical workers—to communicate.

It's taken a while to reach that point. In the years before and immediately after 9/11, Kentucky used the dollars it received under the domestic preparedness program of that time to recruit, train and equip the regional response teams.

Harry James, weapons of mass destruction planner for the Division of Emergency Management, said the teams are designed to prevent duplicative spending while ensuring that sophisticated rescue capability can swiftly be brought to bear anywhere in the state.

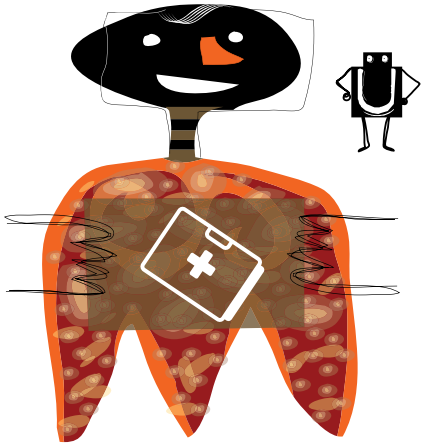
As preparedness planning in Kentucky has grown more closely knit, spending priorities have become more tightly focused.

Until an emergency occurs, both the team members and the specialized equipment remain dispersed in fire and emergency services departments throughout the region, where workers are encouraged to make routine use of the equipment, ensuring they can use it confidently in a disaster.

"It's a way to give us a response in depth, rather than everything just being piled up in one place," James said.

In 2003, when the federal government ramped up its homeland security funding to the states, the influx of new dollars was spent, in Kentucky as elsewhere, in somewhat helter-skelter fashion.

Roughly $11 million of Kentucky's $29.7 million share that year was doled out to Kentucky's 120 counties with little regard to how it would be used. Every county got an equal cut, plus an extra amount based on its population.



The counties' purchases ranged widely among items on emergency planners' wish lists, many of which were also compatible with the regional readiness approach. They included handheld radios, binoculars, chainsaws, cadaver bags and orange traffic cones.

Harry Mason, who has traveled statewide for the Division of Emergency Management to assess local compliance with federal emergency readiness standards, said most homeland security funding in Kentucky has been spent on the right things, including interoperable communications and personal protective gear. But the dollars "often are distributed based on political motivations," he said.

Since 2004, Kentucky has required state, regional and local governmental units to compete for homeland security money, and it has narrowed the range of uses it deems worthy of a share.

All along, communications upgrades have been a high funding priority, but as recently as last year, grants were still being approved for purchases as far removed from that as body armor for police dogs and training to help local police detect money laundering.

State officials describe the grant process as being strictly objective. This year, after a review committee sifted 371 applications, the Kentucky Office of Homeland Security awarded 76 grants to local and regional agencies, and all the grants will enhance communications capabilities.

Totaling more than $10 million, the grants will pay for communications infrastructure or equipment, upgrades of local 911 call centers and mobile computers that can process data from a patrol car or disaster scene.

The dollars haven't been plentiful enough to enable some local emergency officials to build as much or as fast as they'd hoped.

Since 2004, Boone, Kenton and Campbell counties in northern Kentucky have been trying to piece together a region-wide communications system that will cost some $11 million. The state gave them $2.8 for the project in 2004 and $1 million the following year. Boone County Emergency Management Director Dan Maher said at the time that the region "would have been better served" if the state had been more generous.

The project has been placed on hold until local governments can upgrade tower sites and other infrastructure, Maher said. But the progress so far will still enable the counties to do some things they couldn't do before, such as connecting radio systems by cross-patching their frequencies.

Louisville's MetroSafe project represents a still more ambitious goal and entails far greater expense, and city officials have been correspondingly more disappointed by getting less from the state than they requested.

Under MetroSafe, Louisville first consolidated its fire, police and EMS communications systems at a single location. Then it implemented a computerized system that gives 911 emergency dispatchers an overview of all available units. A single dispatcher can orchestrate a full response, so a sick, hurt or panicked caller should never have to make more than one call.

In the project's final two phases, the city will build a new communications center and radio transmission system and buy new radios for 5,000 first responders. The expected price tag: $71 million.

So far, the city has covered most of the cost through bonding. The federal Department of Homeland Security has contributed $22.5 million to the Louisville project through its program of direct grants to 46 metropolitan areas across the nation.

The state contributed nothing to

MetroSafe last year. This year it chipped in $1.1 million—the largest single state grant to a local agency, but one-fifth of what the city requested.

The lack of state funding last year, "kind of took away our momentum … and it delayed our project while we recovered," said Doug Hamilton, MetroSafe director.

In proportional terms, Bowling Green fared the same as Louisville in the latest funding round. The city police department got one-fifth ($512,363) of the $2.56 million it sought to equip law enforcement and emergency management agencies in its region with mobile data computers.

A $500,000 interoperable communications grant Bowling Green received last year was also shared region-wide. When complete, the new system will enable an officer in pursuit of a fleeing felon or suspected terrorist to switch to a shared channel and alert officers in neighboring jurisdictions.

Mason said it's crucial to make interoperable communications secure when needed. "Otherwise, you know, the terrorists could be listening in."

But the costs of encryption, frequency linkage and adoption of new frequencies may place secure communications beyond the means of most Kentucky jurisdictions for now. Ronnie Pearson, emergency management director for Warren County and Bowling Green, said anyone with "a $69 scanner from Radio Shack" could monitor the system being pieced together in his region.

Emergency management officials say they would be remiss to let the buzz about possible new emergencies—a terrorist attack or an outbreak of avian flu—distract them from those that are all but certain, including tornadoes, floods and, sometime in the coming decades, a massive earthquake along the New Madrid fault.

While emergency planners can count on a certain quota of dangerous floods and storms, the earthquake threat remains a wild card, but one nearly certain to be dealt.

When the federal Department of Homeland Security was formed, Maher said, emergency management directors "didn't want them to shift too much focus away from things such as natural disasters." Hurricane Katrina made painfully clear the cost of doing so, he said.

Ed Burk, Maher's counterpart in Kenton County, pointed out that 80 percent of all declared natural disasters nationwide are floods, and Kentucky trails only Alaska among the states in the lineal mileage of its waterways.

To help the state address its flood risk, FEMA recently announced a $3.15 million grant that will improve mapping of floodplains in 25 Kentucky counties. The agency said the grant will help the Kentucky Division of Water create reliable, user-friendly digital maps that will closely track risks and aid in development and rebuilding.

While emergency planners can count on a certain quota of dangerous floods and storms, the earthquake threat remains a wild card, but one nearly certain to be dealt. This year, two scheduled disaster exercises—one in eastern Kentucky and one in the New Madrid fault area in the west—were based on earthquake scenarios.

Cognizant of the possible terrorism targets in the region, including the Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky International Airport, emergency planners in northern Kentucky and neighboring jurisdictions in Ohio and Indiana have conducted joint drills based on terrorism scenarios. One, in 2005, simulated a bioterrorism attack. A drill in 2003 was premised on the release of radioactive material on buses in Fort Wright, Cincinnati and Anderson Township, Ohio.

To a large extent, emergency readiness experts say, well-designed planning

and practice for any one type of disaster improves readiness for all types.

In equipping and training regional teams that can, if necessary, cope with weapons of mass destruction, "the focus is all hazards," James said. "Build that capability to respond to everything because the same fundamental skills are necessary regardless of the incident you're responding to."

Emergency equipment, too, is often multi-use, James said. For example, the protective gear emergency workers would don in a chemical attack could also protect them if they had to transport victims of a communicable disease during a pandemic.

Do the disaster preparations made at all levels of government leave little for a modern-day George Crist to do except hope for the best? To the contrary, emergency officials say, people should prepare for a period of perhaps days when they'll be entirely on their own before disaster aid can reach them.

Hacker said every individual, family and business should have its own disaster plan. And Burk said a disaster plan doesn't have to be elaborate.

"If they can survive for three days on their own, with enough food, water, battery-powered radios and flashlights and those kinds of things … that would be a big help," he said.

Northern Kentucky's emergency planners have taken the concept of individual readiness a step further by training teams of citizen volunteers in basic lifesaving and life-sustaining techniques. In addition to providing survival aid to their neighbors, these Community Emergency Response Teams, it is hoped, will collect crucial information—such as addresses and GPS locations of heavily damaged buildings—and pass it on to professional rescuers when they arrive on the scene.

"We train these people to … tell us where to go when we get there," said Ken Knipper, Campbell County emergency management director. "So it speeds up the whole process. It saves lives, no question about it." And the state recently added a business preparedness element to the homeland security office's "Avoid the Panic Button" campaign. The effort focuses on helping small and medium-sized businesses prepare their employees, operations and assets for an emergency.

To anyone doubting the urgency of individuals' and families' making timely preparations for natural as well as manmade disasters, George Heinrich Crist's grieving voice across 194 years might serve as a sobering reminder.

Ultimately, Crist did carry out his original plan of moving to Indiana. But he had not yet done so in January 1812, when another of that winter's series of earthquakes toppled trees and collapsed homes in Nelson County.

"We lost our Amandy Jane in this one. A log fell on her," Crist wrote. "We will bury her upon the hill under a clump of trees where Besys Ma and Pa is buried. A lot of people thinks that the devil has come here. Some thinks that this is the beginning of the world coming to a end."

City SCENES

Images of fall in Kentucky by photographer Keith Bridgman

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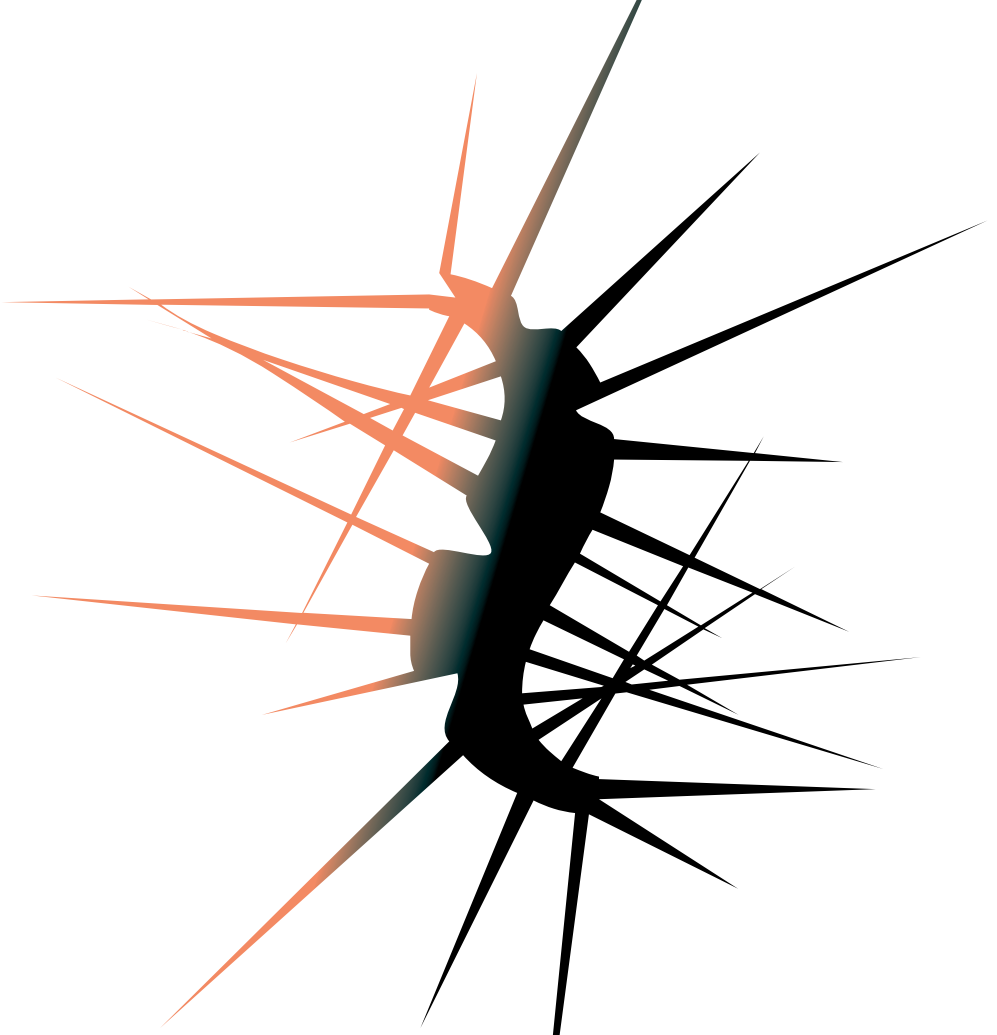


EARTHQUAKES:

Predictions tough to make, but the threat is real

BY MIKE LYNCH

When was the last time you said to yourself, "We need to be ready for an earthquake"? Was it late in 2004 when you heard about the huge Indian Ocean quake that spawned deadly tsunamis, killing more than a quarter of a million people? Or was it in 1990 when Iben Browning predicted an earthquake along the Midwest's New Madrid seismic zone?

Compared to the chance of flooding, tornadoes or ice storms, which happen regularly, earthquakes may seem like a remote threat to most Kentuckians. After all, the last time Kentucky or any of the central United States was rocked by a significant damaging earthquake was when at least three huge quakes shook much of eastern North America during the winter months of 1811-12.

> 'We need to be ready for an earthquake?'

Named for the small southeastern Missouri town near the epicenters of the events, the New Madrid earthquakes would have probably registered 7.0-8.0 on the modern Richter Scale. Newspaper reports and anecdotal stories of their effects made the series of quakes legendary.

They haven't been repeated since that time, but much smaller earthquakes—most of them too small to notice—occur in the

region regularly. Occasionally, some damage is done by a jolt like the 5.2-magnitude earthquake that occurred in Bath County in 1980, causing more than $3 million in damages, mostly in the Maysville area of nearby Mason County.

So what is the likelihood of a damaging earthquake in this region? Since they don't happen very often, it's tough to come up with a good estimate.

"When trying to figure out what the real earthquake threat is in this part of the country, we have to consider both how often damaging earthquakes have happened in the past and what their magnitude was," says Zhenming Wang, who heads the Geologic Hazards Section of the Kentucky Geological Survey.

It has been estimated that magnitude 7.0-8.0 New Madrid earthquakes occurred about every 500 years over the past few thousand years. The U.S. Geological Survey has estimated that the likelihood of a repeat is about 7-10 percent over a 50-year period.

"The biggest problem we have making good determinations is that we just don't have enough data," Wang said, "and this makes it more difficult to make public policy for the hazard mitigation in the region."

Soils and geology in the region complicate the threat from earthquake waves. "Wave energy decreases much more slowly in the Central and Eastern United States than in the West," according to a USGS earthquake fact sheet. "For the same size earthquake, this leads to greater shaking over larger areas, or higher hazard, in the Central and Eastern United States."

In addition, the thick sediments found in much of the New Madrid seismic zone can amplify seismic waves coming from the bedrock below. The shaking at the level where we live and build can thus be several times stronger than the shaking of the bedrock.

To find out more about the threat, the Kentucky Geological Survey and several other agencies are adding a deep "seismic observatory" to an existing array of earthquake-monitoring instruments around Kentucky. Instruments placed in a 2,000-foot-deep borehole in Fulton County, the deepest one of its kind east of the Rocky Mountains, will help seismologists better understand the seismic risk and refine the level of earthquake resistance that should be required of buildings.

The U.S. Department of Energy, which operates the uranium-enriching Paducah Gaseous Diffusion Plant, is involved in the project because risk calculations indicate an earthquake could cause strong ground motions around the plant site. Due to the sensitivity of the materials and the work there, earthquake resistant facilities are a high priority.

It has been estimated that magnitude 7.0-8.0 New Madrid earthquakes occurred about every 500 years over the past few thousand years.

The seismic threat is considered real enough that Kentucky's statewide building codes, modeled from the International Building Code, are actually driven by earthquake considerations, according to Terry Slade, director of the state Division of Building Code Enforcement. Structures larger than one- or two-family dwellings are subject to a six-step process to determine their seismic design category. Considerations include location, site soil conditions, occupancy, use and importance of the structure.

"When you have to determine the seismic design category, it's not just as simple as saying, 'OK, we're in McCracken County, we're a hospital, and we know what we have to do,'" Slade said. "And there's nothing as simple as just going to the table and saying 'These are my design values,' because they would change depending on what the occupancy is, whether it's a critical structure, etc."

Concern about their exposure to future catastrophic losses and reeling from the huge expenses of recent disasters like Hurricane Katrina, some insurance companies—Allstate being the most recent one—are reducing or eliminating their earthquake coverage nationwide.

So what's a community to do, particularly in a political climate still dominated by concerns about national security and terrorism? Neglecting the threat from natural hazards could result in a tragedy such as Hurricane Katrina brought New Orleans and other parts of the Gulf Coast in 2005.

The state agency that coordinates planning and response to natural disasters takes an "all hazards" approach to its own planning and its recommendations for local disaster planning.

"Some of the things that you do to meet any kind of a disaster can be utilized in all events," said Jeff Frodge, planning and preparedness manager for the Kentucky Division of Emergency Management. "That is our philosophy in planning and

responding to disasters."

Earthquakes are among 15 hazards that threaten the state, according to a hazard analysis in the division's emergency operations plan. In a strong earthquake, virtually all the effects of other natural calamities can happen, and over a wide area: structural damage, disruption of utilities and communications, dam failure and flooding, hazardous materials spills, injuries and deaths.

As with planning for every other kind of natural disaster, local leaders need to organize their resources in advance of an earthquake . . .

As with planning for every other kind of natural disaster, local leaders need to organize their resources in advance of an earthquake, pre-assigning people, equipment and other resources to anticipated disaster roles. But major disasters can damage or isolate those resources. Mutual assistance agreements with neighboring communities can provide back-up resources, but a strong earthquake in a region can put neighboring communities in the same bind.

Such scenarios are not uncommon in other disasters, so officials note the importance of local leaders understanding how to declare emergencies and request state help while recognizing that the complications of broken communication and transportation links may slow state help.

In fact, a damaging earthquake in the central U.S. would probably trigger a need for federal response, as local governments and the state's capabilities would be overwhelmed.

Pre-event steps that communities can take include:

- Regularly reviewing and updating disaster response and recovery plans.
- Participating in exercises to test communications, search and rescue capabilities and other elements of disaster response.

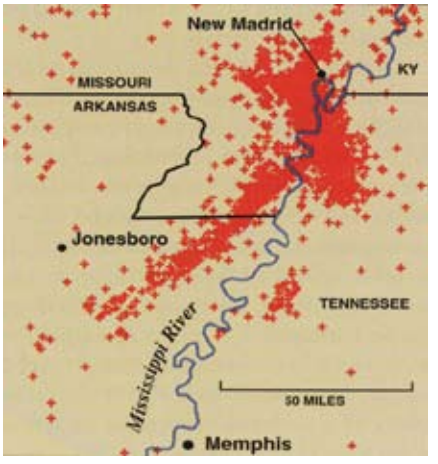
The Hazard Analysis in the Kentucky Emergency Operations Plan identifies 15 hazards, and subcategories, that threaten the state.

1. Floods
2. Tornadoes
3. Severe weather
   a. Remnants of hurricanes or tropical storms
   b. Thunderstorms (and related phenomena)
   c. Winter storms (ice and snow)
   d. Hail storms
4. Earthquakes
5. Forest fires/wildfires
6. Landslides
7. Subsidence
   a. Mine
   b. Karsts/sinkholes
8. Transportation accidents
9. Energy related hazards (and power shortages/ outages)
10. Water shortages/ droughts
11. Nuclear/conventional/ weapons of mass destruction/terrorist attack
12. Dam failure
13. Drought
14. Animal and plant diseases
15. Epidemiological outbreak

- Understanding the state and local building code enforcement responsibilities and actively enforcing the codes that fall under local jurisdiction.
- Regularly reviewing the local government's insurance policy provisions for earthquake damages, including deductibles and exclusions.
- Urging families and businesses to know about the earthquake threat and to take seriously their own need to prepare homes and workplaces for any possible disaster.

In the wake of recent catastrophes and their human and economic costs, the concept of sustainable communities has taken on new and significant meaning. Recent studies and commentaries have lamented that our culture lacks the collective will to be ready either for low-probability/ high-consequence events or for the more likely garden-variety ones.

Jonathan McIntyre, securing the cover to one of the instruments in our seismic network.



The central Mississippi Valley is the most earthquake-prone region of the United States east of the Rocky Mountains. Crosses show the locations of the many earthquakes recorded in the New Madrid seismic zone since 1974.

An August 20 *Time* magazine analysis observed:

"In fact, 91 percent of Americans live in places at a moderate-to-high risk of earthquakes, volcanoes, tornadoes, wildfires, hurricanes, flooding, high-wind damage or terrorism, according to an estimate calculated for *Time* by the Hazards and Vulnerability Research Institute at the University of South Carolina.

"But Americans have a tendency to be die-hard optimists, literally. It is part of what makes the country great—and vincible. 'There are four stages of denial,' says Eric Holdeman, director of emergency management for Seattle's King County, which faces a significant earthquake threat. 'One is, it won't happen. Two is, if it does happen, it won't happen to me. Three: if it does happen to me, it won't be that bad. And four: if it happens to me and it's bad, there's nothing I can do to stop it anyway.'"

Homeland security finds homegrown resources: Kentucky workforce, research help with national security, public safety efforts

BY SARAH RAZOR

The heightened attention to safety and security has spurred the growth and development in Kentucky of businesses and research facilities that provide local, state and federal governments with state-of-the-art safety equipment and technology.

As the organizations develop products that are marketed internationally, they also are having an economic and social impact on their communities.

Here is a closer look at some Kentucky companies that focus on security products.

• • •

Lion Apparel, Beattyville

Beattyville Mayor Charles Beach III describes Lion Apparel as a community fixture.

"They are very involved corporate citizens who have helped out for many, many years with scholarships for the local students, fire equipment for the fire stations and just a strong connection to the community," he said.

Lion Apparel, which located in Beattyville nearly 30 years ago, sells clothing and gear to police and fire departments, civilian government agencies, emergency services and military organizations worldwide. The family-owned company is based in Dayton, Ohio, and has nearly 300 employees in Kentucky, including about 125 employees in Beattyville.

Lion employees' community involvement led to the company being recognized with the local chamber of commerce's Industry of the Year award. The employees' volunteer efforts include Habitat for Humanity, the county school system and community festivals. Several employees also serve on the Lee or Owsley county fire departments.

In August, the Chicago Fire Department awarded a $10 million contract to Lion Apparel for supply and maintenance of firefighter protective clothing and equipment. The contract, which is expected to run through 2008, begins with an initial order of 4,700 turnout coats and 9,400 turnout pants that will be produced in Beattyville. The new style of equipment—which covers the entire body, keeping firefighters drier and safer from burns—has already been adopted by many other major cities.

• • •

M2 Technologies, Inc., Lexington

It isn't every day that you come across a small, woman-owned company that touts itself as being both a high-tech defense contractor and equine veterinary equipment developer. At first, it might be difficult to understand how any company could combine the horse industry and national defense, but it's a logical connection for M2 Technologies, Inc.

M2 Technologies began in 1996 as the brainchild of Janet Morris and her husband, Chris, while they were living in Massachusetts. The company's early focus was to help governments and the military develop equipment and technology that would give them non-lethal means of stopping enemies.

A passion for Morgan horses prompted the couple to buy a farm just outside of Lexington in 2003 to bring them closer to Kentucky's unique equine resources. After moving to Kentucky, Janet Morris developed a partnership with the University of Kentucky College of

Engineering.

"UK's engineering skill set coupled with Kentucky's horse assets made for a perfect location for M2 and the Morrises," said Roger Deon, program manager for M2 Technologies.

Through the partnership, faculty and graduate and undergraduate students have helped develop an anti-sniper infrared targeting system (ASITS) that uses an infrared sensor to track a bullet's heat, helping soldiers pinpoint the origin of enemy sniper fire. The new design, which will be especially helpful near civilians, is said to be more accurate than current methods that depend on acoustics to locate a sniper. ASITS is still in testing stages, but Deon estimates that production is approximately 18 months away.

"Strong efforts are being made to base production of ASITS in Kentucky. Once it goes into production, it will likely have a huge economic impact on Kentucky," he said.

M2 Technologies makes it a priority to use local resources and facilities when possible. As part of the testing phase, the company has developed a working relationship with the nearby Blue Grass Sportsman League shooting range in Wilmore to test the new ASITS technology. Area Boy Scouts helped build the research building at the range to obtain their Eagle Scout ranking.

M2 Technologies, which also has offices in New Hampshire, Kansas, Massachusetts, Hawaii, Ohio and Virginia, has 27 employees nationwide, with 20 employees located in Lexington. M2's Lexington office is the only facility working on numerous equestrian projects. Those include a portable equine isolation chamber for veterinarians that is to be produced in time for the 2010 FEI Alltech World Equestrian Games.

"We have a long-term commitment to Kentucky, to the equine industry and to developing products that are applicable to the real world," Deon said.

• • •

Electronic Warfare Associates Government Systems, Inc., Bowling Green

Bowling Green became home to Electronic Warfare Associates, Inc., a company specializing in defense and broad-based information technology, in early 2005 when EWA became the first participant in Western Kentucky University's Small Business Accelerator program.

The accelerator program provides state-of-the-art office suites as an incentive for science and technology companies to locate in Bowling Green.

"We considered several locations in a number of states before deciding to locate in Bowling Green," Doug Armstrong, president of EWA Government Systems, Inc., said during a recent press conference. "The favorable business climate, the presence of a well-educated and motivated workforce and the overall quality of life for our employees were the deciding factors."

The Kentucky Economic Development Finance Authority approved tax benefits for EWA under an incentive program aimed at increasing the number of service- and technology-related jobs in the state.

Headquartered in Herndon, Va., EWA has facilities in Canada, Australia, Bulgaria and Italy and throughout the United States. The company provides information technology products and services to state and local governments, law enforcement agencies, the U.S. Department of Defense and other federal agencies. The Bowling Green branch will focus primarily on homeland security projects and support to the national intelligence community.

EWA collaborates with the engineering schools at the University of Louisville and WKU, and looks to the schools to provide a workforce. About 20 new software engineering jobs were created with the Bowling Green opening; more growth is expected in coming years.

• • •

Education, research efforts focus on homeland security

In addition to several partnerships with national defense contractors, many of Kentucky's colleges and universities are working on homeland security efforts through grants from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

Since 2003, Kentucky schools have been awarded $34 million from DHS for a number of security measures, including the development of a tracking system for cattle, various surveillance systems, mass communication coordination in emergency situations and portable command systems to use in emergency response.

Many colleges and universities are also designing programs to prepare graduates for jobs in homeland security, emergency response and public safety. Midway College will soon offer an undergraduate degree in homeland security assessment. The program, which is funded through tuition and private donations, will address homeland security from a business-management perspective, including coursework on minimizing the economic impact of terrorism and protecting employees as well as sensitive information. Eastern Kentucky University also offers graduate programs that include coursework on homeland security, emergency response and intelligence analysis.

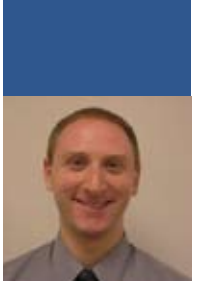
Kentucky also is competing for a national bio- and agri-defense facility to serve as a hub for homeland security scientific research. In August, DHS officials announced that a site near Somerset is one of the 14 finalists in the nation.

DHS estimates the facility, scheduled to open in 2012, could employ more than 400 people with an annual payroll of $30.5 million.

City BUSINESS

BY MICHAEL KARPMAN

Michael Karpman is a program associate in outreach for the National League of Cities' Institute for Youth, Education and Families.



Cities adopting national platform for strengthening families

Every day, mayors and councilmembers are reminded that strong cities are built on a foundation of strong families. Municipal officials recognize that public safety, economic development, workforce strength and fiscal stability are intricately linked to opportunities for children and families to succeed.

That's why cities in Kentucky and across the country are adopting the National League of Cities' (NLC) "Platform for Strengthening Families and Improving Outcomes for Children and Youth" as a framework for action in their communities.

Mayor Jerry Abramson talks with students at the Junior Achievement Chase Finance Park.

Endorsed by the NLC Board of Directors in December 2005, the platform challenges municipal leaders in cities and towns of every size to take concrete action on behalf of children, youth and families, and outlines the essential infrastructure, or the mechanisms and processes, necessary for sustained progress.

Already, 35 cities of all sizes have formally adopted the platform through either a city council resolution or mayoral proclamation. Most recently, the city of Louisville has embarked on a process that local officials anticipate will lead to the city's formal adoption of the platform.

"Louisville was recently named one of the '100 Best Communities for Young People' by America's Promise, and this platform is a chance for our community to formalize its commitment to early childhood development, education and economic development," said Louisville Metro Mayor Jerry Abramson.

Building the essential infrastructure

The first section of the two-part platform identifies four essential tasks required for sustained community investment: identifying needs, opportunities and priorities through a mayor's task force or commission of leaders from the public, private and nonprofit sectors; building city-school partnerships; promoting youth engagement and leadership; and measuring progress over time.

Already, 35 cities of all sizes have formally adopted the platform through either a city council resolution or mayoral proclamation.

The second part offers specific action steps that communities can take in seven areas:

- Early childhood development
- Youth development
- Education and after-school
- Health and safety
- Youth in transition and at risk
- Family economic success
- Neighborhoods and community

"Making certain our children and our parents have all the resources they need is crucial for children to become healthy, vital, responsible adults," said Councilmember Daun Hester of Norfolk, Va., the 2006 chair of NLC's Council on Youth, Education and Families.

Louisville's priority

The platform is serving as a blueprint for many cities, helping them guide and assess progress made on behalf of young people and their families.

Louisville is one city that is using the platform as a checklist or assessment tool to identify what tasks and steps are already being undertaken in each area and what more could be done.

The city's commitment to children, youth, and families encompasses every aspect of the platform. Some key initiatives in which the city is involved include Every 1 Reads, Youth Opportunities Unlimited Center, Success By 6 and community schools.

Another particularly effective initiative is the Louisville Asset Building Coalition. This year, the collaboration of business, government and nonprofit partners has connected 4,000 low-income working families with free tax preparation sites to help them take advantage of the federal Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC).

These efforts have brought millions of dollars back into residents' pockets and into the local economy. The coalition plans to expand its work in the future by helping families save and build assets through financial education, debt reduction and homeownership counseling services.

"The EITC program and our asset-building initiatives are vital to our residents because they are the difference between accumulating debt or starting a savings account, purchasing a car or saving for a down payment on a home," Abramson said.

"Our efforts through the Louisville Asset Building Coalition have truly changed the lives of thousands of families in this community."

A path to progress

Can the platform be a useful guide for your city? Although it is not intended to be a comprehensive list of everything cities can do to strengthen families, it can provide some ideas for how to get started. Cities that sign on will be joining a nationwide initiative showcasing municipal leaders' commitment to their communities' children and families.

To read, download and adopt the platform, municipal officials can visit http://www.nlc.org/iyef/a_city_platform and complete the response form.

The website also contains sample proclamations and resolutions from cities that have already adopted the platform. In addition, the site now includes city examples and resources linked to each of the platform's action steps. Response forms, resolutions and/or proclamations can be e-mailed to karpman@nlc.org or faxed to (202) 626-3043.

'The EITC program and our asset-building initiatives are vital to our residents because they are the difference between accumulating debt or starting a savings account, purchasing a car or saving for a down payment on a home.'

City CONVERSATION

BY CARLA BLANTON

Carla Blanton owns and operates a public affairs and communications consulting firm. in Lexington.

Entire community must mobilize lifelong learning

Kentucky cities have much to tout when they recruit companies – the nation's lowest electricity rates, a productive workforce and a central location.

But Kentucky also has almost 1 million adults with literacy deficiencies. That means 40 percent of our workforce has problems that range from filling out a job application to struggling with higher-level reading and problem-solving skills.

Kentucky can't attract new economy jobs if its workforce doesn't have a strong literacy foundation.

"From an economic development standpoint, infrastructure used to be the primary issue," said Nick Brake, president of the Greater Owensboro Economic Development Corporation. "Now, workforce and education are the primary issues. A lot of the literacy issue boils down to the culture in the home and family. Learning must be taken to every component of life."

From the smallest city to the largest, all communities must work together to stop the cycle of low literacy that is passed from generation to generation.

"Parents pass along more than just eye color to their children," said Sharon Darling, president and founder of the Louisville-headquartered National Center for Family Literacy. "They instill values and attitudes toward learning and education. That's why a multi-generational approach is necessary to break the cycle of illiteracy.

"Stronger literacy skills across multiple generations will benefit families, communities and the economy."

NCFL, which has trained more than 150,000 people and affected more than 1 million families with its programs, also houses the Kentucky Institute for Family Literacy.

"The support of mayors and other city officials will raise public awareness about the importance of literacy and education," said Cynthia L. Read, director of the institute, which works with state agencies and other partners to support multi-generational literacy programs in all 120 Kentucky counties. "We see a tremendous difference in cities where there is overall community support. Cities must build partnerships. This isn't just a school issue. It isn't just a family concern. It is a community responsibility."

Three communities overcome obstacles

Owingsville and Bath County are proving that even small communities with limited resources can make a big difference. About 46 percent of adults in the county rank in the bottom two literacy categories. But Pam Wright, director of the Bath County family literacy program and Even Start, said that attitudes about education are changing.

The family literacy program has served 500 families, and the Even Start program met 100 percent of its benchmarks on education levels for children and parenting skills. In addition, 62 percent of the Even Start parents have obtained a GED, enrolled in postsecondary classes or gained employment.

"There's been a change in attitude about the importance of education – and the possibilities of what can be accomplished," Wright said. "Some children are reading their first book ever. Children and adults are learning to read for pleasure and learning the power of reading.

"The program has broken down barriers and given parents a voice. Now, they can go to parent-teacher conferences without being intimidated."

Wright said that the key elements are partnerships, programming and planning.

The Bath County Board of Education programs have garnered participation and cooperation from the entire community. A wide range of groups have become partners – from the Lions Club, which loans its building to the program for special celebrations, to the newspaper, which promotes the programs free of charge, to the library, which provides free meeting space, parenting workshops and increased Bookmobile stops, to the Christian Appalachian Project, which provides clothing, food, school supplies and toiletries to program participants when needed.

Other key partners are the district's family resource and youth services centers, schools and Head Start. In addition, a program soon will be offered at a low-income housing complex.

The family literacy participants stick with the program because organizers try to make activities fun, worthwhile and convenient, Wright said. People are afraid they will miss something if they skip a class. Participants then tell their friends and family about the programs. This word-of-mouth advertising has helped make the program full for the next few months.

Now, family literacy students are giving back to the community while they work to improve their skills by sending cards to residents of the three nursing homes in the community and reading with patients.

But the partnerships and participation wouldn't have been successful without the planning.

Planning is the key that drives enrollment and creates partnerships. It is a key component in building a strong literacy program.

In Russellville, another at-risk population is receiving comprehensive attention. Inmates at the Logan County Detention Center are receiving family literacy services, which has improved their job, social and parenting skills – all of which are key to a successful re-entry into society.

"Many of the things they are learning might have kept them out of trouble if they had known what help is available to them," said Marie Reeves, family literacy coordinator for Logan County Adult & Family Literacy.

Now, with the help of a grant from Dollar General, more than 200 participants in the past five years have taken an active role in their children's education and literacy. They are enrolling in GED and other classes so they can help children with homework.

Inmates also are receiving guidance about options for technical college and financial aid.

"Before, they thought they couldn't afford it or weren't smart enough," Reeves said. "Now, they're excited. This program has helped with recidivism. Now, instead of seeing them back at the jail, we see them shopping at Wal-Mart instead."

In Owensboro, the schools are high performing, but there is an adult literacy problem – 38 percent function at the lowest two levels. That's why the community is working to encourage businesses, churches and other institutions to take ownership of learning. Owensboro has begun a campaign to brand itself as "the Learning Community."

"We have to conquer the culture – get into households and dinner table conversations about lifelong learning," said Brake, who also serves on the local P-16 council, a group that brings together educators at all levels.

Steps for success

Read, with the Kentucky Institute for Family Literacy, recommends that communities take the following steps when they begin a family literacy program:

- **Gather data** on graduation rates, literacy levels, number of child care slots available, number of people on public assistance and how many adults have GEDs, high school diplomas and postsecondary education. Websites that contain this type of data include the Kentucky State Data Center at the University of Louisville (ksdc.louisville.edu), Kentucky KIDS COUNT (www.kyyouth.org/kcd_st.htm) and K-TAP Data Book (chfs.ky.gov/dcbs/Data_Book.htm).
- **Identify issues** – Once an educational profile of your community has been created, choose one or two issues that can have the greatest impact.
- **Evaluate resources** – What resources are already available to address the issues, and what resources are lacking?
- **Set goals** – What will success look like? How will you measure progress?
- **Create and maximize partnerships** – The entire community must be engaged and energized for success to be possible. Local government, county extension agents, social service agencies, family resource and youth services centers, health departments, the Salvation Army, child-care providers, housing authorities, libraries, banks, local newspapers, grocery stores and others must be mobilized to reach people.
- **Build community support**– Everyone must work together and recognize that education should be celebrated and supported by all citizens.
- **Provide a road map for families** – Improved literacy and a GED are the beginning. Families need help understanding the opportunities available, such as how to begin postsecondary education through a technical college or two-year degree, how to obtain financial aid and what other resources are available to help them. The Kentucky Higher Education Assistance Authority has materials for adults and high school students planning for postsecondary education (www.kheaa.com) as does the GoHigherKY.org website.

Scott Bailey talks with Naomi Judd, right, and Sharon Darling, president of the National Center for Family Literacy.

Literacy affects entire family

The story is all too common – a teenager struggling in high school decides to drop out. He drifts from one low-wage job to another. When he gets married and has children, the financial instability worsens. He is the first target for lay-offs when the economy is bad, and one of his children is repeating his own difficulties in school.

That was Hazard native Scott Bailey's life until instructors at the Appalachian Lifelong Learning Center helped him see the value of an education.

Today, Bailey has his GED, a decent job and is enrolling in college classes. He also is able to help his children with their homework and has better communication with their teachers.

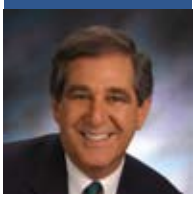
Bailey's story has served as an inspiration. Earlier this year, he spoke to 1,800 people at the National Conference on Family Literacy, along with entertainer Naomi Judd.

"Now that I have my GED, I am going to make sure that my children get a good education, so they don't have to struggle the way their mother and I have," Bailey told the crowd. "I have worked every job that you can imagine for the past 17 years. I have worked in restaurants, construction, maintenance and driving trucks. But now that I have my GED, I know that I can do more. I know that I can have a career.

"And I also know that with support from their mother and me, my children can be good students and can have their own careers someday. After all, without an education, life is a hard road to walk."

City PERSPECTIVE

BY JERRY ABRAMSON

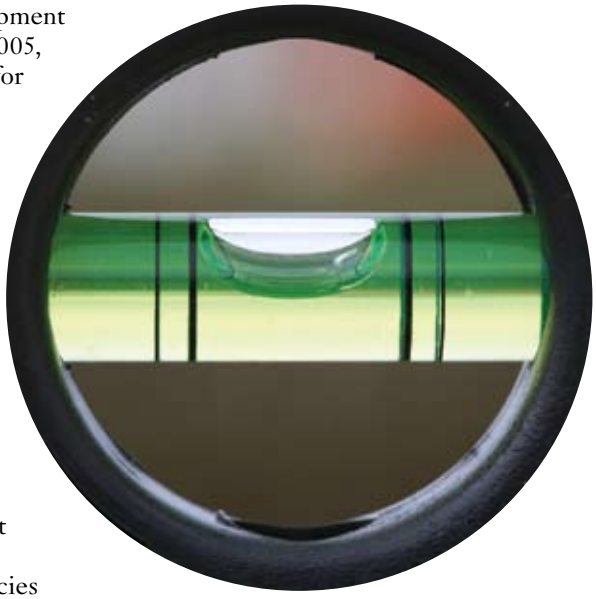


Jerry Abramson is the Mayor of Louisville Metro.

Metro Development Center earns Enterprise Award

When the Metro Development Center opened in March 2005, it created a one-stop shop for builders, homeowners and developers. After being spread out in five different buildings – some of them six blocks away from each other – all the Metro government agencies that provide assistance and guidance for development-related business moved into one building.

For nearly 50 years, a common complaint among the Louisville development community has been that city, county and state agencies had become an obstacle to good development. Following the 2003 merger of the City of Louisville and Jefferson County, we made it a top priority to make government more efficient and, more specifically, to simplify this process.



The fastest way to do that was to move the Louisville Metro departments of Inspections, Permits & Licenses, Planning and Design Services, Public Works, and Metro Development Authority into one government-owned building.

The building, located at 444 S. Fifth Street, was built as a parking garage in 1926. Renovated in 1982 for use by a law firm, it changed hands a few times before it was acquired by the city in 2002.

Several outside agencies also have representatives housed in the Metro Development Center as a way to provide consumers with immediate assistance and a more integrated approach to meeting their needs.

For nearly 50 years, a common complaint among the Louisville development community has been that city, county and state agencies had become an obstacle to good development.

One of the agencies is the Metropolitan Sewer District, which approves and files permits. MSD works closely with the state Division of Water, which approves sewer and drainage projects for developments throughout the state. Because of an application backlog, it sometimes took the Division of Water several months to issue approvals. MSD's partnership with the state moved the approval process for local developers' sewer and drainage applications to Louisville. The partnership has shortened the approval time needed, letting projects get started more

quickly.

The one-stop approach also lets consumers consult with representatives from all agencies at the same time – getting the attention they need in one visit instead of making several trips to different offices.

The Metro Development Center, recognized as an Enterprise Cities Award winner in 2005, is considered unique in the United States because its physical layout was determined by function, not departmental line. Representatives from all departments are located on the first and second floors of the center, allowing interdisciplinary and cross-functional communication and service.

One hand can know what the other is doing this way. It also cuts down on the number of conversations a developer would need to have on the same subject, since staff from different departments can work together on various projects simultaneously and seamlessly.

The addition of two state permitting agencies in the Metro Development Center has further streamlined the process. The presence of the Kentucky Office of Housing, Buildings and Construction eliminates the need for customers to travel to Frankfort to receive approvals for elevator and plumbing issues.

State plumbing inspectors have been given communication and job-tracking devices that are compatible with the Metro system to allow inspections to be tracked at the Development Center. For the first time, this ties state and Metro agency processes together, making the system more efficient for the customer.

The Metro Development Center is still being evaluated for its efficiency and effectiveness. A consultant has interviewed customers and worked with staff members, and an internal management committee continues to implement the consultant's recommendations while working on process and service delivery issues.

Developers and homebuilders have praised the new approach, saying it shaves days and even weeks off of a previously cumbersome process. Our goal of making government more user-friendly is coming to fruition with the Metro Development Center.

And improvements will continue as the permitting and plan review processes become more efficient. The result will be that city agencies won't be blamed for being obstacles to development, and customers will be happier.

City CENTER

BY WILMA BROWN

Wilma Brown is Executive Director of the Community Arts Center in Danville.

Renovation transforms 1911 post office into 21st century arts center

Dirt streets, horses and wagons, and gas lights were standard city features in 1908 when the federal government approved construction of a new post office in downtown Danville.

The impressive Beaux Arts style limestone structure was completed in 1911 with 11,000 square feet of space on three floors for the use of the United States Post Office and the Internal Revenue Service. Construction took 18 months at a cost of $50,000.

In 2004 the former post office on the corner of 4th and Main was renovated for modern reuse as the Community Arts Center at a cost of $1.2 million. A true community effort was needed for the renovation of this significant piece of Danville's architecture and its subsequent opening to the public.

In the years between the original construction and the 2004 renovation, the facility continued to house other government agencies and professional offices, including the military service draft board and recruitment center and the chambers and law library of a federal judge. When the post office moved to another location in 1961, the building became known as the Federal Building.

In 1997, after the facility was empty of all offices, ownership of the property was conveyed to the City of Danville through the Lands to Parks program of the Department of the Interior. To comply with the restriction of a public use for the property, the city considered various applications. In connection with this, Boyle County Fiscal Court conducted a feasibility study to determine community needs and desires.

By 2003 the decision was made that the most appropriate public use of the building would be a center for arts instruction and activities where the community could also gather for events and celebrations.

Under the direction of the newly formed nonprofit organization, Community Arts Center, Inc., 80 volunteers undertook preliminary architectural studies and needs assessment surveys with the use of space and programming in mind.

The city agreed to a 100-year rental contract at $1 a year with exterior maintenance of the property being the responsibility of the city and interior maintenance the responsibility of Community Arts Center, Inc. The $1.2 million cost of renovation fell to the Community Arts Center.

In nearly a century of varied use, the original architectural features had been altered extensively on the main floor, but the basement and second floor were essentially as they had been in 1911. Historic preservation was a priority during the 2004 renovation. What remained of the original structure needed to be preserved within the requirements for modern reuse.

The purpose of the Community Arts Center is to provide an easily accessible place where the community can view, practice, teach and enjoy the arts. Committees were formed comprising arts organization representatives, arts professionals, community leaders and the general public.

The committees contributed ideas on what would be needed to accommodate arts education as well as community gatherings, exhibits and performances. Volunteer consultants from Centre College proved invaluable in providing background information on the types of spaces, equipment and technology needed for the various purposes.

Ideas were translated into reality by architects who were sensitive to the needs of the community. All agreed that spaces needed to be configured and outfitted for maximum flexibility within the structure.

For aesthetic and historic purposes, all flooring was restored to the original marble, terrazzo and hardwood surfaces. All semblance of the original post office had been removed in previous renovations, but other original features remained, including an impressive marble staircase, four vaults, interior office doors and hardware and bathroom fixtures.

The most invasive addition in the 2004 renovation was an elevator reaching all three floors. Because new wiring and new ductwork for heating and air conditioning were necessary, ceilings and walls needed to be removed and replaced in several areas. Sinks and cabinets were added to some offices to convert them to studios.

The limestone exterior was cleaned, and extensive repair was needed on the balustrade surrounding the

roofline. The roof itself and all windows had been replaced in 1984 and were still in decent condition.

Open, airy, and brightly lighted, the building has taken on new life with two years of full operation as the Community Arts Center. Tourists, townspeople and relocating newcomers stop by the facility regularly. Thirty instructors contract for available space to teach a variety of classes in dance, drama, music and visual arts.

More than 60 artists and authors have had exhibits or have displayed merchandise in the gift shop, and one studio space has been reserved for a resident artist who keeps a working studio open to the public.

With 2,000 square feet of open space, the Grand Hall on the main floor is used for small dramatic productions and concerts as well as for social gatherings and community celebrations. The Grand Hall, regularly scheduled for private parties and receptions, has also been the site for several weddings in its short existence.

If all of these operations sound a bit grandiose for a small town, they sometimes are. Demands on the time and energy of a small staff can be overwhelming, and there are ever-present financial obligations. The yearly operating budget stands at $150,000.

Income from diverse sources is key to financial stability. At the Community Arts Center, these sources include artwork and gift shop sales, class fees, utility fees from private parties, donations and grants for programming and operations.

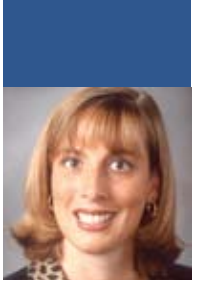
The generosity of private individuals in Danville and Boyle County has been impressive. More than 365 families and local businesses pledged $550,000 for the renovation of the building, and the city contributed $276,000 for specific construction purposes.

In 2006 Boyle County Fiscal Court contributed $10,000 and the city an extra $6,250. The total amount earmarked toward the $1.2 million construction debt is $842,250; Community Arts Center, Inc. is currently carrying a bank loan of over $400,000.

No state or federal funding has been received for this renovation project, which encompasses historic preservation, downtown revitalization, economic development, arts education and widespread community support.

The reasons for this are complex and include timing, bad luck and inexperience among project leaders. Despite the financial concerns, the Community Arts Center has become a staple within the community, a place where people can come together for education and recreation.

Partnerships have included local schools, Centre College, local and regional businesses, local arts organizations, other nonprofit entities, local government and many, many private individuals. A strong board of directors with a vision for ensuring a legacy for future generations has been the main force behind the success of the Community Arts Center. These directors continue to move forward to make the most of the 97 years left on the property lease with the City of Danville.



Robyn Miller is Member Services Manager for the Kentucky League of Cities.

Announcing the 2006 Enterprise Cities Award winners

The Kentucky League of Cities presents the Enterprise Cities Award each year to cities that have demonstrated entrepreneurship, innovation and excellence in local governance.

"In an age in which high-tech advances, global influence and significant change come at us with unprecedented speed, cities in Kentucky that retain their uniqueness and charm while also adapting to these new challenges are cities that will thrive," said Sylvia L. Lovely, executive director/CEO of KLC. "The Enterprise Cities Awards are presented with those factors in mind." Projects were judged in seven key areas:

- innovativeness or creativity of the program
- long-term value to the community
- adaptability to other cities
- use of public/private partnerships
- ability to achieve project benchmarks
- community/citizen participation in planning and/or initiating the project
- efficiency of the program

KLC is pleased to announce the 2006 Enterprise Cities Award winners in each of the four population categories.

Population Under 5,000

Greensburg (pop. 2,769)
Green River Paddle Trail and Park

Mayor George C. Cheatham II

Making the most of the region's natural beauty, Greensburg's Green River Paddle Trail and Park take advantage of the Green River to attract local residents and visitors.

Opened in 2004, the trail and park are home to a livery of 29 canoes and kayaks in addition to city-owned cabins that are available for rent. Visitors enjoy the river, camp on the banks, stay in the cabins and picnic near the gazebo.

With river access only three blocks from downtown, the city is also capitalizing on its historic charm by inviting park visitors to walk to town to eat, shop and look around. The community has seen a clear increase in tourism and economic development by emphasizing the river's appeal.

Population 5,001-15,000

Princeton (pop. 6,500)
"Let's Paint the Town"

Mayor Vickie Hughes

"Let's Paint the Town" is an historic preservation/downtown revitalization effort that has the community of Princeton rolling up its sleeves and volunteering in ways that would challenge any city. Organizations are contributing financial support for building materials and paint brushes. Public officials are providing funds for bucket lifts. Individuals are writing checks to keep the campaign going. Students are volunteering their time and talents. Media coverage has been nonstop and the Kentucky Heritage Council is suggesting that the "Let's Paint the Town" campaign be taken statewide and national.

What's all the fanfare about in the western Kentucky community?

As the brainchild of Princeton's Main Street Renaissance Manager Samuel Koltinsky, "Let's Paint the Town" has clear objectives. The campaign was developed to enhance the city's downtown historic area, to promote an appreciation of preservation and to stimulate economic development.

Years of alterations to building facades had caused the appearance of a once-thriving downtown

community to deteriorate. Aluminum siding, wood covering second story windows and scaling paint had to be removed to expose the hidden treasures of the downtown buildings and park. The campaign began in March 2006 at a town hall meeting with organizers unveiling the project and launching an old-fashioned auction to raise awareness and funds for the effort.

As of July, volunteers had their

hands on 22 downtown businesses and had raised more than $6,000 in private and public donations. The community has embraced the effort and felt a sense of pride in bringing Princeton's downtown back to life.

More important, people are starting to show interest in some of the vacant downtown buildings for future business and residential ventures.

Population 15,001-40,000

Jeffersontown (pop. 26,633)

Jeffersontown Crusade Blues Festival

Mayor Clay Foreman

The Jeffersontown Crusade Blues Festival is a safe, family-friendly event held each year on the third

weekend in May. Founded in May 2005, the festival grew this year to attract more than 1,800 people. Money raised during the festival is donated to the WHAS Crusade for Children, which gives money to schools, agencies and hospitals to finance programs for special needs children across Kentucky.

The festival is operated by the Jeffersontown Crusade Blues Festival Committee and sponsored by the city of Jeffersontown and local businesses and organizations whose donations help underwrite the production costs. This year's festival raised $2,600 for the Crusade for Children donation.

Population over 40,000

Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government (pop. 260,512)

Versailles Road Government Campus

Mayor Teresa Isaac

In 2003, the Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government evaluated its property holdings and determined that it was leasing several buildings for long-term governmental operations. One of the leased sites was the former Furrows Building Materials retail center on Versailles Road. Although only a portion of the site was being leased at the time, the total site covered 7.29 acres of land with large paved areas that included 50 parking spaces and room for large vehicle maneuvering. There were also two large storage bays and a 37,630

square foot building with a sprinkler system, heating and air conditioning and improved office space.

The property had just been placed on the market when the local government saw the opportunity to buy it and use it to house several government operations that were located in other leased buildings.

The urban-county government bought the property, issuing a $2.7 million bond for the purchase and fit-up costs. A project team of employees representing the departments and offices that would move to the new site created a design to accommodate the needs of all of them.

The fit-up took 18 months, using in-house expertise and employees from several government divisions for a majority of the work. The building was opened in May 2006.

The space now houses the Cardinal Valley Neighborhood Center, the Metro Employees Credit Union, the Parks and Recreation Distribution Center, LFUCG Archives and Records Management, the building materials and tools warehouse for the Division of Building Maintenance and Construction, the Household Hazardous Waste Recycling division, and city-wide waste container storage and distribution functions of the Division of Solid Waste.

LFUCG projected that, by owning instead of leasing, the government will save a projected $1.01 million over 20 years – and the city now owns a valuable asset. Money also was saved with the efficiencies achieved by relocating several divisions under one roof.

Other finalists for the award who deserve an honorable mention for their outstanding projects:

Bardwell (pop. 861)

City Park with Walking Trail

Mayor Joe C. Ross

The Bardwell City Park with Walking Trail project will develop an outdoor public sanctuary. The park and trail will feature several flowerbeds, shrubs, trees and other natural beauties along with a small chapel and a drinking fountain, which also serves as a mock wishing well.

Blue Ridge Manor (pop. 800)

Enhancing Beauty, Safety and Services for Residents

Mayor Albert M. Hardesty

Blue Ridge Manor's project, Enhancing Beauty, Safety, and Services for Residents, is a beautification project that includes installing new mailboxes and newspaper boxes for every resident. The initiative also promotes safety by painting white lines on the edge of all paved streets along with amber reflectors on curbs at intersections to improve visibility for drivers.

Burgin (pop. 1,200)

Technology, Economic and Development Project

Mayor John D. Brown

In Burgin's Technology, Economic, and Development Project, a Community Economic Growth Grant will be used to fund a variety of citizen services. Two hundred new water meters with read-right satellite capability will be installed, allowing water companies to read the meters and, minutes later, print bills for their customers. The grant will also fund three new laptop computers, a personal computer, a digital camera, a printer, scanner and wireless Internet access for city hall, the fire station and the police department. There is also a plan to renovate city hall.

Cadiz (pop. 2,365)

Restoration of City Hall

Mayor Lyn Bailey

Cadiz's restoration of city hall is an ongoing initiative to revitalize its historic downtown district. Beginning with city hall, Cadiz renovated many downtown buildings that resulted in an increase in property values in the area and an increase in new businesses.

Carrollton (pop. 3,802)

Carrollton Utilities Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant

Mayor Ann Deatherage

Carrollton's entry, the Carrollton Utilities Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant, involves a project in which the city will collaborate with its local utilities company, seven other cities and four counties to leverage state and federal grant funds, along with borrowed funds, to build a regional wastewater treatment facility.

Falmouth (pop. 2,200)

Kennett Tavern Restoration

Mayor Gene Flaugher

The Kennett Tavern Restoration project involves the transformation of one of the state's oldest federal-style commercial buildings into a new city hall. After more than 10 years that included a delay caused by a devastating flood in 1997, restoration of the building's first floor is complete and is now used by the public as the center of city government. Economic development in the historic downtown area has also increased as a result of the renovation efforts.

Goshen (pop. 998)

Donation to Harmony Elementary School

Mayor Todd Hall

The city of Goshen plans to make a donation to the newly opened Harmony Elementary School to provide books for students. A donation of $40,000 will be made to the school's library. The goal is to provide at least 10 books per child to achieve accreditation. The city's donation has already increased the books-to-student ratio from 5-to-1 to 8.5-to-1.

Pikeville (pop. 6,304)

Underground Utility Relocation

Mayor Franklin D. Justice II, DVM

The Pikeville Underground Utility Relocation project moved downtown utilities underground to help beautify the area and encourage economic development. After a marketing survey revealed that one barrier to attracting new businesses was the perception that the downtown area was unattractive, the city embarked on a $9 million project to move all utilities in the area underground. Now complete, the renovations also included improvements to city sidewalks, streets, lights and buildings.

Shelbyville (pop. 10,085)

Welcome/Heritage Center

Mayor Thomas L. Hardesty

An historic building on Main Street has been renovated to become the Shelbyville Welcome/Heritage Center. The renovations include a new parking lot and green space with flowers, shrubs and walkways. The project has engaged downtown businesses, churches, the Historical Society and city government in creating a more vibrant downtown.

Springfield (pop. 2,800)

Mordecai's on Main

Mayor Mike Haydon

The Mordecai's on Main project involved the purchase and renovation of a dilapidated downtown building in Springfield. Once the renovations were complete, the city solicited proposals for new businesses to use the building in accordance with goals and objectives outlined by Springfield's Main Street/Renaissance program. A restaurant called Mordecai's on Main was selected to enter into a lease/purchase agreement with the city. The restaurant has been a huge success and has enhanced downtown's economic development.

Wilmore (pop. 5,905)

Senior Community Center at Wesley Village

Mayor Harold L. Rainwater

With a $1 million Community Development Block Grant and $2.4 million in private funding the Wilmore Senior Community Center at Wesley Village was born. Opened this summer, the center serves both village residents and seniors living throughout the Wilmore/Jessamine County area. Collaboration among the city of Wilmore, Jessamine Fiscal Court, Wesley Village and state legislators allowed this ambitious project to come to fruition.

Thanks to our enterprising judges!

Morehead Mayor Brad Collins, Chair

Lori A. Davis, Director of Governmental Affairs, Kentucky Community and Technical College System

Kathie Hickey, Renaissance Manager, Covington

Richmond Mayor Connie Lawson

Jackson Mayor Mike Miller

David Rhoades, City Clerk/ Administrator, Central City

Anne Wilhelmus, Public Funds Officer, Fifth Third Bank

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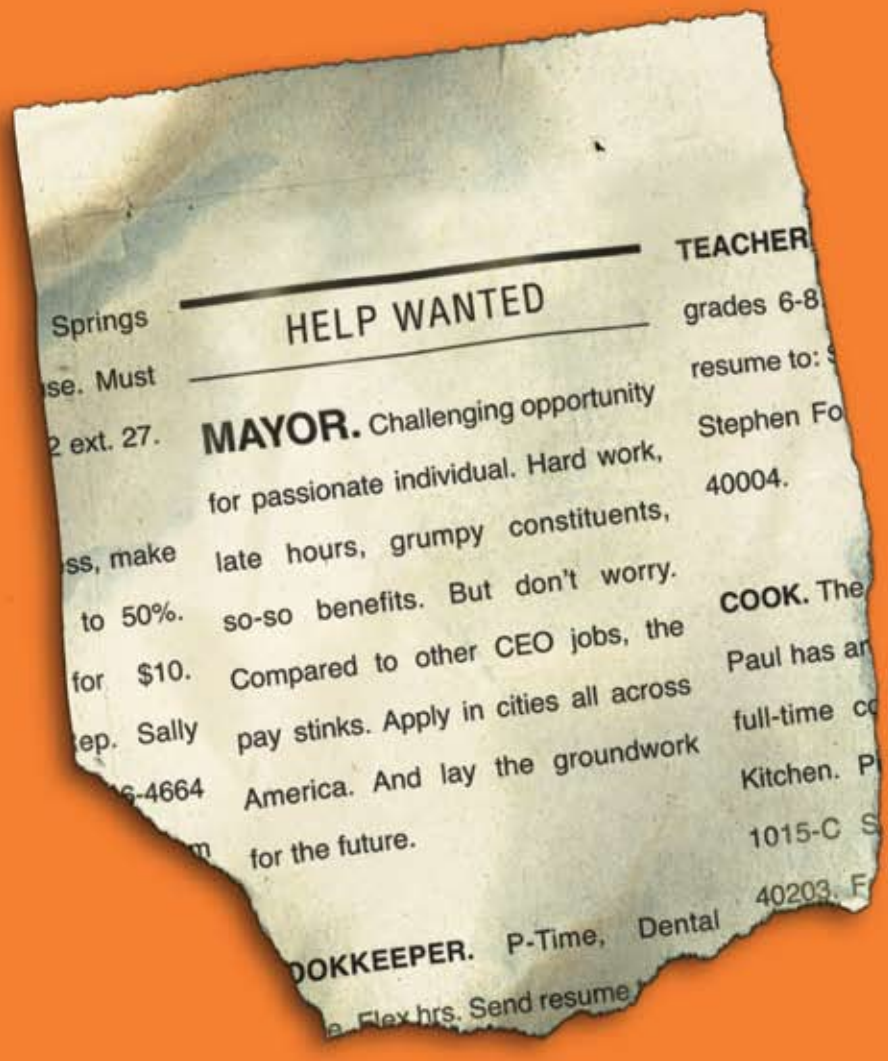

But they can't do it alone. Cities and city leaders need the input of citizens who care. The things you don't think about, cities provide. Like streets, parks, utilities and safety – not to mention a greater quality of life and economic growth. Support measures that give cities options to build a better future. It's in everybody's best interest.

CITIES MAKE LIFE MORE LIVABLE.

NOTE TO PROGRESS!!!
KLC's return address is:
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