

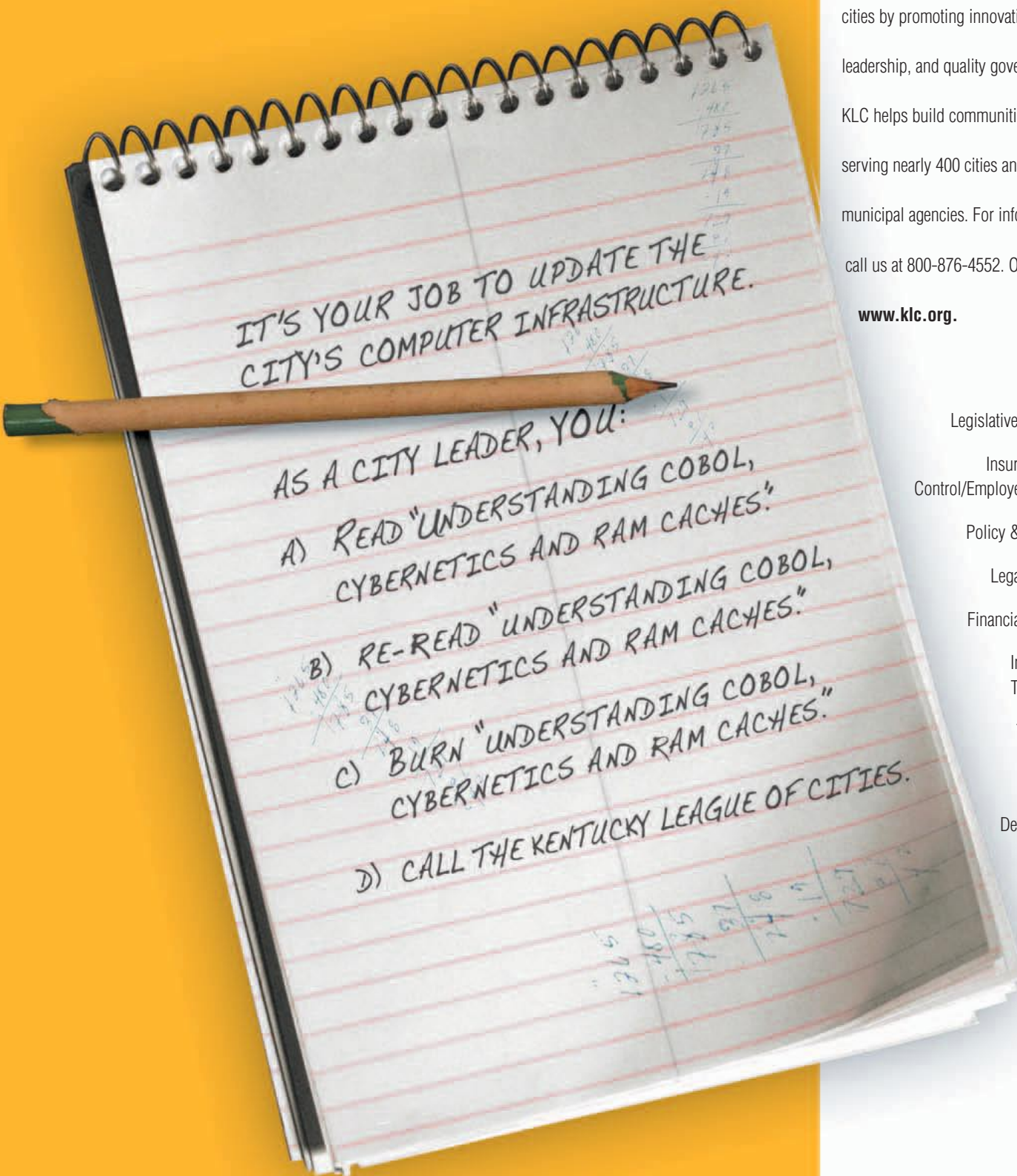
City

THE COMMUNITY ISSUES MAGAZINE OF THE
KENTUCKY LEAGUE OF CITIES FALL 2005

Aging Kentucky



CITY CHALLENGE #74:



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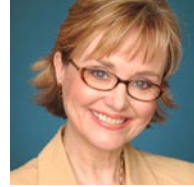
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Cover Illustration by Jim Edmon - Edmon.net



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



Benefiting from the wisdom of those who have traveled ahead

It has been a few months since we lost Dr. Thomas Clark, who died just a few days short of his 102nd birthday. As someone once observed, if you live 100 years you should be entitled to stick around for another 100 or so.

Alas, we cannot have it our way—although, Dr. Clark did seem to cram 200 years' worth of accomplishments into his 101.

While many have reflected on the wisdom found in his prolific writing about Kentucky's history, I want to tell you how he personally, albeit indirectly, had a profound effect on me. It was the result of a series of seemingly strange twists of fate that converge and present you with one of those "aha!" moments.

In this case, the epiphany was about life in our communities and what the future holds in a world gone global—and it came about in part because of Dr. Clark. Let me explain what happened.

Dr. Clark repeatedly admonished us of the need to pay heed to history's lessons. Yet, I am struck lately at how little history, or the humanities for that matter, means to the world today.

That idea was in the back of my head when the strange convergence of incidents began to occur. I had just read *The World is Flat* by Thomas

Friedman, who says we have too few scientists and engineers, with too many kids shunning those tougher disciplines.

"Ouch!" I thought, being an English literature major.

Then, a few days later at a Leadership Kentucky event, I listened to a speech by Gary Gregg, the head of the McConnell Center for Political Leadership at the University of Louisville. Gregg voiced my own thoughts and fears: kids failing history tests; little knowledge of the workings of our major governmental institutions; similar ignorance concerning our important institutions, civic and otherwise.

Not too much later, one of my sons, entering his senior year at a liberal arts college, expressed fear about his future job prospects because, after all, he was "just" a history major.

I was struck by the notion that the very field that my son worries about is the same one that produced Dr. Clark, one of Kentucky's most revered people. Have we gotten so out of balance in our values that history is now a career fraught with financial peril? And does its lack of clout symbolize our blindness to history's lessons?

Then came Dr. Clark's death.

There were other moments that had me pondering community life and what is often being called the predicted decline of our democracy. Studies show that people are apathetic about government. Fewer vote and many are growing angry at a world they do not understand.

One survey even found a grim humor in all of this—namely, that people don't have any opinion whatsoever about Congress. They simply don't care about Congress or what it is doing. And chances are, they have little understanding of its work.

One story shows just how pervasive the lack of interest and knowledge is. A young woman with a master's degree in public policy stood and recited the famed Margaret Mead quote, "Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has."

As she finished the quote, with no pretense or sense of embarrassment, she added: "I don't know who Margaret Mead was, but that sure was a great quote." I was quietly appalled.

All of which brings us full circle, back to *The World Is*

Have we gotten so out of balance in our values that history is now a career fraught with financial peril?



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Flat. It is a great book. I believe the author is correct in calling for more young people to take on the more rigorous and challenging university-level majors. Still, I sometimes wonder if the call for more technical experts has an idea attached to it—one that says we need more gadgets to be invented to ease our busy lives.

But some needs cannot be met by technology. I recall one I experienced during my six-month watch over my mother, who was facing a terminal illness. Eventually, she physically outlived her desire to fight on—and for the young oncologist treating her, there was no pill that could have relieved his obvious discomfort at having to care for someone who was approaching death.

On the day when her fate became crystal clear, he frantically pulled me from the treatment room to have a talk. He implored me to set my mother straight on just how long she had left.

The pained look on his face was exceeded only by the one on my mother's face when I did tell her, against my better judgment.

He was well trained in medicine — one of the best, no doubt. But when it came to a dying patient, all the science in the world could not provide him with the answers.

What becomes important in those moments is what we should cultivate—a commitment that, in these short lives of ours, we nurture a sense of meaningful connection and community with one another.

That was on my mind when I sought a way to pay tribute to Dr. Clark, because he eloquently expressed his belief in the lost art of caring about the community of living.

It can be as private and isolated a thing as sitting bedside with a dying mother. It can be as large and inclusive a thing as seeing a family or neighborhood caring about the kids across town who go to bed hungry, and vowing to do something about it.

Dr. Clark is a part of history now, and by studying his works and considering his advice, we can learn and evolve. But will we do that?

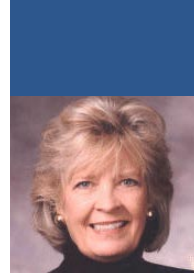
Shortly after my mother's death, a letter arrived. It was from the young doctor who had treated her and had been so panicked when faced with her looming death. He wrote to my father, expressing his sorrow, and wished him well in the future.

It was a moment of caring. It was a hopeful sign. 

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Former Kentucky Governor Martha Layne Collins is chair and CEO of the Kentucky World Trade Center.



Global Kentucky: A whole new world

Covington, Paducah, Lexington, Paintsville, Bowling Green, Florence, Louisville: Kentucky cities that are urban, suburban, rural and now increasingly more global.

Drive down the street in many towns across the state, and you'll notice the big names of banks and law firms that are already experienced in doing business around the world. What you are less likely to see is the small- to mid-size company that is dipping its toe into the international marketplace and benefiting from the myriad opportunities out there.

You can also walk down the street today and see a wider variety of races and ethnicities that were not represented in our towns until recently. What this means to us locally is that not only is the world discovering Kentucky, but Kentucky is also discovering the world in a different way.

Things have changed significantly in the past 10 years. More and more international businesses are opening and thriving across Kentucky. More people are coming here and telling their friends across the country that this is a great place to live and raise a family.

People from other countries are discovering Kentucky as our businesses expand internationally. Kentucky is going global—a development with far-reaching benefits and consequences that we are just now beginning to fully realize. Kentucky cities and regions are working hand-in-hand with their university systems, business organizations and citizens to further international interests and expand into the global marketplace.

Just what does the word “globalization” mean to Kentucky’s citizens, communities and economy? As we move forward at lightning

The 21st century is here, and our economic success depends on how well we respond to the ever-changing challenges of the business world.

speed with the Internet and other technologies, we expand our horizons. What do we need to know to be successful in this new world order? Let’s take a look at the implications of a global economy and how to navigate the seemingly complex systems.

Traditionally, the commonwealth has been known for Kentucky Fried Chicken. People from Manhattan to Mongolia know us for this famous

recipe. But other industries are increasingly introducing people to the beauty of our state and the quality of our products.

Author and columnist Thomas Friedman presents the notion of a level playing field for the game of international trade in his book, *The World is Flat*. He asserts that technology allows other countries to compete with the U.S. in the industries we traditionally dominate, and keeping up means we must continuously innovate.

The diversification of our economy has established a model for the rest of the country to follow and has allowed us to move forward. Recently, the state was chosen for the Trade Roots program offered by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce. As one of only 10 states chosen to participate in this export promotion program, Kentucky is well positioned to increase its export capabilities.

Every day officials and dignitaries



from other nations contact companies around the state about doing business here. We certainly have the attention of the world; understanding the importance of these connections is critical to continuing our success. Grasping the advantages created by increasingly liberal global economic policies, enhanced technology and cheaper transportation will also help businesses in Kentucky flourish.

The buzz these days around the economic development water cooler is regionalism. Groups from Fayette County cooperate with Scott County to attract investment. The recent merger of Louisville and Jefferson County facilitated their ability to manage incentives.

But if we are to discuss the benefits of regionalism, we must also consider the effects of globalization. Our neighbors are from other cities and counties, but they also live in other countries and on other continents. We must be aware of other cultures, the importance of language in learning and sensitivity to others’ beliefs and religion.

We live in a complicated world. To move forward, we must embrace the attitude expressed by Henry David Thoreau: “Be a Columbus to whole new continents and worlds within you, opening new channels, not of trade, but of thought.”

Kentucky’s top trading partners are Canada, France, the United Kingdom, Mexico and Japan. If we consider that almost \$13 billion worth of sales (2004) make up the state export business, and new markets such as China and India represent over 2 billion people, we realize that we have not even begun to tap the potential of the global economy.

Every day Kentucky-based businesses ship computer products to France, hospital and medical supplies to Malaysia and India, construction equipment to Uzbekistan and software technology to Brazil. Kentucky is the nation’s 11th-largest exporter per capita, a trend that is projected to continue over the next decade.

With an intensifying push toward internationalization, Kentucky ranks sixth in export growth among all states. The direct benefits of selling internationally include more money for local economies, more jobs created and, ultimately, an increased standard

of living in our state.

Local leaders are joining us as we venture into other countries to learn about opportunities for Kentucky businesses. These new markets represent new areas for expansion, and we must understand how to operate in them before investing.


It is essential that our city, county and state officials look at these international markets as viable new outlets for Kentucky products.

When we take a trade mission to China, it is not a fun junket, but a working trip with a full agenda of activities. Companies that had never dreamed of entering other markets are now considering such far-flung destinations as South Africa, Ghana, Indonesia or Russia. These countries represent opportunities for growth and growing demand for what we have to offer.

Individuals who have never traveled outside the state are now traveling abroad and signing deals with their counterparts in every corner of the world. Even the language barrier is only a small obstacle as we explore the options of going global. English is widely spoken, and most people are more than happy to practice their skills.

Increased opportunity also means that our workforce will have to be competitive. We must focus on educating our youth to work in the global arena. This means placing an emphasis on foreign languages, cultural diversity and understanding the world around us.

As a former educator, I believe the process must begin early if we are to equip our children with the necessary tools for success. Our universities play a vital role in workforce preparation and are taking the lead in expanding their focus to include international topics. Relationships established through such programs as Sister Cities are also essential to our understanding of other cultures and fostering friendships that extend beyond business.

The 21st century is here, and our economic success depends on how well we respond to the ever-changing challenges of the business world. If we work together to confront the issues and respond actively to opportunities, we will achieve our goals and build a dynamic future for our state. 



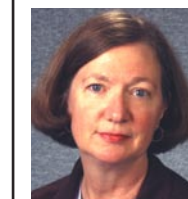
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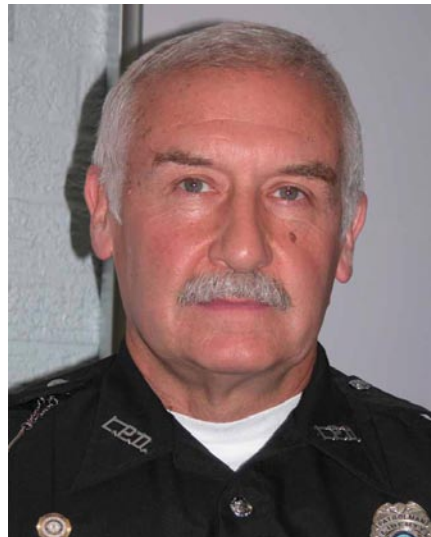


School resource officers benefit communities, not just schools

Rex Rader has come full circle. After getting a master's degree in physical education, he didn't take a teaching job but instead worked in a variety of other occupations, including insurance salesman, dairy farmer, factory safety coordinator and part-time security guard.

But at age 58, thanks to a joint effort by Liberty city government, Casey County Schools and a local drug abuse prevention group, he has unexpectedly fulfilled the promise of his degree by working with students in public schools.

Rader is a Liberty police officer, but during the school year he works as the school district's school resource officer, dividing his time between the high school and the middle school.



Casey County school resource officer Rex Rader

and there's a perception on most people's part that the schools are safer because they're there," she said.

Kentucky got its first school resource officer program in 1996 at a Jefferson County school. The majority of school resource officer positions were started with three-year federal grants through the Community Oriented Policing Services program. Robert said her agency's main concern is the ability of local governments and school districts to pick up the tab once the nonrenewable grants expire.

The school resource officers have a three-pronged role, Roberts said: law enforcement officer, advisor and instructor.

"I think the most effective way for me is to gain the confidence of the kids and, preferably, I'd like to talk to them one-on-one. But I have aspirations of presenting some classes, some general classes about behavior, vandalism, rape, alcohol and drugs, that sort of thing," said Rader, who started his job in January after four months of police training at Eastern Kentucky University. His previous involvement with schools came as an archery instructor in the district's after-school program.

Sweeney describes Rader as "low key but very effective." His office at the high school bears witness to that. Pamphlets and pictures showing the dangers of smoking, chewing tobacco and drugs are displayed on shelves. Large posters with similar messages are placed where they can catch the eye of students walking in the hallway past his office. On his desk are copies of newspaper stories about local tragedies that illustrate

is the director of the school district's Youth Services Center. "We're from a relatively poor, rural community here, and our students may not have access to as many advantages as kids do in other communities. We felt like it was important to have a role model in the schools."

The school board and substance abuse board each kick in \$10,000 for the position, with the city picking up between \$15,000 and \$20,000, Sweeney said. The city also provides Rader's benefits, equipment and a police cruiser.

Liberty is one of approximately 32 cities in Kentucky that employ a total of 66 school resource officers, according to Cheryl Roberts, justice specialist with the Kentucky Center for School Safety in Richmond.

"If they pick the right officer, the program becomes enormously popular with parents and teachers and students

'I think the most effective way for me is to gain the confidence of the kids and, preferably, I'd like to talk to them one-on-one.'

The city had twice applied and failed to get federal funding for the position, said Liberty Mayor Steve Sweeney. So the city and its partners – the school district and the local Agency for Substance Abuse Policy Board – last year pooled funds to support the position.

"We think it's important that we have a presence in the schools," said Sweeney, who, besides being mayor,



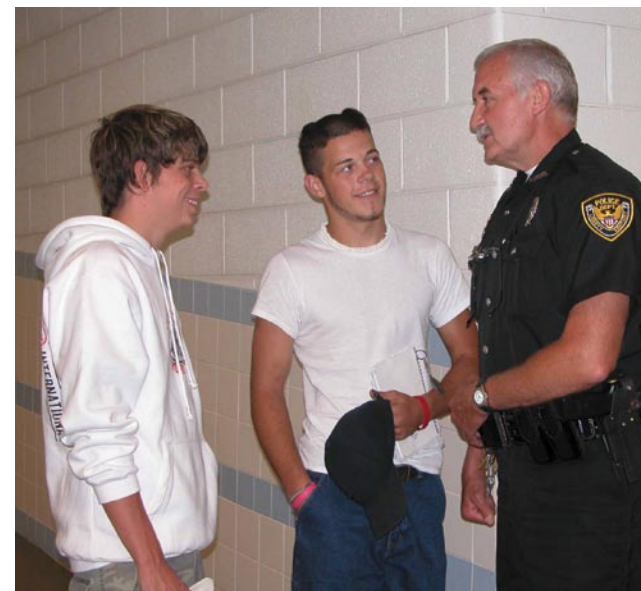
Rader stations himself in a busy hallway between classes.

the consequences of using drugs and drinking and driving.

"It gives me an opportunity to talk to them," Rader said. "I want to be a mentor."

"If they'll start talking with him about those things, before you know it, they'll start talking to him about other things that will help the school," said Casey County High School Principal Tim Goodlett.

Last year, a tip from a student resulted in two classmates being



Rader talks with students Justin Muse, left, and Scotty Wright while classes are changing. Rader is a Liberty police officer.

'We feel like the school system and the city and the county government are making a concerted effort to try to bring the community together and become unified in our approach to all aspects of life in our community. Education is first and foremost on our agenda.'

arrested on drug-related charges. Goodlett said discipline at his school has improved since Rader has been on the job.

"The kids are less likely to get extremely disrespectful," he said.

Roberts said the school resource officer approach is proactive. "They don't wait until a crime is committed to get involved. They get in the schools,

they have a sense of things that are developing, and maybe they can prevent crime rather than waiting for it to happen," she said. "So usually police departments find it's to their benefit to continue because many of them see it as a crime-prevention program."

Like most school resource officers, Rader works patrol duty in the summers. But even during the school year, his job is a plus for the community, Sweeney said.

"Our city has looked for a number of ways to contribute to the community – we feel this is one part of that," he said. "We feel like the school system and the city and the county government are making a concerted effort to try to bring the community together and become unified in our approach to all aspects of life in our community. Education is first and foremost on our agenda."

After all, Rader said, gesturing at the hallways filled with the students, "This is going to be the community."



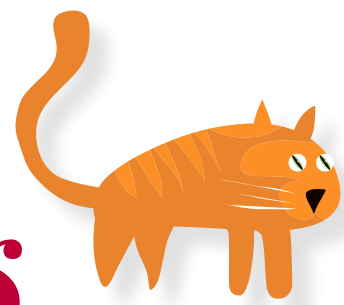
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Aging population brings change and challenge to Kentucky



BY JOHN MCGILL

Here's something to ponder:

Roughly 19 months from now, any time Paul McCartney sings "When I'm 64," it will be a *retrospective*.

And last August, when the Rolling Stones, four men with a combined age of 245, began their latest world tour, the running joke was that they should change their name to the Strolling Bones.

But consider this: McCartney, 63, turned out a new CD to positive reviews in September and is embarked on a 31-concert tour covering 22 cities that extends through November. And the Stones' year-long tour already has 54 dates with more to come as they visit the U.S., Mexico, South America, the Far East and Europe.

"They perform like musicians half their age," a *Boston Globe* reviewer said.

The point here isn't to suggest that rock 'n' rollers are less prone to the rocking chair. Rather, it's that youngish attitudes, lively lifestyles and the ability to contribute are more and more becoming attributes of "elders"—which, as it turns out, might be a considerable blessing as the first wave of baby boomers hits 65 next year.

Over the next decade, this upsurge

in the number of people eligible for Social Security, Medicare and Medicaid will bring a wave of change and challenge that is the cultural equivalent of a tsunami.

Approximately 77 million babies were born in the U.S. during the boom years of 1946 to 1964 that followed the end of World War II. In 2011, the oldest will turn 65 and, on average, can expect to live to 83.

"The same kind of culture shock we've undergone with the New Orleans storm (Hurricane Katrina) is coming our way with elder care," said Dr. Keith Knapp, CEO of the Episcopal Church Home in Louisville. "And it's really not hit hard with the general public yet about how expensive it's going to be to try to do it the way we've been doing it."

In Kentucky, a two-year study is getting under way that seeks not only to identify areas of concern to various regions and cities, but also to promote a sea change in people's attitudes in how they regard elders.

"There's really been a change in what it means to be old," suggested Dr. Graham Rowles, director of the Graduate Center for Gerontology at the University of Kentucky. "Most

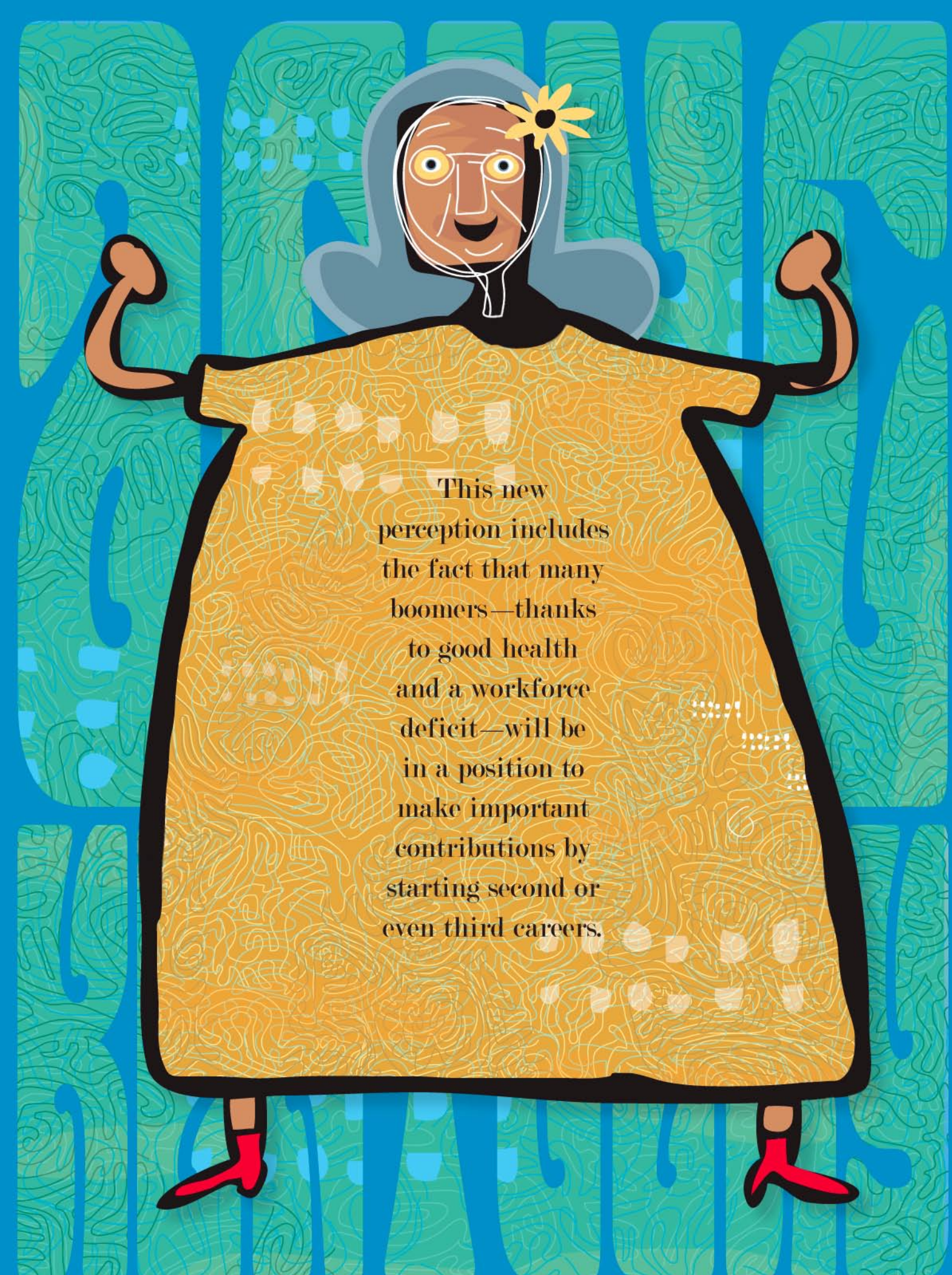
who retire, even to 65, are relatively healthy and still contributing members of society. Instead of viewing this with a problem mentality, we need to realize that elders are a resource, an issue for society to support."

This new perception includes the fact that many boomers—thanks to good health and a workforce deficit—will be in a position to make important contributions by starting second or even third careers, or by being retirees who work part time. That's in addition to the roles they can play in such areas as caring for older parents and volunteerism.

Rowles is one of the key people behind the state-sponsored Kentucky Elder Readiness Initiative. Over the next two years, the study will focus on these major areas: community resources, health and safety, quality of life and community involvement.

"When we start talking about the baby boom cohort, the question is not 'how will we deal with them,' but 'how can we utilize them in developing a different type of society in Kentucky that embraces elders in a different way?'" he said. "What I would suggest is that we're in the midst of a social

This new perception includes the fact that many boomers—thanks to good health and a workforce deficit—will be in a position to make important contributions by starting second or even third careers.



revolution where elders themselves are starting to redefine what it is to be elderly.”

The study goes beyond merely compiling information by taking a proactive role in helping cities develop programs that raise the quality of life not only for elders, but for the community as a whole.

Researchers will be in the field in each of Kentucky’s 15 Area Development Districts (ADDs) to take the pulse of people’s concerns.

“This is not just a survey to be put on a shelf. It’s part of a process much larger as we help reshape communities to deal with the new reality that’s going on,” Rowles said. “The final part of the project is actually going to each ADD and not

Each generation has been healthier than the one preceding it – meaning more elders are capable of making contributions.

just sharing with representatives and community organizations what we’ve come up with, but working with them in establishing priorities (particular to each area) ... and start moving toward accomplishing those priorities.”

With many states already experiencing funding shortfalls in Medicaid and other programs even before the baby boomer surge hits, Rowles says that involving businesses, local communities and elders themselves will be essential in meeting the challenge.

While the challenge is national in scope, meeting it is of particular urgency in Kentucky. Consider this:

- Kentucky ranks 28th among states in its proportion of elder residents with 16 percent of its population older than 60. By 2025, it is expected to rank 12th.
- Also by 2025, almost 21 percent of the state’s population is projected to be 65 and above, compared to about 18.5 percent nationally.
- In 2000, the number of Kentuckians over age 85 (the

group that requires the most medical attention and long-term care) was 58,000—a 25 percent increase since 1990.

Rowles noted that while Kentucky’s 60-and-over population grew a reasonably manageable 5.1 percent between 1990 and 2000, the demographics will soon change.

“Look at the current group between 45 and 59,” he said. “In 1990, that population was 545,000. Look at it in 2000 and it’s 755,000—a 38-39 percent increase. That is the wave of people who are going to hit with retirement, and it’s like a tidal wave.”

Melissa Taylor Bell, associate director of research for the Lexington-based Council of State



Governments, says that a pilot survey to identify the 10 major drivers of change in the near future saw virtually all 50 states listing aging as No. 1.

The council is beginning to analyze data on a comprehensive study expected to be released later this year.

“We’re not going to just look at how health care is affected or what concerns the offices on aging,” Bell said. “We’re going to look at services all across government and show how aging is going to have an impact and whether we need to restructure or refine things to help serve people.”

Just as important, Rowles would suggest, is that elders themselves are “restructured” in terms of what being old means and what their capabilities are. The National Institute on Aging cites three categories: the “young old” (ages 65-74), “the old old” (75 and over) and the “oldest old” (85-plus).

Although the last category requires

the most medical spending and is growing in number, Rowles noted that for quite some time now each generation has been healthier than the one preceding it—meaning more elders are capable of making contributions.

Good thing, because there are simply more workforce openings than younger generations can fill. Many businesses are already developing new models of employment to retain and recruit older workers, including phased retirements, part-time work and options to relocate in different cities on a rotating basis.

“There is one national corporation that allows working seniors, for example, to travel to Florida and spend three months working there, then to the plant in Iowa for three months, and then Boston for three months,” Rowles said. “The notion is that people can work in the same areas where their children are, since so many people want to retire so they can see more of their kids.”

Many state governments are also encouraging seniors to work.

“Some of their workforce planning is allowing retirees to take jobs,” Bell said. “I can’t tell you how many allow that, but there’s quite a growing awareness—especially at the managerial level—that these people are wonderful resources.”

Health care is an obvious challenge and will require some fundamental changes in every aspect of society, Knapp predicted.

“My thinking is that out of mere necessity, the American family is going to resurface as a dominant player in how we get it done,” he said.

Knapp noted that some other countries have already developed new approaches.

“In Russia, they’ve done an interesting thing where responsibility for care of the elderly is shared in neighborhoods, kind of like a block association,” he said. “And everyone is expected to take a certain amount of time off each year to take care of the old folks, and they’re paid by employers to do it. Sweden does something very similar. I think there’s a lot to be learned by what they’ve done in Europe.”

Rowles suggested that in addition to more family and community involvement in care, technology also has the potential to meet many of

the developing needs. These include streets and housing designed for elders, including “smart homes” that have any number of assistance functions, such as lights that come on automatically when someone walks into a room.

“I’m coming across as the optimist here,” Rowles said, “but that’s because we are starting to come up with all kinds of innovative ways to deal with elders. The notion of robot maids sounds kind of ridiculous, but I was at a conference in Heidelberg where this kind of technology was being developed. One example was a device that could look in an elder’s refrigerator and automatically order what was needed and have it delivered.”

Not surprisingly, the overwhelming majority of people want to avoid nursing facilities and live as long as they can in their own homes.

No one likely understands this more than Knapp, whose Episcopal Church Home is one of only 200 or so facilities that are part of The Eden Alternative, an association that, according to its Web site, urges that “we must teach ourselves to see the environments as habitats for human beings rather than facilities for the frail and elderly.”

Companion animals, children and various tasks that have real meaning are part of the approach.

“We mainly try to build a culture where people feel they have a stake in outcomes,” Knapp said. “It’s more of an intentional community where we really work at making sure you’re meeting another person’s needs, as you’d do in any relationship. In our network, that means residents and their families, staff and volunteers are all part of that community. We do things to foster relationships that will last over time.”

The key, he said, is to play to a person’s remaining strengths rather than the prevailing model of health care where one attempts to restore what the person has lost, however unrealistic the possibility.

“People in hospice have been way out in front of this with palliative care,” Knapp said. “Not that you have to be dying to benefit. It’s just the whole idea of making people comfortable, feeling valued and feeling good about the legacy they

can leave is a different kind of care.”

Rowles hopes to encourage this same emphasis on finding value in what older people can offer as opposed to simply viewing the growing number of elders as a faceless problem that needs fixing. Such merging of generations in cooperative efforts, he suggests, can create an atmosphere for finding innovative ways to raise the quality of life for all Kentuckians—old and young.

“The increase in life expectancy between 1900 and 2000 was 30 years. *Thirty years*,” Rowles said, warming to the significance of that number. “At the beginning of the last century, you’d live to age 47 on average. At the end of the 20th century it was up to 77. Talk about a sea change. Think about what adding 30 years to effective life is. It’s *huge*.”

And it underscores the emphasis on changing mindsets as America experiences the phenomenon of aging on an unprecedented scale.

Knapp will tell you how the Episcopal Church Home gives elders with poor short-term memory

several opportunities each day to achieve “contentment in the moment” by encouraging them to complete achievable tasks. The resulting sense of accomplishment restores a feeling of purpose in their lives, even if they may not remember those moments by nightfall.

“But we remember,” he said, “and we also tell their families.”

Rowles noted that because Kentucky’s population is relatively small, the potential to pull off innovative approaches might be greater than in states with much larger populations. But at its heart, his study has this simple but life-affirming approach: people, not problems.

“We have the option of potentially doing something creative,” Rowles said. “But it absolutely has to involve local folks. We plan to have community forums and focus groups, and we’ll work with them to find ways to implement programs. But only as much as people get involved and participate in this will it warrant well.”

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Michelle Monroe

is a business development consultant living in Northern Kentucky. In addition to writing, she creates training workshops and educational materials. She teaches at Gateway Community and Technical College.

Many members of today's "senior" generation lived a challenging life in their formative years, learning tough lessons about integrity and dependability. As

crook. From a swindler's perspective, seniors' assets are just too tempting to ignore.

Financial crimes are on the rise in Kentucky for all age groups, officials say, but seniors are more susceptible to some kinds of scams than others.

but prizewinner/investment fraud is the most expensive scheme. On average, people who try to collect bogus prizes lose more than \$3,100. "Sweepstakes scams are probably the most common type of fraud we see," said Lori Farris, manager of

from the new Medicare discount cards. Illegal cards are being marketed that either provide no benefits with pharmacies or cost more than the maximum \$30 annual fee. Selling the cards may be another way for criminals to obtain credit or other personal information from seniors.

Identity Theft

Identity theft is a fast growing crime in Kentucky and the nation. Seniors tend to have good credit that criminals want to exploit. Once a social security number gets into the hands of a greedy person, the damage can be devastating. Losing their good credit will be the least of their worries—seniors whose identities have been stolen will find that they have lost money, time and their sense of security. Finding the

Protection Division said, "People are doubly victimized by phony checks. They lose whatever money they wired to pay bogus fees, and they have to pay real bank fees for returned checks and overdrafts for purchases they have made with what they thought was prize money."

What can be done?

The motto of the Attorney General's Office of Consumer Protection is "Aware, Avoid, Alert." The office makes seniors aware of the kinds of crimes being committed to keep them from becoming victims. The program also calls on seniors' sense of civic responsibility; it stresses the importance of overcoming embarrassment and uncertainty to report physical and financial crimes to prevent others from suffering the same fate.

publication called *Helping Seniors* about the kinds of situations they may encounter and what to do about them. They also receive information about who to contact if they think they may be (or have been) victimized.

Local Agencies' Efforts

Regionally, the Louisville chapter of the Better Business Bureau has initiated a program called Elder Contract Review. Local attorneys volunteer their time to review contracts that those over age 65 have been asked to sign. Charles Mattingly, president and CEO of the Louisville chapter of the Better Business Bureau, noted, "Whether contracts are from family members, salespeople, insurance companies or other organizations, the attorneys provide legal advice to help the

Seniors targeted by financial scam artists

our parents and grandparents, they taught us about responsibility and used discipline to help us understand consequences, often softened by their unconditional love.

Now, in years that should be golden for them, they are living longer, more independent lives. Many have saved enough to accumulate sizeable retirement accounts and have substantial equity in their homes. They don't expect life to be simple, and they don't ask for handouts. But they do expect to be treated as they treat others. Being targeted by scam artists is so far outside their realm thinking, it's almost unimaginable. But there are people who take advantage of older Americans for that very reason. For some criminals, the phrase senior citizen equals dollars. Predators see them as easy targets because they are too trusting to recognize a con attempt and too polite to be rude to aggressive tactics. Even if a fraud is detected, embarrassed seniors frequently can't clearly recall enough facts to catch the

Everyone should be on the lookout for the following:

False Charity Scams

According to the AARP, more than half of all people contacted by illegal telemarketers are over 50 years old. Unscrupulous telemarketers can easily remain anonymous while persuading seniors to provide personal information. They play on religious and moral values by questioning their victims' beliefs. Charity scams offer small gifts, heart-wrenching pictures and descriptive accounts of desperate situations. Seniors, trusting people to tell the truth, willingly send their money to help a person who is less fortunate. That less fortunate person, however, never sees a penny. If all else fails, charity scam instigators bully seniors into feeling guilty about not giving money.

Prizewinner/Investment Fraud

Telemarketing may be the most common way crooks reach victims,

mediation and senior protection for the Kentucky Attorney General's Office of Consumer Protection. Older people, especially, understand the importance of having a good savings balance. Since they are watching their savings erode monthly, they may be inclined to fall for any scheme that offers them a substantial return. When they receive calls and mail telling them they've won money, they may not ask enough questions before sending in their hard-earned cash as "fees" to claim their profits.

Another aspect of this type of scam is that older people are conned into believing they can make money quickly. "Ads placed in newspapers and magazines fool seniors into thinking they can qualify for government grants and loans if they pay up-front fees," Farris said.

Medicare Fraud

The advent of any new program provides an opportunity for additional fraud. This is especially true with Medicare fraud stemming

culprit is difficult, and convincing creditors of the crime's occurrence is sometimes even harder.

Phony Check Scam

The most recent scam to surface is one in which a person sends a senior a check for a large amount of money, then promises to let the senior keep most of it if some money is wired to another account to cover fees. People of all ages fall for this scam because several versions exist at any one time. A letter, an e-mail, a telephone call, or even an ad in a magazine might be the contact method, but the result is always the same: the check is returned as not payable, and the senior is out the money that was wired, as well as fees for the returns. James Johnson, administrator and ombudsman for the Kentucky Consumer

Across the state, the Office of Consumer Protection partners with local law enforcement agencies and senior citizens' centers to host workshops called Crime Colleges. Nearly 50 such seminars will be held this year. Seniors flock to attend the presentations, which are held in a setting that encourages their participation and questions. As part of their "college text" they receive a

seniors make up their own minds." The program has been a success, he said, because it gives seniors a chance to think about what they're doing away from the pressures of the people who want them to sign.

The following agencies offer additional information on scams and what to do about them:

Federal Trade Commission
Consumer Complaints
877-FTC-HELP (382-4357)

Louisville Better Business Bureau
502-583-6546 or 800-388-2222 or
www.ky-inbb.org

Office of Consumer Protection
Hotline and Seniors' Crime College
information
502-696-5389 or 888-432-9257

Louisville Metropolitan Sheriff's
Department
502-574-LMPD (5673)



City SCENES

A tribute to Thomas D. Clark Kentucky Historian Laureate 1903-2005



Photo from Kentucky History Center

Clark, top right, with his Siblings.



Photo from Kentucky History Center

Clark in football attire for the Cboctaw County Agricultural High School.

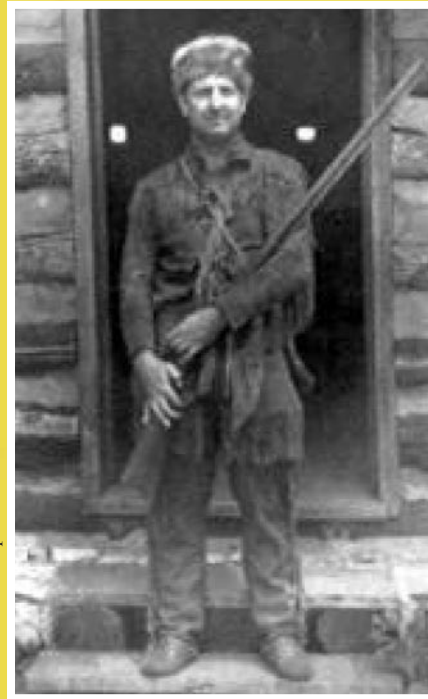


Photo from UK Special Collections

Clark in costume for history film.

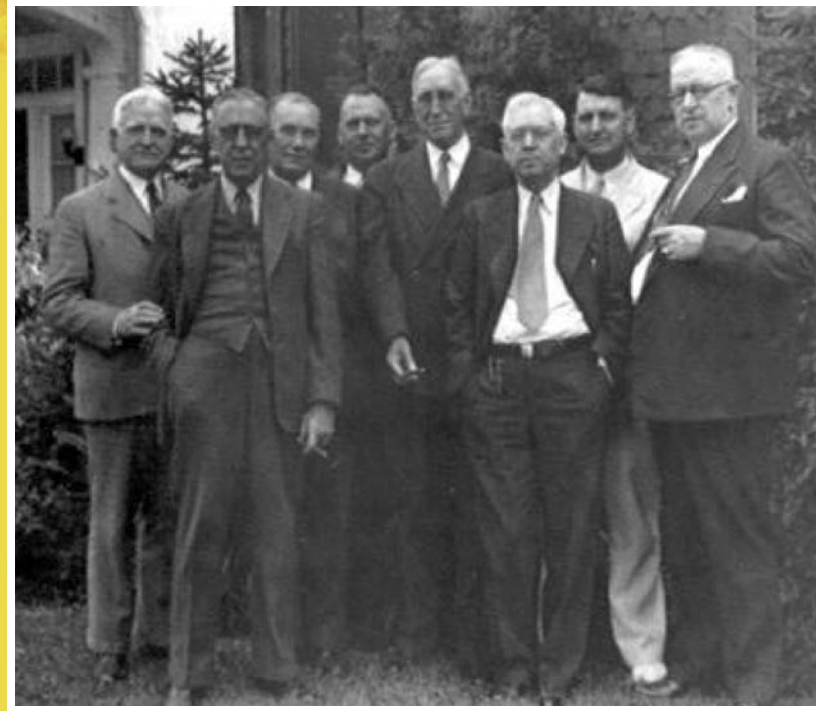


Photo from Kentucky History Center

The Book Thieves, a group of men who met on some Saturdays to discuss history books. All members developed noteworthy book collections or wrote memorable history books. From left to right, Samuel M. Wilson, Claude W. Trapp, John S. Chambers, J. Winston Coleman Jr., Frank L. McVey, William H. Townsend, Thomas D. Clark, and Charles R. Staples. Herman Lee Donovan was also a member.



Photo from UK Special Collections

Clark behind his desk at the UK History Department where he served as chairman from 1942 until 1965.

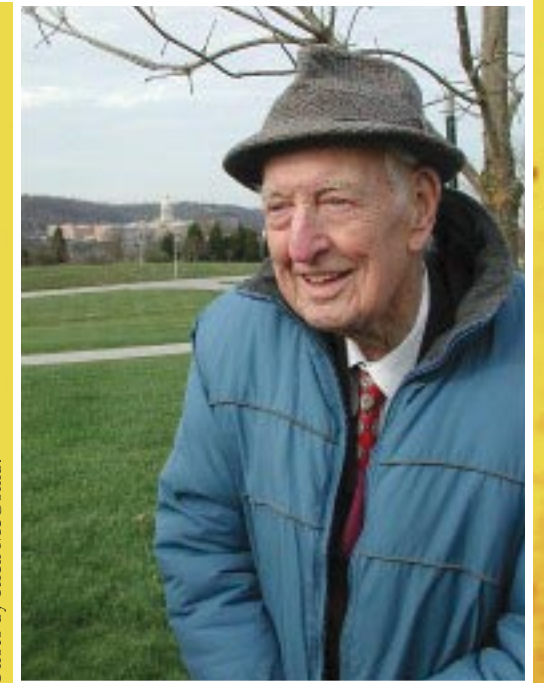


Photo by Rick McComb.

Clark's 100th birthday was celebrated by planting a blue ash tree on the grounds of the Department of Libraries and Archives.



Photo from UK Special Collections

Clark with his "treasures." He spent a year's sabbatical between 1941 to 1942 collecting old records and other material from country store merchants while traveling all over the South. He researched the material and used it as the basis for his popular 1944 book, "Pills, Petticoats and Plows."

Communities promote

Retiree Friendly

atmosphere to keep, attract older residents

BY SUSAN MCDONALD

As baby boomers head toward retirement, communities are faced with a new set of challenges—providing the services older people need and the amenities they want. Several Kentucky cities are finding that promoting themselves as “retiree friendly” not only prevents many older citizens from leaving, but also attracts new residents looking for the perfect retirement spot.

In 2000, the Kentucky General Assembly made attracting retirees an official state initiative by funding the Kentucky Certified Retirement Community Program, operated by the state Department of Tourism. The program encouraged communities to apply for certification by demonstrating attributes of particular interest to older people, including an attractive tax structure, affordable housing, access to health care, recreation and cultural options, and opportunities for community

involvement. The primary benefits of certification were marketing assistance and inclusion in advertising campaigns aimed at the retiree market.

Eight cities initially received certification and several others were in the process of applying when state budget cuts eliminated funding for the program, according to Todd Cassidy, director of economic and community development for the Kentucky Department of Travel. Still, his office gets an average of five requests each week for information packets on retiring in Kentucky, many generated from an ad that appeared in AARP’s national magazine more than two years ago. “I guess people see the magazine in a doctor’s office or something like that and they get in touch with me,” Cassidy said.

What are those prospective residents looking for? “The cost of housing is their predominant concern,” he said. “They’re also interested in what activities are available nearby, and many of them have specific needs, like a body of water if they’re boaters.”

Cassidy expected to receive inquiries from people living in Northern states who were looking



for a milder climate but has been surprised by the interest shown by people who live far south of Kentucky, many of whom want a climate with four distinct seasons, he said. Once they receive information on Kentucky, “a lot of them visit several cities and return to some of them several times. They literally shop around for a community like they do when they’re buying a car.”

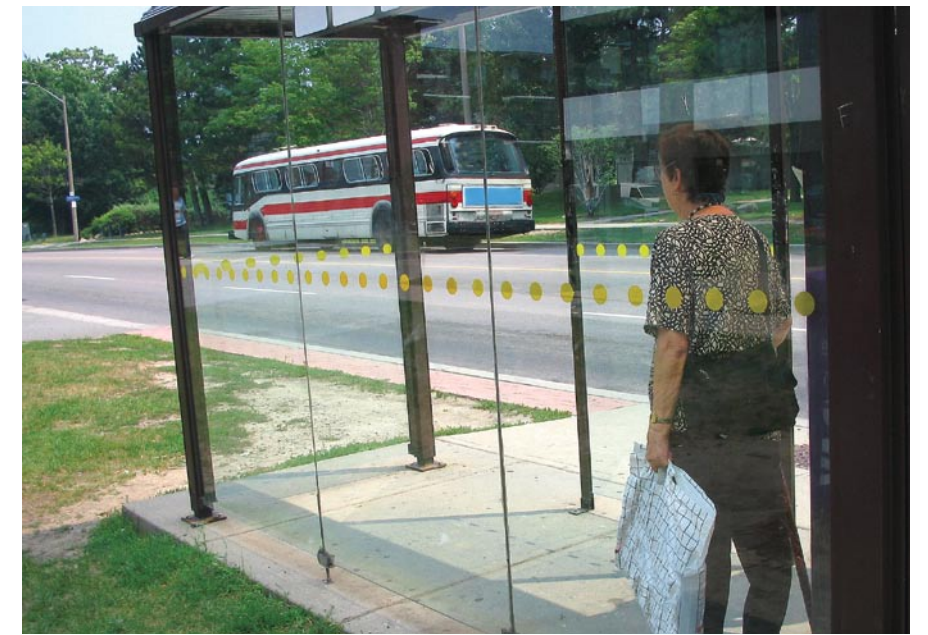
Mae Flint, executive director of the Murray Tourism Commission, is more than happy to host such visitors. “We get a lot of interest because Murray has appeared in several sources on the best places to retire. I’d say we average one call every day

‘A lot of them visit several cities and return to some of them several times. They literally shop around for a community like they do when they’re buying a car.’

asking for a relocation packet. We also get a lot of walk-in traffic from people who are traveling across the country looking for a place to retire,” Flint said.

Among the attributes that attract retirees to Murray is the city’s small-town atmosphere enhanced by the vibrancy of a large university. “Murray State University gives the city a young, energetic vibe that a lot of our older residents really like,” Flint said. Many seniors buy season tickets to the local community theater, and a lack of traffic, low tax rates and affordable real estate also entice people to choose Murray as their retirement home, she added.

Being a college town also attracts retirees to Campbellsville, according to Judy Cox, director of the city’s Chamber of Commerce. Campbellsville College offers many programs specifically for seniors, and the city is “a close-knit community with a crime rate



that’s practically nil,” she said. The town recently added a new assisted-living facility with more than 40 units, and Cox hopes that a gated community restricted to people age 50 and over is on the horizon. “I’d like to see a community with small, affordable houses designed for one or two people, a clubhouse for social activities and maybe a pool,” she said. “I’ve been contacted by two developers, but there are no specific plans at this point.”

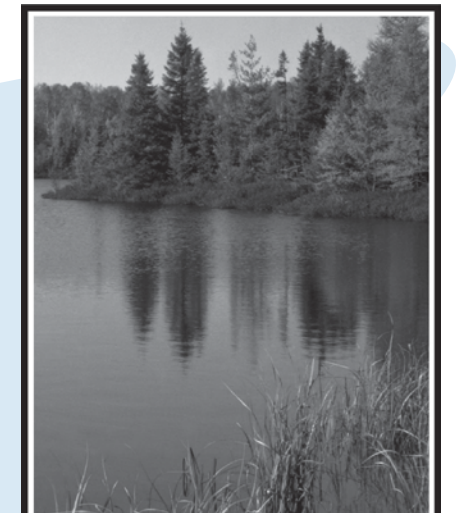
A similar development featuring about 50 upscale condominiums has proven popular to retirees in Morehead, said Mayor Brad Collins. The development has no age restrictions, but most of the residents are older people because the complex is conducive to the kind of lifestyle they want. “The business community also hopes to develop an assisted-living facility with private apartments for people who can still be independent, an intermediate care section and a nursing home,” he said.

While no specific plans are under way for that facility, the city has received a series of grants for a three-story senior citizens’ apartment complex targeting those with lower incomes. The land has been acquired and current plans call for construction to begin in Spring 2006, Collins said.

Collins’ wish list includes a wider range of activities for retirees, so the city recently hired a part-time senior citizen coordinator to assess current programs and develop new ones.

An active senior citizens center

is among the attractions Danville offers to retirees. The facility can serve up to 700 people a week, offering lunches, day trips, dancing and fitness classes, crafts, speakers, transportation and health screenings, said Paula Fowler Kilby, executive director of the Danville-Boyle



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County Chamber of Commerce. "Health care is also one of our greatest assets," she said. "In addition to a regional hospital, Danville offers in-home health care that can help keep people in their own homes instead of moving to a nursing home. We have a lot of residents who are in the sandwich generation, caring for both children and aging parents, so that's a great help to them. We also have assisted living facilities, a nursing home and great hospice care."

Entertainment and the arts also draw retirees to Danville, Fowler Kilby said. The Norton Center for the Arts at Centre College, Pioneer Playhouse Outdoor Dinner Theatre, a thriving arts community and a variety of festivals provide entertainment and opportunities for older citizens to get involved in the community.

In addition to other amenities, Maysville offers something few communities of its size can provide—a public mass transit system. "We're probably the smallest town in America to have mass transit," said Mayor David Cartmell. Along with a public bus line, the city offers wheelchair accessible vans for people with disabilities.

Those who prefer to walk also are attracted to Maysville. "The downtown area is very concentrated, so it's easy to walk from place to place and we have several walking trails," Cartmell said.

Maysville's new YMCA also offers a

strong program for older people. Free garbage collection, a daily newspaper and proximity to Cincinnati and the Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky International Airport also attract

While community leaders agree that a strong population of older people is good for the community, there is limited statistical information on their actual economic impact.

retirees. Access to health care, including a regional medical center and a nursing/rehabilitation center, is another draw, and plans are under way for an assisted living facility.

Other Certified Retirement Communities promote their own attributes. Glasgow cites extensive recreational opportunities, proximity to Mammoth Cave National Park and the annual International Highland Games. Madisonville touts its two 18-hole golf courses and the extensive water resources provided by Lake Barkley and Kentucky Lake.

Richmond reaches out to people with a sense of history, boasting of more than 100 buildings listed on the National Register of Historic Places as well as the 10-minute drive to Berea with its extensive arts and crafts opportunities.

Norm Pallarito, an issues specialist on livable communities with AARP's Kentucky chapter, said Kentucky cities of all sizes should waste no time in providing for the wants and needs of retirees. "It's already a big issue, and it will grow to become a major national issue as the population ages."

Earlier this year, AARP published "Beyond 50.05: A Report to the Nation On Livable Communities Creating Environments for Successful Aging." A companion piece, "Livable Communities: An Evaluation Guide," provides forms for assessing the livability of a community in such areas as transportation, walkability, safety and security, shopping, housing, health services, recreation and cultural activities, and caring attitude.

While community leaders agree that a strong population of older people is good for the community, there is limited statistical information on their actual economic impact. Cassidy, of the Kentucky Department of Travel, plans to commission a fiscal impact study to help shed light on the topic; in the meantime, his experience has given him several general ideas.

"Many retirees are very interested in volunteering, so that certainly helps a community," he said. "They also have more time to spend their disposable income than people who work all week. They tend to visit a city several times before deciding to retire there, and later their family and friends visit regularly. Older people also tend to be very community-minded and make a real contribution to the quality of life. Retirees are definitely an asset to any community, and we hope to keep attracting them to Kentucky."



After the boom: some predict a "new age" **IN** aging

BY ALICE H. DAVIS

Baby boomers will redefine, for better and for worse, what it means to age in Kentucky.

Aging in place

Although the percentage of people over 65 is expected to double in the state by the year 2030, said Michael Smith, director of the Council on Aging at the University of Kentucky's College of Public Health, "I think it is wrong to assume that that means we'll need to double the same types of

services that we now have for elders."

Smith outlines a number of reasons for this, including a longer life expectancy and better health care. Also, he said, baby boomers have led a different style of life than did their parents and therefore have different expectations of their golden years. Boomers are more educated, more active and healthier than the previous generation and will take those experiences into the aging process.

"We won't certainly turn into our parents," noted Smith, whose age makes him a member of the generation. "While there will be some need for entitlements, there will also be a lot of people who are going to be fairly active."

Smith serves in Lexington on the steering committee of Partners for Livable Communities, a national nonprofit organization. Lexington is participating in the Partners' Aging



in Place program, which “advocates that senior citizens should be able to maintain a desirable lifestyle by participating in their communities, remain independent as their health allows, have access to educational, cultural and recreational facilities and live in an intergenerational environment.”

Ask Smith about the issues facing baby boomers as they age and he talks about aging in place, the growing preference that Kentuckians and other seniors will have to remain in their homes and home communities as long as they can.

Smith said that while there will be more aging people in urban areas, the greatest percentage increase will occur in the state’s rural communities. This will mean new thinking about the delivery of such services as

"new age" **IN** aging

medical care, varied opportunities for employment, and housing and neighborhood amenities like street lighting and parking facilities that can accommodate people as they age.

If this rethinking is done correctly, Smith pointed out, those resources will also be used by the next generation even before they are senior citizens. But he acknowledged that it will be a challenge to create housing and other resources that will age and go out of service when the next and smaller generation after the baby boomers are seniors.

“No one has really thought how to do that,” he said. “My hope is that whatever plans are made (for the needs of the baby boomers) that these will really understand the preference that most people have to age in place.”

Those plans, Smith added, should also be made with the boomers’ experiences and preferences in mind. He recalls the professional woman, then in her early 80s, who came to speak to a group of University of Kentucky students. After her presentation, she was asked by one

student what it was like to be 80 years old.

The question amused both the woman and Smith. “She told them, ‘I’ve not turned into somebody different. I am the same person I was at 30, 40, 50. I’m just older.’”

Whose needs get met

The senior citizens’ center in Lexington is, according to Robynn Pease, director of the city’s Office of Aging Service, “maxed out.”

“We are serving about 6,000 people a month, and we are clamoring for space,” she said. When officials in Lexington began talking about the need for a new building to house a new senior citizen center, they talked about a building with more space for more programs and people. But, with aging baby boomers in mind,

they also talked about a building that can be transformed once the needs of the expanding senior generation have been met.

Pease also spoke about expectations that the baby boomer generation will be more active, employed longer, and healthier than the

current generation. But, she added, the baby boomer generation will have needs that facilities like a senior citizen center have to address.

“The medical model doesn’t address all the needs of the aging,” she said. “There’s only so much a drug can do. Senior centers have become a lifeline for people, to support their financial and emotional stability.”

Pease said the current definition of elderly is archaic, and described previous studies of what an aging population needs to be as “fear-based.”

The definition of agedness as “poor, socially isolated, helpless” will change with the baby boomers, but not completely, Pease said. There will always be, she said, a need for services for the elderly, including transportation, opportunities to socialize and nutrition. And there will be a new question for governments and society as a whole.

“The question will be, ‘What should be the role of government in the aging process?’” she said. “Should it address the needs of the healthy or

the needs of the fragile?”

Pease also hopes that the demands of aging baby boomers will create more liveable, accessible communities in Kentucky, where they can live out their lives. This will benefit not only the boomers but their children and grandchildren as well.

“If you have created an accessible community, it’s good for everybody,” she said, “from the elderly person with a walker to the mother with a baby stroller. A positive outcome will be just creating a community that is free from barriers. That’s what I’m hoping for.”

Elders as a resource

By his own definition, Graham D. Rowles, a professor and director of the Graduate Center for Gerontology at the University of Kentucky, is an

The increased health and vitality of people in their 70s and 80s, he points out, can mean second careers and new businesses for baby boomers.

optimist. Having celebrated his 59th birthday in August, he is also on the leading edge of the baby boomer generation. As such, Rowles promises not to age quietly.

“I’m one of the first of the baby boomers, having entered my 60th year,” he said. “I sure as hell don’t intend to go sit out on the front porch at 65, or even at 75. I will probably fade into oblivion in my 80s and 90s.”

As a boomer, a teacher and gerontology researcher, and as the head of the recently announced state elderly needs assessment, Rowles has outlined what he terms the “broad direction in which we might progress in Kentucky, with respect to how we might live with an aging population and how we as individuals might live with our own aging.”

Those directions include alternatives in both living arrangements and health care;

innovations in technology and design; overcoming distance barriers; expanding services, and seeking and encouraging new roles for elders.

The increased health and vitality of people in their 70s and 80s, he points out, can mean second careers and new businesses for baby boomers. It can mean reshaping of communities, not only physically through new designs in streets and housing, but also through the continued participation of baby boomers in decision making and planning for their own future.

Those new directions will also come with questions and challenges. Those questions ultimately will result in boomers “redefining exactly what we mean by aging,” he said.

For example, medical advances and technology that have prolonged life expectancy will also leave the baby boomer generation with a central question: “what are my responsibilities as an elder?”

If baby boomers can live into their 90s or past 100 through medical advances, should they? “As an individual, I need to think about which spare parts I want to have,” he said. Rowles edited a journal that recently surveyed people, asking them whether they would like to live to be 100. Most people surveyed said no.

“I, for one, would rather live 78 good years,” he added, “and many of us will be faced with that decision.”

The cost of health care

“It’s a scary situation from where I sit,” said Michal Smith-Mello, a researcher with the Kentucky Long-Term Policy Research Center. She has studied health care for the center, which was established in 1992 by the Kentucky General Assembly to help broaden its decision-making ability by presenting research on a variety of topics.

Smith-Mello, in a 1999 report, listed “meeting the cost of health care for older citizens” as the No. 1 priority for policymakers. That assessment has not changed.

Meeting the costs of their own health care will be the major priority for baby boomers, many of whom are already struggling with helping aging parents now facing the same issue. Stock market downturns have depleted the savings of boomers,

making them less likely to be able to retire or have resources to pay for more and more expensive medical care, Smith-Mello said.

“The central question in preparing for the aging of the baby boomers is: ‘what are you going to do with the cost of health care?’

You can only take so much personal responsibility (for your aging) because illness and death is arbitrary,” she said. “I guess I’m in a gloomy spot. ... We’re healthier because we’ve had a lot of help. Health care has done some Herculean things. But it costs so much money to do those things.”

More expensive health care has meant more bankruptcy filings by older people and more shifting of financial responsibility for health care from companies to employees. It has also meant more people working longer when they could or should have retired and fewer working

people being able to save for future health care needs, Smith-Mello said.

(Recent national statistics indicate that nearly 4 million Americans over the age of 65 are seeking work to help pay for health care costs and rebuild retirement savings lost in the stock market downturns of the early 2000s.)

“The political will to change all of this is going to come,” Smith-Mello said. “But when, I don’t know ... maybe when baby boomers have more time.”

But even Smith-Mello holds out some hope that the baby boomers, whom she calls, “the most educated generation in history,” will use their numbers and attitudes to turn around “a crisis in the making.”

“We will be feisty,” Smith-Mello said. “Hopefully, we will be smarter, more active. Hopefully we will be the generation that’s going to fight to make our own choices.”





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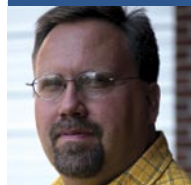


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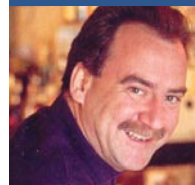
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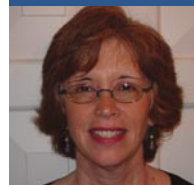
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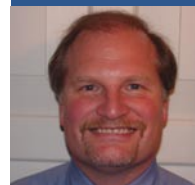
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City CONVERSATION

IN THREE PARTS

BY GARY WOLLENHAUPT

Home of the free or a nanny state? Smoking bans spread across the country, to the dismay or delight of those on either side

Is smoking merely the use of a legal product with a long tradition and a devoted following? Or a deadly poison foisted on millions of unprotected Americans who deserve relief from its effects?

The growing trend of comprehensive smoking bans in major cities in the United States suggests the latter is the more common viewpoint, even in Kentucky, the second largest tobacco producer after North Carolina.

The trend to regulate smoking continues to grow, enacted by city and county governments, usually after strenuous debate and acrimony. The smoking ban in Louisville becomes effective in November, joining existing restrictions in Lexington and Georgetown.

Typically the issue boils down to a rights-versus-health fight, with

a dose of economics thrown in.

Property rights advocates say government is overstepping its bounds by telling private business owners, primarily restaurants and bars, how to run their businesses. Some restaurants are already wholly smoke-free by the owner's choice or corporate policy, while many others offer a no-smoking section.

"I'm a smoker, and if I go into a restaurant with a cigarette and they ask me to put it out, I don't have a problem with that," said Terry Gray, president of Forces Kentucky, the state chapter of Forces, a national smokers' rights group. "I do have a problem with the government telling me to put it out."

Those in the hospitality industry fear economic losses when smokers go elsewhere to eat and drink or stay home. Competing studies point to either devastating results when smoking is restricted, or economic growth from nonsmokers frequenting restaurants in

greater numbers.

The economic argument can result in what some consider uneven logic in some cases. For example, Louisville's ban excludes Churchill Downs.

"One of the arguments for the ban was that there would be no economic impact to businesses, but Churchill Downs was exempted because the ban might hurt their business," Gray said. "What sense does that make?"

Health advocates point to Kentucky's position as having the second-highest rate of death in the nation attributed to smoking in 1999, according to the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Kentucky has the nation's highest rate of adult smokers. From 1996 to 2001, the state's adult smoking rate was 30.9 percent, compared with the national median of 23.4 percent, according to the CDC.

"Study after study confirms that smoke-free workplace laws save lives, save money, and make communities healthier, more attractive places in which to live and work," said Cynthia Hallett, executive director of the Americans for Nonsmokers' Rights Foundation.

Statewide situation

With its legacy of tobacco production and consumption, Kentucky remains one of the least regulated states in the nation, with limited laws governing smoking in day care facilities, government facilities and schools.

According to the American Nonsmokers' Rights Foundation, Kentucky is one of 17 states without restrictions on smoking in restaurants and one of 20 with no restrictions on smoking in private workplaces. Fourteen states ban smoking in restaurants, private workplaces or both.

According to state law, if a smoking policy covering local government office buildings is enacted, it must allow for an indoor smoking area and favors allowing smoking in open public areas. Secondary schools may have a designated outdoor smoking area for adults and students over the age of 18.

In the absence of comprehensive statewide smoking regulation for health facilities, private workplaces, public buildings or restaurants, Kentucky municipalities have the

option to regulate smoking. In deciding the Lexington smoking ban case, the Kentucky Supreme Court ruled that such a ban is within the home-rule powers of a city to pass regulations to safeguard public health.

The interest in smoking restrictions is growing. More than 20 additional cities have shown an interest in passing some form of restriction, according to Ronnie Nunley, manager of the Tobacco Environmental Strategies Prevention Enhancement

Site in Ashland.

But smokers- and property-rights advocates have scored recent victories. Danville, Lancaster and Nicholasville passed bans covering only city-owned buildings and property. However, smoking regulations in government-owned properties are already covered under state law. Also, city councils in Elsmere and Cave City voted down bans. Scott County's fiscal court refused to act on a proposal, spurred by Georgetown's ban.

Georgetown's ordinance is one of the strictest in the state. It bars smoking not only in most indoor public places, including workplaces, but also in outdoor stadiums and arenas.

Some public buildings have smoking restrictions due to federal laws, such as the Americans with Disabilities Act or the Pro-Children Act of 1994, which restricts smoking in buildings with programs that receive federal funds and serve children, including most schools.

The next battle likely to come up is a push for pre-emptive state law that would force a one-size-fits-all solution on the issue. Tobacco interests typically push for a statewide law that limits the ability of communities to implement restrictions because it is more efficient to deal with the state legislature than conduct a city-by-city campaign. The anti-smoking forces will gear up to fight that battle, wanting to leave the option up to each community in the absence of comprehensive statewide



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restrictions.

"We know that not every community will choose to have restrictions and that's okay," Nunley said. "We just think every community should have the ability to make that choice."

National efforts

Kentucky is not alone in navigating the complexities of the smoking ban issue. According to the American Nonsmokers' Rights Foundation, across the United States 4,904 municipalities are covered by a 100 percent smoke-free provision in workplaces and/or restaurants and/or bars, by either a state or local law, representing 36 percent of the U.S. population. Overall, 11 states have laws that require 100 percent smoke-free workplaces and/or restaurants and/or bars.

Perhaps the most surprisingly successful ban survives in New York state, prompted by the comprehensive smoking prohibitions passed in New York City in 2003. Cast aside images of sophisticated Manhattanites puffing away at a trendy bar, or workers sharing a smoke and a cold one after work. All those locales are smoke-free, and most survive after more than two years. Of course, much smoking has been transferred to the sidewalk outside the restaurant.

"I was in New York this fall, and it was so nice to go to a restaurant and not have to wait for a nonsmoking table," Nunley said. "They are still in the transition phase, where people are smoking on the sidewalk, but they won't be for long."

Other major cities, including Indianapolis and Columbus, Ohio, have enacted smoking restrictions in most indoor public places including restaurants, some bars, hotel lobbies, taxis and elevators. Suburbs of both cities are considering smoking restrictions as well, to have a uniform situation for the respective regions.

Despite the rising tide of smoking restrictions, property rights advocates prefer that time and personal choice take precedence over legislation to reduce smoking.

"Smoking is declining on its own; the anti-smoking education has been going on for over 20 years," Gray said. "The market will take care of itself."



Smoking bans threat to restaurants and bars

BY JOHN DANT

Small, locally owned restaurants and bars in Kentucky have come under attack in recent years from community activist groups. These groups seek smoking bans, claiming that tobacco smoke causes almost every disease known to mankind, real or imagined, and some ailments yet to be identified.

The assault began in Lexington-Fayette County in 2003 when a group

calling itself Kentucky Action used its considerable resources to coerce the Urban County Government council into passing the first total smoking ban in the state.

The Lexington group, like similar groups, was directed by professional lobbyists with no interest in the economic fallout. It also included people from the health care industry with ties to pharmaceutical



manufacturers.

The smoking ban's impact has been brutal in Lexington, especially for bars and restaurants that serve alcohol. Owners have reported losses in business of between 20 percent and 40 percent since the ban was enacted, as well as significant job losses and business closures.

The lessons of the Lexington experience were taken seriously by members of the Metro Louisville Hospitality Coalition in battling

In other words, smoking bans may accomplish what prohibition was not able to do, force people out of the business of selling alcohol.

a similar effort in Louisville. The effort began with a grant of \$300,000 from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation to Smoke Free Louisville.

We knew they had considerable resources, and that they would be good at confusing the facts with fiction. However, we were not about to stand idly by and let them ruin our businesses.

The coalition of 130 bars and restaurants got involved early in the political process, created a Web site (www.fightthesmokingban.com), got to know their Metro councilmembers and attended and testified at every public hearing. They fought



vigorously for the ability of business owners and customers to make their own decisions about smoking.

After two long years, the Louisville Metro Council passed a partial ban. Fortunately, bars and restaurants with at least 25 percent alcohol sales were protected from the ban. Also protected were restaurants with separately ventilated rooms for smokers, private clubs (including bingo halls), and separately ventilated rooms in private buildings. Churchill Downs is also exempt.

The people who were most involved in fighting the bans were the ones who were protected. All the time and effort we invested in the political process reaped a tremendous dividend.

Now the Lexington-Fayette County Food & Beverage Association is involved in an urgent effort to have the local law amended to more closely resemble the Louisville law. (The group's Web site is www.repealthesmokingban.com.)

Led by businessmen Allen Gilbert and Dave Whitson, the group says the Lexington-Fayette Urban County Council has been misled by local activist groups using questionable research studies to argue that smoking bans do not harm local businesses.

However, a study conducted by respected researcher Richard Thalheimer for the association found that beverage wholesalers in Fayette County lost more than 13 percent of their business after the ban was enacted. This translates to greater losses for individual business owners.

A review of the Thalheimer study by Dr. Paul Coomes, a University of

Louisville professor of economics, concluded that the results of Thalheimer's study "should make us all cautious about dismissing any claims of economic harm from smoking bans. One may want to reduce smoking and drinking as a matter of public policy, but should acknowledge the likely cost to businesses and consumers from such a policy."

An editorial in the Lexington newspaper

may have reflected the view of many anti-tobacco activists in concluding that lost businesses for bars and nightclubs was a good thing. In other words, smoking bans may accomplish what prohibition was not able to do, force people out of the business of selling alcohol.

The economic impact has been so severe that a few businesses in Lexington-Fayette County have openly defied the ban, risking fines and jury trials to the alternative of losing their business—despite threats of even higher fines and stiffer punishment. At least 25 businesses have closed, citing the smoking ban as a factor.

Local beverage wholesalers have also reported that alcohol sales in counties surrounding Fayette have risen directly in proportion to amount of losses. A tavern owner in Richmond recently thanked the Lexington-Fayette council for record increases at his business as a result of the smoking ban.

Elsewhere, the Georgetown City Council passed a ban that includes all indoor places, as well as outdoor arenas and stadiums. The move caught local businessman Gordon Lewis by surprise. Lewis, who planned to open a restaurant, said he wouldn't have made those plans had he known a smoking ban would go into effect.

The Georgetown vote was "another vote against liberty," said Christopher Derry, president of the Bowling Green-based Bluegrass Institute for Public Policy Solutions. "It is an issue

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about property rights and the ability of an individual to choose," he said.

Some Kentucky towns have approved less sweeping measures. The Danville council voted to implement a limited ban in buildings and vehicles owned or leased by the city. Lancaster in Garrard County, and Nicholasville in Jessamine County have passed bans for city-owned buildings. In Harrison County, Cynthiana is considering a similar ban.

At least two communities, Elsmere in northern Kentucky and Cave City in south Kentucky, have defeated smoking ban proposals.

Meanwhile, anti-tobacco activists have begun laying the groundwork for smoking ban campaigns in Paducah, Owensboro and Bowling Green.

These people are well-funded and they are politically savvy. Pharmaceutical companies, which have an interest in the growth in the use of smoking-cessation products, are involved.

People who want to protect their businesses absolutely have to get involved in the political process. It's not really that difficult, but you have to be committed and persistent. Common sense tells you that the perceived dangers of tobacco smoke have been greatly exaggerated. You will have to battle a lot of ignorance, scare-mongering and political doubletalk. But you have to stand up for your business and your customers. Don't expect other people to do the job for you; you have to get involved.

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Health risks provide strongest argument for smoking ban

BY ELLEN J. HAHN
HEATHER E. ROBERTSON
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Kentucky law clearly states that on matters of public health a local government has broad power to enact ordinances to promote the health and welfare of its citizens. In April 2004, the Kentucky Supreme Court ruled on the legality of Lexington-Fayette County's ordinance eliminating indoor smoking in public places.

The ruling stated, "Among the police powers of the government, the power to promote and safeguard public health ranks at the top. If the right of an individual runs afoul of the exercise of this power, the right of the individual must yield. ... The real issue is whether the public health regulation (Lexington's smoke-free law) is reasonable. ... In this case we must conclude that it is."

The Supreme Court considered and rejected arguments that the ordinance violated private business rights, that parts of the ordinance were vague, and that state law prohibited a local government from enforcing such an ordinance.

The ruling declares secondhand smoke as a public health threat and worthy of government control. Every major, respected health group in the world agrees that secondhand smoke is deadly and sickening. Secondhand smoke causes 53,000 deaths every year, making it the third leading cause of preventable death in the United States.

Secondhand smoke contains more than 4,000 chemicals, including 40 carcinogens and 200 poisons. The toxic poisons in secondhand smoke include acetone, ammonia, arsenic, benzene, butane, cadmium, carbon monoxide, DDT, ethanol, formaldehyde, hydrogen cyanide,

lead, mercury, methanol, tar, toluene, and vinyl chloride. Secondhand smoke exposure causes 3,000 lung cancer deaths each year among otherwise healthy nonsmokers.

Even short-term exposure (five minutes to two hours) to secondhand tobacco smoke can increase the risk for heart attack and stroke. In April

Secondhand smoke contains more than 4,000 chemicals, including 40 carcinogens and 200 poisons.

2004, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) issued a warning that all people with heart disease should avoid secondhand smoke exposure.

Secondhand smoke is associated with an increased risk of breast cancer. Working a shift in a smoky bar is equivalent to smoking nearly a pack of cigarettes per day. Nonsmoking sections and ventilation do not eliminate exposure to secondhand smoke. According to the American Society of Heating and Air Conditioning Engineers, there is no effective ventilation system to eliminate secondhand smoke from a room. There is no safe level of firsthand or secondhand smoke.

Some policymakers acknowledge the dangers of secondhand smoke, but are hesitant to adopt smoke-free policies out of fear of harming local businesses. Most of these fears reflect

the success of the tobacco industry and its allies in spreading false and misleading information.

The good news for policymakers is that smoke-free is cost-free. Independent, objective, peer-reviewed studies of smoke-free restaurant and bar laws from around the country (including Lexington) clearly demonstrate that there is no negative impact on sales or employment from these laws.

In addition, indoor air quality improved drastically after Lexington's smoke-free law went into effect. Fine air particles in Lexington venues decreased by 91 percent. Public support for the smoke-free ordinance increased from 56.7 percent before Lexington's smoke-free law went



into effect to 64 percent six months after implementation. As in other communities, Lexingtonians have not changed their dining or entertainment practices. They eat, go out to bars and visit other entertainment venues more or about as often as before the law went into effect.

The Lexington smoke-free law is protecting restaurant and bar workers from the hazards of secondhand smoke. A July 2005 study found that three months after the law went into effect there were lower hair nicotine levels even among bar and restaurant workers who smoked. Workers were also less likely to report colds and sinus infections after the law went into effect. These findings are significant given that servers and bartenders have the greatest risk of developing lung cancer and heart disease compared to other occupations.

Adopting partial smoke-free laws, such as the Louisville ordinance, is a pitfall policymakers should avoid. The Louisville ordinance was passed with strong support from cigarette

companies and their allies in the alcohol and hospitality industries. The Louisville law contains numerous exemptions and loopholes that make it difficult to interpret and enforce. The law also fails to adequately protect workers and the general public.

Bogus and unsubstantiated financial doom propaganda was effectively used by proponents of the partial ban to weaken the law. From a public health viewpoint the Louisville law is third-rate in its protections and an example of how public policy was successfully manipulated by interest groups to profit at the expense of health and lives.

The real reasons the tobacco industry and its supporters oppose

smoke-free laws are threefold. First, smoke-free laws help smokers quit or cut back. According to Phillip Morris in 1993, "Smoking bans are the biggest challenge we have ever faced. Quit rates go from 5% to 21% when smokers work in nonsmoking

environments."

Second, smoke-free laws reduce cigarette consumption. Once-secret cigarette company documents show that the financial impact of smoke-free laws on the tobacco industry is tremendous – "three to five fewer cigarettes per day per smoker will reduce annual manufacturer profits a billion dollars plus per year."

And last, smoke-free laws erode the social acceptability of smoking. As a consequence, fewer children start smoking.

Smoke-free laws are about respecting the rights of all people, smokers and nonsmokers, to breathe smoke-free air. Clean air is a basic right. It's such a basic necessity of life that we don't even think of it as a civil right, yet it is taken away every time we enter a smoke-filled room.

Freedom of choice is no longer the best choice when that choice endangers others. Smoke-free laws are a common-sense way to minimize the harm caused by smoking; much like drunk-driving laws reduce the dangers of drinking alcohol.

There is no constitutional right to smoke. Local government has the responsibility to protect the health of its citizens, and smoke-free laws are designed to do just that. The bottom line is that smoking is not essential for business success and it is a hazard for workers and patrons who are exposed. For more information, contact the Kentucky Center for Smoke-Free Policy, www.kcsp.uky.edu; 859-323-1730.



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Resourceful mountain community shines

Wrapped in a sun-glazed mist, the city of Jenkins sparkles along the Kentucky-Virginia border. Carved from the mountain in 1912, the town was created to mine coal and haul it away on the railroad. Weathering the changes of time, the resilient community has used its resources to create a home that many of its more than 2,500 residents undoubtedly find idyllic.

Robert "Pud" Shubert has been mayor for the past 20 years. "We've tried to take advantage of opportunities when they've presented themselves, and we've used our resources wisely," the mayor noted in discussing the challenges and accomplishments of the past two decades.

The wise use of resources has led to the development of a lengthy list of city amenities. A new streetscape project, for example, includes light posts, benches and planters. These additions were financed in part by a transportation grant and are located in front of the county-owned

'We've tried to take advantage of opportunities when they've presented themselves, and we've used our resources wisely.'

and maintained public library and city-owned and maintained David A. Zegeer Coal-Railroad Museum. Both community centers offer entertainment, arts and local cultural events.

Visitors find their way to the community through the new Jenkins Road Cut, which also has been designated as Kentucky's first Distinguished Geologic Site. The cut follows a traditional path; in pioneer days, people crossed Pine Mountain at Pine Gap, which provided an opening for U.S. 23 South and the new route to Jenkins.

Tourism continues to increase. The new Brothers Wants More War Monument at Pound Gap was dedicated in August to commemorate

Aerial view of the city of Jenkins on the Kentucky-Virginia border.



The new Brothers Wants More War Monument at Pound Gap helps boost Jenkins tourism.

the strategic importance of the area for both Confederate and Union troops during the Civil War. A visitor center is planned for the area, Shubert said, with land to be purchased from the state Transportation Cabinet. Funds for the development are still being sought.

A defining feature of the city is the lake located in the heart of town. The lake was built in the early 1900s by Consolidation Coal Co. for

'I'm excited about the opportunities that technology provides cities our size. We enjoy providing good service. It's disappointing to me when we're just not able to please people.'

hydroelectric generation. It is now used as a reservoir for the city and for recreation. Community fairs, celebrations and festivals are held lakeside several times a year. The city's investment includes a stage and community building that provides space for community sales and other activities.

The city's two fire stations are operated by an all-volunteer force of 30 people. Five full-time, certified

officers staff the police force, and a city sanitation service is provided with the support of federal grants.

Another source of community pride is the Gateway Regional Industrial Park, developed on about 360 acres of land to welcome new industry.

The development of all of the elements that make Jenkins such a resourceful small community didn't happen by accident.

About 10 years ago, the city worked with the area development office to create a long-range, strategic plan that called for the development of the industrial park, highway expansion, downtown renovations and work on the local high school. All of these projects are either complete or under way. A community amphitheater and visitor center are still to come.

For Shubert, the challenges and opportunities make his job

worthwhile.

"Being able to organize and get everything to work together, payroll, technology, especially now with all the financial constraints facing cities," he said when asked his favorite part of being an elected official.

"I'm excited about the opportunities that technology provides cities our size. We enjoy providing good service."

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Jerry Deaton is Director of Governmental Affairs for the Kentucky League of Cities.



If a river runs through it, use it

What do you get when you combine Kentucky's 435 cities with the state's thousands of miles of rivers and streams? Canoe Heaven. And cities in Kentucky are beginning to take full advantage of the beautiful waterways that run through them by opening and promoting city canoe liveries.

Jackson Mayor Mike Miller and Greensburg Mayor Lisle Cheatham, both lifelong residents of their respective communities, have made river development a priority. Both realized the potential that, literally, was flowing through their communities and are leading the way in developing the local natural resource.

Miller, who grew up along the banks of the North Fork of the Kentucky River in Jackson, decided in 2004 to give greater use to Doughitt Park, an outstanding recreational facility, by opening a canoe livery.

"The community really appreciates

being able to access the river, especially now, because its condition has improved so much over the last decade or so," Miller said. "It really gives our people more recreational options, and it's right here on the edge of town."

Jackson City Parks Director Tony Turner agrees. "No matter what time of day or night you come down here, someone will be walking around the track or playing ball, and our canoe rentals have made our park even more appealing to the community."

Greensburg, on the banks of the Green River, has not only opened a canoe livery, it also is heavily promoting its Green River Paddle Trail in several publications. Cheatham, in his third year as mayor, pushed hard for the recreational development of the river, which runs through the center of town.

The site of the Green River Paddle Trail and Lodge is the former location

of the city's wastewater treatment plant. It sat vacant for more than 10 years before the city bought the adjacent property and started the development.

The canoe livery opened this spring, and four new cabins are scheduled to open in the fall, just in time for the city's fall festival. The livery has been so popular that the Greensburg/Green County booth at this year's state fair focused solely on the development.


"It just seemed to make sense to utilize this incredible asset," said Cheatham. "Somewhere through the years we forgot that the Green River is why Greensburg was founded here in the first place.

"But we don't want to stop at our city limits. Green County ranked 117th in tourism revenue in 2004. People forget tourism is economic development as well, and we have a lot of room to grow. So we want people outside Green County to know what we have here and to come and visit us. We think people will like what they see and come back."

So far, the strategy seems to be working. There were more than 500 visitors to the Green River Paddle Trail in July, just its third month of operation.

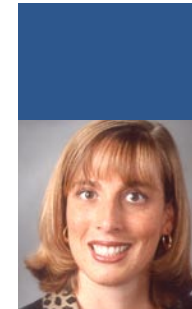
The concept of city-run canoe liveries will undoubtedly catch on in other cities throughout Kentucky. The state is teeming with outdoor recreational opportunities and outstanding local leadership. The opportunity is there.

State Senator Alice Forgy Kerr summed it up perfectly during a discussion of the Senate Natural Resources Committee. "Kentucky is simply beautiful," she said. "It should be known as America's state park."

Kentucky's cities believe that, too. 



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



News from Kentucky communities

Cities inducted into Renaissance on Main Program

More than 100 Kentucky cities were recognized at the 30th Annual Governor's Local Issues Conference this summer. Renaissance on Main, the downtown revitalization program, ranked 63 cities as Certified I or II, 36 cities as Candidate and 14 cities as Invited.

Certified I cities are eligible for funding of up to \$150,000 while Certified II cities can receive up to \$75,000 for their downtown projects. Candidate cities are communities that have been in the Renaissance program in the past, and Invited cities have never been involved in the Renaissance program.

Cities may use Renaissance funds to restore buildings, renovate sidewalks and streetscapes, create facades and for numerous other projects that will make downtowns more attractive to businesses.

The downtown revitalization program, an alliance of state and other agencies, was established in 1996 to focus resources, funding and expertise on historic preservation. The Renaissance on Main program extends that focus to economic development.

The Renaissance Alliance, an advisory committee to Renaissance on Main, is comprised of members from the Governor's Office for Local Development, where the program administratively resides, and representatives from the Kentucky Heritage Council/Main Street Program, the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet, the Kentucky Department of Tourism, the Kentucky League of Cities, the Federal Home Loan Bank of Cincinnati and the Kentucky Housing Corporation.



2005 Renaissance on Main Cities

Certified I	Certified II	Candidate	Invited
Ashland	Augusta	Beattyville	Beaver Dam
Bellevue	Barbourville	Berea	Benton
Bowling Green	Bardstown	Bloomfield	Frenchburg
Cadiz	Benham	Calhoun	Jeffersonton
Covington	Carrollton	Campbellsville	Lawrenceburg
Danville	Cloverport	Campton	London
Dawson Springs	Cumberland	Clay	Ludlow
Elizabethtown	Eminence	Columbia	Olive Hill
Elkton	Falmouth	Cynthiana	Owingsville
Elsmere	Flemingsburg	Dayton	Richmond
Erlanger	Frankfort	Elkhorn City	South Shore
Fort Thomas	Hopkinsville	Franklin	Taylorsville
Georgetown	LaGrange	Fulton	Whitesburg
Glasgow	Lebanon	Grayson	Williamsburg
Greensburg	Lexington	Greenup	
Guthrie	Louisville	Harlan	
Harrodsburg	Lynch	Hazard	
Henderson	Madisonville	Hindman	
Hodgenville	Marion	Irvine	
Horse Cave	Mayfield	Irvington	
Midway	Maysville (Old Washington)	Jackson	
Morehead	Morganfield	Liberty	
Mt. Sterling	Munfordville	Manchester	
Murray	New Castle	Mount Vernon	
Newport	Owensboro	Paintsville	
Nicholasville	Springfield	Paris	
Paducah	Williamstown	Perryville	
Pikeville		Providence	
Princeton		Russellville	
Scottsville		Salyersville	
Shelbyville		Tompkinsville	
Somerset		Vanceburg	
Stanford		Vine Grove	
Trenton		Warsaw	
Versailles		West Point	
Winchester		Wilmore	

Joy mining chooses Lebanon

Joy Mining Machinery, which develops, manufactures, distributes and services underground mining equipment, will locate its new manufacturing and service operation in Lebanon. The \$7.1 million investment will create more than 200 new jobs.

The company has bought a 90,000-square-foot building on 13 acres in Marion County, and is expected to begin operations in the fall.

Headquartered in Warrendale, Pennsylvania, Joy Mining Machinery was founded in 1919 by Joseph Joy and produces underground mining equipment for coal and other bedded materials like trona, salt and gypsum. Its parent company, Joy Global Inc., is located in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, as is Joy Mining's sister company, P&H Mining Equipment, which manufactures electric shovels, drills and draglines for surface mining operations. Joy Global Inc. had combined sales of \$1.4 billion in 2004.

Joy Mining Machinery currently has two warehouses in Kentucky – in Henderson and Lovely.

Owensboro named Broadband Boomtown

Owensboro was recently named a "Broadband Boomtown" by *Business 2.0* magazine, a publication for the high-tech business community. Owensboro was one of four Southeastern cities highlighted in the article, which also featured Bristol, Virginia; Daytona Beach, Florida; and Manassas, Virginia.

A spring issue of the magazine focused on the efforts of Owensboro Municipal Utilities, which built a fixed wireless network throughout the greater Owensboro area to serve local businesses and residential customers. Network construction began in 2002 as a pilot project with 80 customers and one antenna. Demand has steadily increased, and the company now serves nearly 3,000 customers over 13 wireless antenna sites.

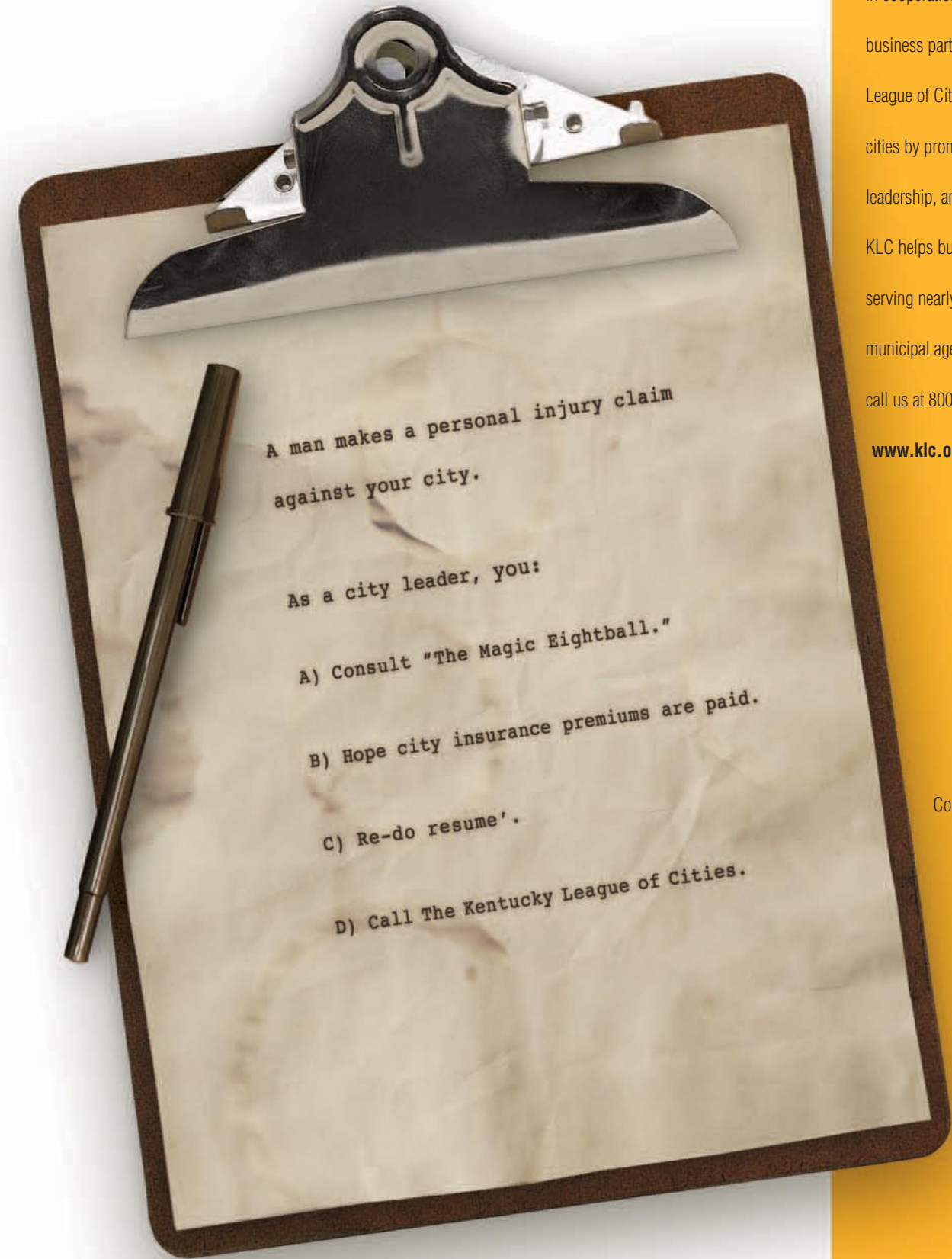


Falmouth and Audubon Park police departments receive accreditation

Police departments in Falmouth and Audubon Park recently received accreditation from the Kentucky Association of Chiefs of Police (KACP), joining 60 other accredited law enforcement agencies in Kentucky. The KACP accreditation program provides law enforcement agencies a means to demonstrate that they meet commonly accepted professional standards for efficient and effective operations.

Agencies accredited under the program have examined all aspects of their operations. They have made conscious decisions about policies and procedures that fit the law enforcement requirements of their jurisdictions and have implemented those policies and trained their employees in their use. Accreditation reflects that the agency was carefully measured against an established set of standards and has met or exceeded professionally accepted practices in law enforcement.

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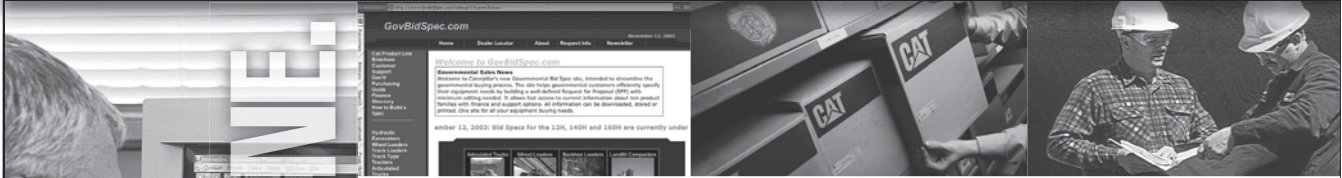
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