

LEAGUE OF CITIES LEGISLATIVE RECEPTION

MARCH 6

KLC ROCKS

THE CAPITAL!



Coming Next Month . . . Summaries of all the issues from the 2007 legislative session . . .
Report on the Governor's Blue Ribbon Task Force on public employee pensions . . .

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A Kentucky League of Cities Publication

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FRONT PAGE NEWS

KLC's 2007 City Night

More than 600 KLC members, legislators, executive leaders, KLC Cornerstone Partners and other leaders convened in Frankfort for KLC's 2007 City Night. The annual event is a chance for city officials to talk one-on-one with legislators about issues critical to communities including employee health insurance and pension issues.

Photos from cover (left to right):

Top Row: Bowling Green City Manager Kevin DeFebbo, KLC Deputy Executive Director/COO Neil Hackworth and Shelbyville Mayor Tom Hardesty; Cornerstone Partner and Fifth Third Bank President Sam Barnes with Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government Mayor Jim Newberry; Richmond Mayor Connie Lawson and Mt. Sterling Mayor Gary Williamson; Senate President David Williams, KLC Executive Director/CEO Sylvia L. Lovely and KLC Board President and Elizabethtown Mayor David L. Willmoth, Jr.

Second Row: KLC Executive Director/CEO Sylvia L. Lovely, Rep. Charlie Hoffman and KLC Director of Governmental Affairs Jerry Deaton; Madisonville Mayor William Cox, Jr., KLC Executive Director/CEO Sylvia L. Lovely and Mayfield Mayor Arthur Byrn; Speaker of the House Jody Richards, Rep. Harry Moberly and Bowling Green Mayor Elaine Walker; KLC Executive Director/CEO Sylvia L. Lovely, KLC Deputy Director - Insurance and Finance Services Bill Hamilton, NewCities Institute Executive Vice President Tom Prather and Governor Ernie Fletcher

Third Row: Rep. Stan Lee with KLC Deputy Director Bill Hamilton; AEP's Jimmy Heaton, KLC Director of Governmental Affairs Jerry Deaton and Asbland Mayor Stephen Gilmore; Auburn City Clerk Becka LaGrone, Mayor Dewey Roche and Councilmember Mike Hughes; the KLC Executive Board with Governor Ernie Fletcher

Fourth Row: Rep. Tommy Thompson and Rep. Rocky Adkins; Bardstown Councilmember and KBC-LEO President Bill Sheckles, Ricco Floyd and Richmond Commissioner Robert Blythe; City of Greensburg group; crowd shot

Bottom Row: Covington City Manager Jay Fossett and Ft. Mitchell Mayor Tom Holoher; KLC Director of Policy Development Joe Ewalt and Senator Ernie Harris; Transportation Cabinet Secretary Bill Nighbert, Beaver Dam Mayor Mary Pate and Covington Commissioner Jerry Bamberger; Morehead Mayor Brad Collins and Asbland Mayor Stephen Gilmore

LEGISLATIVE NEWS

Commitment to Community

Actions speak louder than words, and Representative Larry Clark, Senator Jack Westwood and Representative Charlie Hoffman are action super heroes.



Rep. Larry Clark

Representative Larry Clark (D-Louisville), Speaker Pro Tem of the Kentucky House of Representatives, sponsors legislation important to Louisville and to the Commonwealth as a whole. Passage of his House Bill 549 in the recent 2007 session provides new and expanded tax increment financing for economic development throughout Kentucky, and it is a fine example of his effective leadership. This legislation is widely heralded as the most significant economic development tool for communities across Kentucky in more than a decade. Kentucky cities appreciate and depend on Representative Clark's leadership.

As a highly respected Kenton County teacher and community volunteer, **Senator Jack Westwood (R-Erlanger)** was a community leader long before he even considered elected office. He has sponsored and co-sponsored legislation important to moving cities forward and promoting a better quality of life for our citizens. Senator Westwood has proven himself to be a man of action when it comes to the well-being of his fellow citizens and to their communities and state.



Sen. Jack Westwood



Rep. Charlie Hoffman

Representative Charlie Hoffman (D-Georgetown) is a man on the move. He finds it easy to keep in touch with his constituents on his jobs as a meat cutter, real estate broker and an auctioneer. He knows what matters to the people in his Scott County and Fayette County legislative district because he talks with many of them on a daily basis. Representative Hoffman's leadership was further recognized when the Kentucky House of Representatives elected him Majority Caucus Chair in January 2007.

Tax Increment Financing Legislation Enacted by the General Assembly

KLC celebrates the enactment of expanded tax increment financing legislation that has been a priority of its legislative agenda for the past three years. House Bill 549, sponsored by Representative Larry Clark (D-Louisville), was recently signed into law. KLC staff spent an enormous amount of time on this initiative and provided key leadership and idea development throughout the process. The bill provides for the use of tax increment financing to spur redevelopment and reuse of properties in declining urban areas across the state. Increased tax revenues generated from a redevelopment project can be captured to pay for infrastructure constructed or upgraded by a city to support the project. Additional information regarding HB 549 will be provided in the May issue of *KLC Direct*. KLC is very proud of the legislation and we hope it serves cities well for many years to come.

Toot Your Own Horn!

2007 Awards for Municipal Excellence

The Awards for Municipal Excellence recognize outstanding programs that improve the quality of life in America's communities. Given through a partnership between the National League of Cities (NLC) and CH2M HILL, the awards honor a range of population sizes with two awards in each population category. Up to eight winners will be announced later this year at NLC's Congress of Cities in New Orleans.

Examples of entries include public-private partnerships, citizen and community collaborations, innovative policies, management of resources, successful project results and programs that can be implemented in other cities.

Information: Visit www.nlc.org under "Resources for Cities" and "Awards and Recognition," call 202-626-3130 or email awards@nlc.org.



WELCOME NEW KLC MEMBER CITY OF BELLEMEADE

Mayor
Richard Pontrich

Commissioners
Brian Hill Russ Jent
Judi Sikes Margaret Wright

Send GOLD your email address to be notified of regulation changes

Pursuant to KRS 13A.270, agencies of the Commonwealth of Kentucky are to notify local governments via email when that agency promulgates or amends a regulation affecting local governments. However, the agency promulgating, or amending a regulation affecting local governments is only required to notify a local government where that local government has provided an email address to that agency.

Therefore, if you wish to be notified about regulations affecting local governments, please send your email address to jessica.masters@ky.gov at the Governor's Office for Local Development (GOLD).

KMESHA QUOTE:

“Programs were geared toward front-line workers, especially public works and mid-level supervisors.”

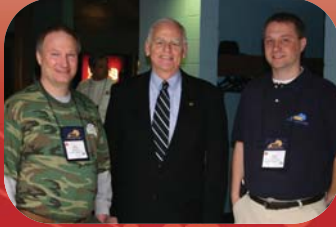
- Jo Ann Simpson, HR Director, Covington

ASSOCIATION NEWS

Another Record Breaking Turnout for KMESHA!

The Kentucky Municipal Environmental Safety and Health Association (KMESHA) Annual Safety Conference continues to grow. This year, nearly 200 participants attended the event in Elizabethtown, which featured keynote speakers on railroad safety and catastrophe liability as well as interactive learning sessions, workshops, networking and hospitality!

Snapshots from Elizabethtown



“Good casual format, interesting topics and affordable.”

- Paul Correa, Athletic Program Manager, Bowling Green

COOL TREND

Cities Supporting the Troops: Adopt-A-Unit

Twenty-three Kentucky cities are honoring our national heroes through America Supporting Americans (ASA), a nonprofit organization that encourages communities to be creatively supportive through its Adopt-A-Unit Program. Cities throughout Kentucky are showing their appreciation by sending care packages filled with letters, snacks, games, books and other items, as well as planning civic events for adopted service men and women.

Fort Mitchell has established a strong relationship with its adopted unit, Bravo Company 2-504 of the Army's 82nd Airborne, stationed in Fort Bragg, N.C. Last September, after returning from Afghanistan, the city invited the company to Fort Mitchell. Four members of the unit were able to attend and were welcomed to Fort Mitchell with a full day of festivities including a parade.

"It's an easy way for our cities to support our service men and women who are away from their families," said Fort Mitchell Mayor Tom Holocher. "We're trying to make their lives a little easier."

Bravo Company 2-504 is expecting redeployment to Iraq this spring and the City of Fort Mitchell will be sending support regularly.

For more information or to get involved with ASA, visit www.asa-usa.org.

Candids from the KLC Legislative Barbeque

KLC hosted legislators and legislative staff for a *sine die* barbeque in Frankfort on March 26. Over 550 were served!



KLC Direct

OFFICERS

- David L. Willmoth, Jr.
Mayor of Elizabethtown, President
- Glenn V. Caldwell
Mayor of Williamstown, First Vice President
- Connie Lawson
Mayor of Richmond, Second Vice President
- Bradley H. Collins
Mayor of Morehead, Immediate Past President
- Sylvia L. Lovely
Executive Director/CEO, KLC

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- Susan Barto
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Mayor of Beaver Dam
- William Paxton
Mayor of Paducah
- Darrell Pickett
Mayor of Glasgow
- Tom Rushing
Mayor of Murray
- Elaine Walker
Mayor of Bowling Green

The voice of Kentucky cities.

KLC Direct is published monthly by the Kentucky League of Cities (KLC). KLC is a voluntary association of nearly 400 cities and provides a multitude of services to assist in improving local government. Please address any correspondence to KLC Direct, Kentucky League of Cities, 100 East Vine Street, Suite 800, Lexington, Kentucky 40507-3700. Phone (859) 977-3700 or 1-800-876-4552. Fax (859) 977-3703. www.klc.org.

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By providing pertinent information, the Kentucky League of Cities does not necessarily endorse the views, services, programs or initiatives described in the listed references or websites, nor is the Kentucky League of Cities responsible for any statements or material contained therein. This publication provides information and links as a service to readers for their consideration.

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Help Your City be More Playful!

KaBOOM! is a nonprofit organization that is determined to provide a play space within walking distance of every child in America by constructing or renovating play spaces. Cities can apply to be named a **Playful City**, which includes national recognition, road signs and more. Later in the year, watch for the announcement of \$5,000 challenge grants for play space projects. For more information and to obtain a "how to" toolkit from KaBOOM!, go to www.kaboom.org.



WELCOME NEW CORNERSTONE PARTNER

LIMESTONE LEVEL: Kentucky Ready Mixed Concrete Association

Contact: R. Finley Messick
Executive Director, finley@krmca.org
1 HMB Circle, Frankfort, KY 40601
502-695-1535
502-695-9499 (fax)
www.krmca.org

LEGISLATIVE FLASH

Brownfield Tax Incentive Extended

On Dec. 20, 2006, President Bush signed the Tax Relief and Health Care Act of 2006. The new legislation includes an extension and expansion of the Brownfields Tax Incentive. Under the new law, the incentive was renewed, effective after Dec. 31, 2005, and extended until Dec. 31, 2007. The Brownfields Tax Incentive allows environmental cleanup costs to be deducted in the year incurred rather than capitalized over time. The legislation expanded the brownfields incentive scope, allowing the deduction of expenses for the cleanup of petroleum products (crude oil, crude oil condensates and natural gasoline), which had previously been ineligible.

The Brownfields Tax Incentive, intended to spur the cleanup and redevelopment of brownfields in distressed urban and rural areas, was originally signed into law in August 1997 as part of the Taxpayer Relief Act (Public Law 105-34). As before, entities interested in the tax incentive must receive a certification of eligibility from their appropriate state cleanup program contact.

The EPA has updated its guidelines and other Brownfields Tax Incentive information resources to reflect the extension and expansion of the incentive signed into law by the president. Information on the Brownfields Tax Incentive is available at www.epa.gov/brownfields/bftaxinc.htm.

CERS Feedback, Contact Information Needed

What are public employee health care costs doing to your city's budget?

How does that affect funding for other specific city projects? How much of your budget goes to employee health care and pension costs?

KLC is building a case for reform on public employee health care and pension costs, particularly local employees who are part of the CERS system.

Please tell us your story and give us examples of how these costs are changing the way your city operates, reduces funds for projects, hinders hiring or even causes job losses.

We will be using these examples as we talk with legislators in the year ahead. Go to www.klc.org and give us your thoughts or contact Bobbie Bryant, director of communications, at 1-800-876-4552.

Do we have your preferred contact information?

In early January, KLC Member Services mailed every elected city official a postage-paid postcard to return with your preferred mailing address, daytime phone number and email address. We have received over 600 responses to date from this mailing!

This information is imperative in order for you to be kept abreast of the latest legislative information and other important information

from KLC as it happens.

If you have not returned your postcard, if you did not receive it or it was lost, simply contact Robyn Miller at rmiller@klc.org or 1-800-876-4552 so we can update your contact information. Please remember to notify us whenever your contact information changes. (KLC does not share member contact information with outside entities other than KLC Cornerstone Partners and appropriate government or related agencies).

FROM THE FIELD

Lexington Officer Featured in USA Today Weekend Article

Lexington-Fayette Urban County police officer **Ann Gutierrez** was recently featured in a *USA Today Weekend* article about life expectancy rates among various professions. To her surprise, her life expectancy is 90 years old! She credits her healthy lifestyle with the high age. Gutierrez was also named a U.S. Top Cop by the National Association of Police Organizations in 2006 for her work on a case involving exploitation of an Alzheimer's patient.

Congratulations to **Perryville Mayor Anne Sleet**, recently named a Bluegrass Women's Alliance Impact award winner. The award recognizes women who actively work on projects that improve the lives of Kentucky's women.

Congratulations to **Lexington and Louisville**, both named among the 100 Best Communities for Young People by "America's Promise."

Anita Johnson Honored by Louisville Metro



Congratulations to **Jefferson-town Councilwoman Anita Johnson** who was recognized by the Louisville Metro Council for "significant contributions to improve your district as well as the overall community," in conjunction with the Metro Council's Black History Month Celebration.

She was also recognized in the inaugural edition of "Who's Who in Black Louisville" during a March 6 gala event at the Muhammad Ali Center.

NLC NEWS

Mayor Walker Represents KLC

Bowling Green Mayor Elaine Walker represents KLC on two National League of Cities (NLC) committees. While attending the most recent Congress of Cities conference, she learned that the Leadership Training Advisory Council has efforts underway to increase the level of involvement in leadership at NLC. She noted the value of

her own participation in the sessions they provided and how it has dramatically changed the way she can serve her constituents in Bowling Green. She also reported that the Energy, Environment and Natural Resources Committee discussed the national energy supply, our reliance on foreign oil and other environmental issues relating to cities.

Kentucky Officials Appointed to 2007 NLC Steering Committees, Councils

Congratulations to the following city leaders who were recently named to these National League of Cities (NLC) Steering Committees:

- ❖ **Morehead Mayor Brad Collins** - Small Cities Council
- ❖ **Bowling Green Mayor Elaine Walker** - Leadership Training Advisory Council
- ❖ **Maysville Mayor David Cartmell** - Community and Economic Development
- ❖ **Paducah Commissioner Robert Coleman** - Energy, Environment and Natural Resources
- ❖ **Williamstown Mayor Glenn Caldwell** - Energy, Environment and Natural Resources
- ❖ **Richmond Mayor Connie Lawson** - Finance, Administration and Intergovernmental Relations
- ❖ **Lyndon Mayor Susan Barto** - Human Development
- ❖ **Louisville Councilmember Kevin Kramer** - Information, Technology and Communications
- ❖ **Mount Sterling Mayor Gary Williamson** - Public Safety and Crime Prevention
- ❖ **Fort Mitchell Mayor Thomas Holocher** - Transportation Infrastructure and Services

MEMBER NEWS

Member Benefits

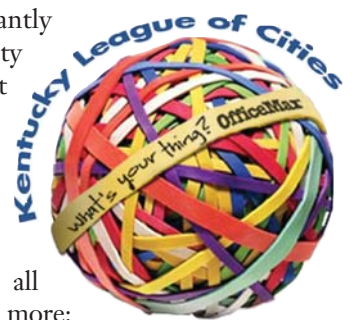
KLC brings you savings everyday with the **OfficeMax "America Saves" Program**

KLC is constantly delivering quality services that benefit you. Through an innovative partnership with OfficeMax, it is now possible for your city or municipal organization to order all your office supplies and more:

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- ♦ with an employee discount for personal, retail purchases as well

To get started:

- ♦ Go to www.klc.org > Resources and Tools > OfficeMax or just click on the homepage OfficeMax icon.
- ♦ With questions or to get more information, contact KLC's Anthony Wright (awright@klc.org) or Joe O'Nan (jonan@klc.org) or call 1-800-876-4552.



STAFF KUDOS

Four KLC staff members completed the AIS 25 (Delivering Insurance Services) program that covers concepts and practices of continuous improvement to insurance services, including Six Sigma and total quality, to ensure a customer-focused environment. Congratulations to **Heidi A. Lynn, AIS, KACSR; MacKinnon Butler, RP; Marty Nemes and Zilda Henson, AIC, AIS!**

Congratulations to **Karen Butcher**, KLC risk management training administrator, who recently won the speech contest for Lexington Toast Masters for her presentation and oratory skills.

KLC and NCI Share Bluegrass Tomorrow Legacy Honors



Congratulations to the Kentucky League of Cities and the NewCities Institute that were named a joint recipient of the Toyota Motor Manufacturing Kentucky, Inc. Legacy Award at the Bluegrass Tomorrow Economic Summit held March 9. The award recognizes businesses for outstanding vision and service.

SHOW ME THE MONEY

2007 Homeland Security Grant Application to Open April 2

Grant workshops to be held at seven locations throughout Kentucky. For more information visit www.homelandsecurity.ky.gov or call 502-564-2081.

earth day Kentucky FACTOIDS

Do your part at work and home!

- ♦ 77% of paper waste generated in offices is recyclable
- ♦ Approximately 1 billion trees worth of paper are thrown away each year in the U.S.
- ♦ The average American uses seven trees a year in paper, wood and other products



City Government Month Snapshot



Glasgow Mayor Darrell Pickett explains the importance of city government and how it benefits people everyday to students at Highland Elementary School. He also visited Red Cross Elementary School and Glasgow Middle School.

CITY TACTICS

Your Constituents Want to Know . . .

What did you do while you were out of town?

As taxpayers, most of us are interested in how our public officials spend tax dollars. As a public official or employees working for the public, you are charged with producing results that citizens value and that will enhance your community. Some of those public tax dollars should be used for educating you as a local city official on how best to do your job. When you expend public money for education, here are some key points you may want to make with your constituents or with the media.

Benefits of training/education for city officials and employees

- ♦ To obtain the very latest methods for enhancing government performance.
- ♦ To obtain realistic and practical approaches on city issues, enabling you to make better decisions on behalf of your citizens.
- ♦ To obtain information about leading suppliers of products and services so that the city operates more efficiently.

- ♦ To learn of grant and other funding opportunities available to city governments.

- ♦ To network with and learn from other elected officials about their strategies on similar issues.

To introduce the idea of out of town training as a benefit to the community, there are a few steps you should consider. First and foremost, state the value you see in the training or event and what you hope to get from it. Above all else, when you get to the workshop or conference, go to the sessions! Take notes, ask questions, network with others who are attending and learn from them as well.

After the event, write up a short summary of what you learned and how you envision your city using the information in the future. Initiate a discussion about it with your local media and emphasize something you learned and can implement locally.

Finally, in all cases, make sure training and education is part of your city budgeting process and make sure any funds used for it are allocated and reimbursed properly.

LAW ABIDING

The City Budget Process

Many cities have started the annual budget preparation process. Each city is required to operate and expend funds under an annual budget that must be adopted by ordinance. City officials and employees are prohibited from expending any city funds except in accordance with the adopted budget.

When does the budget year begin for a city?

Cities are required by Section 169 of the Kentucky Constitution to operate on a July 1-June 30 fiscal year.

How does the city prepare the budget?

Preparation of a budget proposal is the responsibility of the executive authority in cities with mayor-council and commission forms of government. It is the responsibility of the city manager in cities with a manager form of government. The proposed budget, together with a budget message, must be submitted to the legislative body at least thirty (30) days prior to July 1, the beginning of the fiscal year. The legislative body is not required to adopt the budget in the form submitted by the executive authority and is free to make changes to the budget.

Is the preliminary budget subject to review by the public?

A budget ordinance is adopted in the same manner as any other ordinance. The proposed budget is available for review and comment by the public after the first reading of the ordinance.

When is the deadline for adoption of the final budget?

The deadline is June 30. If a city fails to adopt a budget by the beginning of the new fiscal year, the previous year's budget remains in force as if readopted.

What happens to the final budget after it is adopted?

The budget ordinance becomes effective when published. KRS 424.246 requires the city clerk to cause a summary of the budget or the text of the budget ordinance to be advertised by publication in a newspaper. Administration of the budget is the responsibility of the executive authority in cities with mayor-council and commission forms of government. It is the responsibility of the city manager in cities with a manager form of government. The executive authority is authorized to expend funds in accordance with the adopted budget.

SAFE CITIES

Older, Wiser and Healthier

Ten Keys to Successful Aging

1. Build a network of close friends and family members.
2. Use humor, meditation and enjoyable hobbies to shed emotional stress.
3. Be optimistic, curious and willing to try new things.
4. Maintain muscle strength, flexibility and a healthy weight with a combination of aerobic exercise, strength training and stretching.
5. Sleep at least seven to eight hours every night.
6. Don't smoke and avoid secondhand smoke.
7. Exercise common sense: Wear seat belts, bike helmets and sunscreen; floss your teeth;
8. Choose your calories wisely. Go for lots of fruits and vegetables, whole grains and lean protein.
9. To slow bone loss, get enough calcium and vitamin D through low-fat dairy products or other foods.
10. Get recommended health screenings (for cancer, diabetes, blood pressure, cholesterol, vision) as well as annual flu shots after age 50 and a one-time pneumonia shot at age 65.

Sources: National Institute on Aging; University of Pittsburgh Center on Aging; U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; HOPE Health Letter

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Mark Your Calendar

APRIL 25 (8:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.)

Third Annual Peer Exchange Network's Ethical Leadership Institute

(Qualifies for six hours of KLC POESI credit)

The Lexington Center, Lexington, Ky.

Hosted by: The Peer Exchange Network (Contact Allen Cawley at 859-771-6398 with questions)

The 2007 conference will provide CEOs/chief decision makers and top/mid-level managers from the private and public sectors with an opportunity to explore ethical concepts and practices of some of the most noted ethical organizations. This year, the conference planners have invited the presidents, senior level administrators and upper level students from 20 Kentucky colleges/universities to participate.



For more information or to register online, visit KLC's web site at www.klc.org. With questions, contact KLC at 1-800-876-4552.

We Want to Hear from You!

To submit a story or commentary for *KLC Direct* departments, please contact the KLC staff listed or go to www.klc.org. For overall feedback, contact Terri Johnson at 1-800-876-4552, ext. 3784, or tjohnson@klc.org.

INSURANCE NEWS

Handle Money at Work? The Buck Stops With You

If you handle public funds on the job, the buck stops with you. Kentucky Revised Statute 65.067 requires you to have a bond for the "faithful and honest performance of your duties."

The bond amount is based on the maximum amount of funds that are handled during a fiscal year.

The Kentucky League of Cities Insurance Agency (KLCIA) can help you meet that requirement with our bond program, which offers:

- ◆ public officials bonds (to satisfy KRS 65.067)
- ◆ encroachment bonds
- ◆ rural development and FHA loan bonds

Contact KLCIA Customer Service Representative Heidi Lynn, our bond specialist, who can answer your questions about bonding and provide you with a competitive quote for people in your organization who work with money. Heidi can be reached at 1-800-876-4552, ext. 3740, or hlynn@klc.org. She'll be happy to help you.

Safety Grant Reminder

If you are one of the 90 KLC Insurance Services members receiving a 2006 safety grant, your receipts are due! Please fax any receipts for the \$2,500 reimbursement to Kathleen Von Mann at 859-977-3703. With questions, contact Kathleen at kvonmann@klc.org or 1-800-876-4552.

Insurance "Extreme Makeover"

KLC Insurance Services member the City of Hardinsburg recently rebuilt its fire department after, believe it or not, the building caught fire. The new building includes a number of state-of-the-art features and additions.

Not an insurance member? Contact the KLC Insurance Agency at 1-800-876-4552 or contact Larry Moore, director of agency operations at lmoore@klc.org.



KLC Direct is designed internally to save our members money.



KLC Direct is a monthly publication of the Kentucky League of Cities. Any comments or article suggestions should be forwarded to: Kentucky League of Cities, 100 East Vine Street, Suite 800, Lexington, KY 40507-3700 • 859-977-3700 • 1-800-876-4552 • Fax: 859-977-3703 • www.klc.org

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CITY CHRONICLES

Nothing Better Epitomizes 'Cities United!' than the Work Accomplished in the 2007 General Assembly Session



*David L. Willmoth, Jr.
KLC President
Mayor of Elizabethtown*

On behalf of the KLC Board and staff, we both want to thank you for your hard work and your ongoing involvement in legislative issues, which yielded success for cities of all sizes. Specifically, we can all be thrilled with HB 549 - the tax increment financing (TIF) legislation that has justifiably been billed as the biggest economic development tool for cities within the last decade.

Essentially, TIF provides for the use of tax increment financing to spur redevelopment and reuse of properties in declining urban areas across the state. Watch for more about this bill and a complete summary of important legislative actions later in the month at www.klc.org.

And the TIF bill is not all that passed. The Uniform Financial Information Report (UFIR) bill also passed, and it will provide a more efficient method of collecting financial records of our cities.

Finally, though no legislation was enacted, the 2007 session saw the introduction of the Senate plan for fixing Kentucky's pension crisis. We are delighted that the conversation has started and that there is growing recognition that our cities simply cannot sustain the increases required of them every year. As you know better than anyone, spiraling pension costs affect every other aspect of service at the local level.



*Sylvia L. Lovely
KLC Executive
Director/CEO*

We look forward to the work of the Governor's Blue Ribbon Commission on Public Employees Retirement Systems. And, we will continue to build

the case on your behalf with the Coalition for Sustainable Benefits, which consists of KLC, the Kentucky Chamber of Commerce and the Prichard Committee for Academic Excellence.

In addition to thanking you, we want to recognize the hard work of the KLC staff - everyone of them. Certainly our lobbyists deserve thanks, but so do those who worked from our main office to provide research, analysis of the bills, communications, training and education and administrative support to get the work out the door ... and on and on and on.

It all boils down to this: in the past few years, Kentucky cities have come together as a formidable legislative force. For the cities you represent and citizens you serve, we thank you and salute you for your efforts. Our work never ends, so we are keeping the fires burning on these and other issues.

"CITIES UNITED!"

What do Skyrocketing Health Care and Pension Costs Mean for Your City, Today and in the Future?

KLC holds one of 24 seats on the Governor's Blue Ribbon Commission on Public Employees Retirement Systems, and we need real life examples of why this complex issue must be addressed! Tell us online at www.klc.org or call KLC at 1-800-876-4552 and talk with staff from our member services, communications or policy development teams.

Watch for a report from the first meeting online at www.klc.org and in May's *KLC Direct*.



October 10-13, 2007 ♦ Northern Kentucky Convention Center

TIF Bill Signing



KLC participated in ceremonial signing events in Louisville and Newport for House Bill 549, the tax increment financing (TIF) bill on April 4. KLC Executive Director/CEO Sylvia L. Lovely was asked to speak at the Louisville event, and KLC was the organization given

most of the credit for shepherding the bill to passage.

Watch for more information on HB 549 and a summary of all the important legislative news in the May edition of KLC Direct. For constant updates visit www.klc.org.

CLIP & SAVE



Insurance Reminder!

Reminder - Important Information Concerning Vehicle Registration

The Division of Motor Vehicles has made some changes in the data that the clerks are required to enter during vehicle registration. The Kentucky League of Cities Insurance Services is not subject to this new data.

Things to keep in mind during vehicle registration process:

- ◆ In addition to providing the clerk with your insurance ID card, you will need to tell the clerk that you are insured through the Kentucky League of Cities Insurance Services.
- ◆ KLCIS is not a member of the NAIC and therefore does not have an NAIC member number that the new program will request.
- ◆ Advise the clerk to select the option for "official tag" on the first screen. This will allow them to bypass through the NAIC field and proceed with the registration.
- ◆ If any problems arise, the clerk can call Mr. Jeff Athens, Division of Motor Vehicles, 502-564-5301, and he will assist them.

We have been told this is only a temporary issue and that they are working to eliminate this problem as quickly as possible.



HELLO
my name is

WHAT'S IN A NAME?

Some of Kentucky's city officials
share famous names . . .

James Brown, Mayor, Cynthiana
Andy Williams, Commissioner, Nicholasville
Paul Shaffer, Commissioner, Hanson
Robert Young, Councilmember, Hindman
Paul Harvey, Commissioner, Booneville
Tony Delk, Councilmember, Albany
James Carter, Commissioner, Pikeville
John Adams, Councilmember, Lynch
Ben Franklin, Mayor, Druid Hills
Leroy Brown, Commissioner, Bowling Green
Bobby McGee, Commissioner, Arlington
Michael Bolten, City Clerk, Hurstbourne Acres