Repairs to Wolf Creek Dam are complete, and a rising water level in Lake Cumberland prompted the lake counties of Clinton, Pulaski, Russell and Wayne to celebrate by creating the Lake Cumberland 360 Challenge, a regional event that took place June 7-9. This brand new annual event showcased the splendor of the Lake Cumberland area with a plethora of adventurous activities that highlighted the region’s beautiful countryside, local culture and colorful history.

Motorcycle: The Motorcycle Tour (Bingo Run), the centerpiece event of the Lake Cumberland 360 Challenge, took place on Saturday, June 8. The tour started and finished at the Wolf Creek National Fish Hatchery, located just below Wolf Creek Dam.

From there, riders embarked on a 165-mile journey that encircled Lake Cumberland with featured stops in every county, including Lake Cumberland State Dock (Russell); Alligator #2 (Russell); Lee’s Ford Marina (Pulaski); Burnside Fire Department (Pulaski); Conley Bottom Marina (Wayne); Grider Hill Marina (Clinton); and the Bronston Baptist Church (Pulaski) where riders picked up their bandanas.

Participants who turned in their Bingo cards were eligible to win a variety of fantastic prizes, including a houseboat stay, pontoon for a day, cottage stay, swim party at the Russell County Auditorium/Natatorium Complex, gas cards, t-shirts and more. In addition, Adair County television celebrities from “Backyard Oil,” Discovery Channel’s new hit television show, were at the hatchery just in time for the finish of the Motorcycle Tour.

Bicycle: Bicycle enthusiasts also participated in the Lake Cumberland 360 Challenge. Cycling coaching staff from Lindsey Wilson College in Columbia and local cyclists developed three cycling tours – a Century Ride (100 miles); a Metric Century Ride (63 miles); and a Fun Ride (29 miles) – that encompassed the scenic back roads in several lake and river counties. The Century Ride, a challenging course that took cyclists through some of the area’s most picturesque countryside, included a Cumberland River ferry crossing at Winfrey’s Landing and Irish Bottom.

5K Run: The Lake Cumberland 360 Challenge also featured the 5K Color Run on Saturday. Participants of this non-competitive event designed to encourage family fun and fitness ran along the well-tried and tested route used during Albany’s Annual Foothills Festival 5K. Runners dressed in white and were decorated throughout the run so that they finished as a “tie-dyed” work of art.

Other: Visitors touring the region were able to witness the beauty of Lake Cumberland from one of the many scenic overlooks or at one of the marinas.

There were a myriad of other options for visitors to the region, including an in-water boat show and musical entertainment at the Lake Cumberland State Dock and an antique auto show sponsored by the Ol Boys Toys Car Club (Russell), the Lake Cumberland Classic Softball Tournament, Farmer’s Market, and corn grinding at Mill Springs Mill (Wayne), and Mill Springs Battlefield Museum and Cemetery (Pulaski), a great stop for the Civil War history buff and patriotic citizen.

The Lake Cumberland 360 Challenge is a charity event to benefit funds established under the Lake Area Foundation.
In June, the Lake Area Foundation’s Taylor County Local Advisory Committee hosted an informational meeting to Taylor County women who were interested in learning more about the foundation.

A video was presented, and LAF Chair Yevette Haskins spoke to attendees about the foundation. During the meeting the ladies established the Taylor County Women’s Circle of Hope.

New Funds Established

♦ Pulaski County Women’s Circle Fund

♦ Taylor County Women’s Circle of Hope Fund.

♦ Clinton County Women’s Circle Fund (in progress)
Lake Area Foundation Facts

The Lake Area Foundation (LAF), a community foundation, was officially formed in July 2012 with the approval of by-laws, followed by the creation of a regional board of directors and the creation of advisory committees in each of the ten counties served -- Adair, Casey, Clinton, Cumberland, Green, McCreary, Pulaski, Russell, Taylor and Wayne.

Statistics show that in 2009, charitable contributions in the United States totaled $303.75 billion. Many people have the misconception that individuals can’t give enough money to make a difference. What might be surprising to learn, however, is that individuals actually contributed $227 billion of that $303.75 billion. The average gift was $250.

Individuals, indeed, are very generous... and when their money is pooled, individuals will find that their small contributions can add up to make significant differences in their communities.

What if the citizens of the entire region pooled their resources and used the earnings to provide good things for current and future needs? The Lake Area Foundation was created in faith, knowing that the need existed for this “framework for giving,” and that dozens, even hundreds of funds would come with time.

The Foundation is staffed and managed by the Lake Cumberland Area Development District. With facilities, staff and a framework in place, this effort is being undertaken as a service to the region.

The Foundation began with a simple idea: charitable giving should be easy, flexible and effective. The Foundation plans to develop a permanent, yet flexible, collection of endowment funds contributed by people from all walks of life who want to give something back in a way that matters to them.

The principal of these funds remains intact forever; with the income generated annually invested back into the community through grants that tackle today’s needs and prepare for tomorrow’s challenges.

To learn more about the Lake Area Foundation, go to www.lakeareafoundation.org; visit and “like” the Lake Area Foundation Facebook page; send an email to lakeareafoundation@lcadd.org; or call 270-866-4200.

KINDS OF FUNDS

♦ Discretionary or Unrestricted Funds: Address your community’s most pressing needs.
♦ Donor Advised: Make recommendations regarding distributions of gifts from your fund.
♦ Designated Funds: Support specific charities.
♦ Scholarship Funds: Provide access to education to deserving students.
♦ Agency Endowments: Non-profit organizations create endowments to support their operations or programs.
♦ Field of Interest: Benefit an area of need, such as arts, rather than a specific charity.
♦ Contribute to Existing Funds: Gifts meet the general charitable needs of a community.
WHAT IS A COMMUNITY FOUNDATION?

A community foundation is a tax-exempt public trust available to individuals, companies and organizations to facilitate fund development, fund management and grant making. Serving as the area’s largest pool of charitable endowments, the Lake Area Foundation offers ease, convenience and expertise for parties who wish to make a lasting impact upon the charitable needs of non-profit organizations and programs.

Lake Area Foundation brochures are available by calling 270-866-4200.

Thank You!

The Lake Area Foundation (LAF) would like to thank everyone who supported and made the 1st Annual Lake Cumberland 360 Challenge a great success.

Thanks to the many volunteers who gave their time and special talents to plan, organize, share resources and venues, promote, and staff the signature events -- Motorcycle Tour, Bicycle Tours, and 5K Color Run -- as well as all of the other activities that took place in conjunction with the Lake Cumberland 360 Challenge. A special thanks to the cast of Backyard Oil for appearing at Wolf Creek National Fish Hatchery for the finale of the Motorcycle Tour.

The Lake Area Foundation would also like to extend a big thank you to the following sponsors:

Grider Hill Marina  Lake Cumberland State Dock  Conley Bottom Resort  Indian Hills Resort/Alligator II Marina  Lee’s Ford Resort & Marina  Lindsey Wilson College  RoadID  Wolf Creek National Fish Hatchery  Gaddie-Shamrock  Trevicos  Weddle Enterprises, Inc.  Lake Cumberland Dock & Marina Assn.  Russell County Banks  McDonalds: Clinton, Russell, Wayne  Monticello Banking Company  Keystone Foods  Walter Martin Excavating  Lake Cumberland Properties  Superior Battery  Duo-County Telephone Co-op  Jamestown Pharmacy  Ron & Donna Diaz  Pyles Concrete  Gary Robertson  Walmart  Southern Petroleum  Farmer’s Produce  Little Chop Shop  LAKE AREA FOUNDATION  Lake Cumberland Area Development District  Somerset-Pulaski County CVB  Bronston Fire Department  TOUR SEKY  Burnside Tourism  Wayne County Tourism  Clinton County 5K Committee  Russell County Cycling Committee  Russell County ANC  Russell County Tourist Commission  Lake Area Foundation Local Advisory Committees