THE HEALING PLACE OFFERS HOPE
HOSPITALS RECEIVE ARC FUNDS
FROM HOUSEBOATS TO HOUSES
LCADD Board Gathers for First Meeting of 2012

The Lake Cumberland Area Development District (LCADD) held its first Board of Director’s meeting of the year on Jan. 26, 2012, in Russell Springs.

During the meeting, board officers for 2012 were elected as follows: Albany Mayor John “Nicky” Smith, Chairman; Adair County Judge Ann Melton, Vice Chairman; Ms. Yevette Haskins, Taylor County Citizen Member, Secretary; and Campbellsville Mayor Tony Young, Treasurer.

In addition to board officers, the following were appointed to the Executive Committee: Ms. Janet Clark, Russell County Citizen Member; Casey County Judge Ronald Wright; Burkesville Mayor Keith Riddle; Green County Judge Misty Edwards; Mr. Allan Chapman, McCreary County Citizen Member; Pulaski County Judge Barty Bullock; and Ms. Ruth Smith, Wayne County Citizen Member.

Two new citizen members were also seated on the LCADD Board. Linda Waggner will represent Adair County and Rebecca Smith will represent Clinton County. Several citizens members were reappointed, including Jay Shofner, Green County; Allan Chapman, McCreary County; Eunice Sayers, Pulaski County; and Janet Clark, Russell County.

The following were re-appointed to head LCADD committees: Wayne County Judge Executive Greg Rankin, Chairman of the Revolving Loan Fund Committee; Russell County Judge Executive Gary Robertson, Chairman of the Transportation Committee; and Mr. Eddie Wesley from Casey County, Chairman of the Water Council.

After elections and appointments, the LCADD FY11 Audit Report and the Area Aging Plan were reviewed. Tommie Causey, Small Business Administration, was a guest speaker during the board meeting.

KCADD Elects Albany Mayor as Officer

Kentucky Council of Area Development Districts (KCADD) named Albany Mayor John Smith as their 2012-13 2nd Vice Chairman during their board meeting Feb. 9, 2012, at the Capitol Annex.

New KCADD officers are:
- Robert Claycomb, Chairman; Citizen Member, LaRue County
- Jody Jenkins, 1st Vice Chairman; Union County Judge Executive
- John Smith, 2nd Vice Chairman; Mayor of Albany
- R.D. “Doc” Marshall, Secretary; Floyd County Judge Executive
- Harold “Shorty” Tomlinson, Treasurer; Carroll County Judge Executive
- Bobby Carpenter, Immediate Past Chair; Greenup County Judge Executive

During their year-long term, these officers will lead the Kentucky’s area development districts in their work to help local officials and citizens unite to provide for the planned growth of their area and provide technical and management assistance to local communities on a broad range of topics. “I’m honored to be selected to serve in this capacity, and I look forward to serving the state of Kentucky,” Smith said.

The Kentucky Council of Area Development Districts is comprised of 15 regional entities called Area Development Districts that provide a multi-disciplinary approach to regional trouble-shooting by working with elected leadership to strengthen the physical environment and enhance the quality of life in Kentucky. Under the Council’s leadership, the ADDs have managed over 5,763 projects and contracts valued at $2.8 billion, and have generated a return of more than $100 for every $1 in local government dues each year.

Among those are programs to assist the elderly, improve the state’s infrastructure, provide housing assistance, facilitate economic development, develop a strong workforce, improve water and wastewater practices, and advance public health.
The New Year came out of the starting gate at breakneck speed and has yet to slow down. Staff members in all departments are busily working projects and programs.

You’ll see several projects highlighted in this newsletter. While many projects focus on serving one community or county, there are also projects that have multi-region and state-wide impact.

We have welcomed new staff, celebrated with our staff family as babies are born and mourned with others as they have said goodbye to parents and siblings.

In January, we welcomed new officers as the board elected Albany Mayor John “Nicky” Smith, Chair, Adair County Judge Executive Ann Melton, Vice-Chair, Citizen Member Yevette Haskins, Secretary and Campbellsville Mayor Tony Young, Treasurer.

We also congratulate Mayor Smith on being elected as an officer of the Kentucky Council of Area Development Districts. Staff members have attended training required to maintain various certifications and upgrade skills. Eight LCADD staff earned their CDBG Certified Administrator credentials, and one is working toward an International Business Certification and additional Revolving Loan Fund management training. Senior Center Directors have updated their CPR credentials and AICP certified staff continue to pursue the training opportunities required to maintain that certification.

Our hearts go out to those within our region and throughout the state who have experienced loss as a result of the recent storms. It is encouraging to see the efforts being made to assist in the recovery process and the grace and fortitude with which people deal with their losses.

As we face a seemingly continuous series of budget cuts, and find creative ways to deal with each one, I trust that this agency can weather that storm with the same grace and fortitude.

In spite of budgetary constraints, with a strong board guiding us and a talented staff putting the needs of the region above their own, the future looks bright.
Houseboat Manufacturer Re-tools to Produce Houses

Stardust Cruisers, located in Monticello, is one houseboat factory, among many, in southern Kentucky that has been hit hard by the recession. As a result, the company has been seeking ways to diversify its business.

Since 2009, the company has worked with Kentucky Highlands Investment Corporation (KHIC) in London and the University of Kentucky’s (UK) College of Design and UK’s Center for Applied Energy Research to design and develop a new product to build in its existing facility.

The Houseboats-to-Energy-Efficient Residences Project (HEERP) creates a new, affordable energy-efficient modular home product that will help Stardust re-tool its plant and build houses in addition to houseboats, thus putting local carpenters and electricians back to work and infusing much-needed financial resources into the local economy.

A ribbon-cutting ceremony was held on Jan. 27, 2012, for the first prototype for the HEERP initiative with local, LCADD, state and federal dignitaries in attendance. The new home is located in an established residential area near downtown Monticello. A second prototype was delivered to rural Whitley County in February.

Once in full production, the company estimates that the cost of the modular house and lot will be no more than $100,000. Energy costs to heat and cool are expected to be about $1.65 per day. The company also hopes to manufacture and sell multifamily units and classrooms.

The project is backed by KHIC and state and federal funds. In support of these efforts, the LCADD is administering an Economic Development Administration Grant for KHIC.

The grant supports work by UK’s College of Design to design buildable multi and single-family manufactured homes. It helps Stardust Cruisers obtain factory certification by NTA, Inc., a company that assists manufacturers in meeting manufactured housing code requirements and green-energy building standards.

The grant also funds a marketing feasibility study to enable sales and shipping of homes throughout the United States and internationally.

Stardust Cruisers, in supporting the grant application, has agreed to invest $250,000 of its own funds and to create 36 new jobs as the manufacturing process gains momentum.
When alcoholism or drug dependency is part of the picture, the chances for a normal life are slim. Many men, women and their children get stuck and ultimately abandon hope of breaking free from the downward spiral of addiction.

The Healing Place of Campbellsville was designed to offer an innovative, peer-driven recovery program to people suffering from drug and alcohol addiction. The campus was constructed in 2009 as a project of the Recovery Kentucky program but was added to The Healing Place organization, based in Louisville, in December 2010.

The Campbellsville facility offers men a long-term program that’s based on a social model which incorporates elements from both The Healing Place and Recovery Kentucky programs.

The Healing Place campus, which has a capacity of 105, accepts clients locally and from across the state. Clients may stay at the facility for up to two years. Funding for the facility and its programs comes from the Kentucky Housing Corporation, the Department of Corrections, and the Department for Local Government using Community Development Block Grant funds.

When clients first arrive on campus, they enter the SOS portion of the program, which means Safe off the Streets. “They stay here for about a month,” said Brenda Allen, Executive Director for the campus. “They are very limited in what they are allowed to do,” she said.

Initially, clients bunk in group dormitories and are enrolled in practical living classes. A local church provides classroom space, and clients walk to and from the church — approximately 2.5 miles round trip — to attend classes. No matter what the weather, they are required to walk to class each day.

Clients move through The Healing Place program at their own pace. When they are ready, they leave the SOS and progress to the MT or Motivational Track of the program. It is here that they begin to work through the 12-step recovery process. Clients learn coping skills and are taught to be responsible for their own actions.

Successful clients eventually move into and then through Phases I and II of the program. They live in dormitories which provide the basic necessities, including a bedroom, kitchen and bath. Each dorm accommodates two men. During Phase I and Phase II of the treatment program, clients are placed into groups of 40. All participants are held accountable for their actions directly by their peers. Clients are also placed in campus jobs. Allen said the clients do everything around the facility from cooking and cleaning to laundry and grounds maintenance. “They do very good work,” she said.

When they have satisfactorily completed the recovery program, clients may leave the facility, but only after they have obtained outside employment. Some do leave the campus, but others choose to stay the maximum time allowed. These working clients pay rent during their stay.

Allen said many good people are addicted to alcohol and drugs, a problem which crosses all socio-economic boundaries. “It’s not always the people you think it will be. Numerous professionals suffering from the detrimental effects of addiction have been through the facility’s treatment program.

“The men in this program are good people,” said Allen. She likes to recite a quote she once heard from a recovering addict. He said, “We’re not bad people trying to be good; we’re sick people trying to get well.”

Helping clients recover from addiction and live a normal life is the main goal of the Campbellsville facility, and Allen said progress is being made with these individuals every day. She cited a recent University of Kentucky survey that shows The Healing Place treatment program has a 75% recovery rate after one year for those who have successfully completed the program. “This is good news for clients, their families, local communities and the entire state of Kentucky,” said Allen.

“Treatment is the only solution. If our clients can learn to handle the little things, then they can gain the confidence and power they need to handle the big things in life,” she said.
The Lake Cumberland Area Development District, acting for the Kentucky counties of Clinton, Cumberland, Monroe and Russell, applied for funding through the Homeland Security Grant Program for a Reverse 911 Mass Emergency Notification System.

In October 2011, the Kentucky Office of Homeland Security (KOHS) announced the approval of the application for the FY-2011 State Homeland Security Grant Program. The application was awarded $43,750 for the project. Contracts were signed in January 2012, and bids for a Reverse 911 System were opened in February. It is anticipated that the Reverse 911 system will be operational in all four counties by June 1, 2012.

KOHS currently provides these four counties with a limited Reverse 911 System for flood inundation areas below Wolf Creek Dam on the Cumberland River. The current system covers only 10-15% of the residences in the four counties and is limited to those living within the Cumberland River flood inundation area.

This project will allow the expansion of the current Reverse 911 System operated by KOHS, covering the remaining 85% of residences in the four counties at an estimated lower cost per year. The project will allow use of the Reverse 911 System for all hazards and not be limited to only the failure of Wolf Creek Dam. This funding will allow the Reverse 911 system, initiated due to the Wolf Creek Dam hazard, to be continued through 2012 and 2013 until dam repairs are completed. At the end of the project period, each county will have the option to continue the Reverse 911 contract for its citizens.
Hospitals Receive ARC Grants for Medical Equipment

Hospitals in Clinton and Russell counties recently received Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) grants for the purchase of Hologic Selenia Digital Mammography Systems. Russell County Hospital also received ARC funding to purchase a Stereotactic Breast Biopsy Machine.

Clinton County Hospital applied for and received $252,199 in ARC funding, which was matched locally with $63,050.

With its new mammography equipment, the hospital now offers modern, digital mammography service to women in Clinton County and neighboring Cumberland County, as well as Pickett County in Tennessee.

The high-tech equipment stores digital mammography records and enables staff to quickly share examination records electronically with the hospital’s radiologist who works primarily in another county. The hospital expects to annually serve more than 1,400 mammography patients within the next five years.

Russell County Hospital applied for and received ARC funds for $248,000, with a $62,050 local match. The new equipment allows the hospital to replace its old mammography equipment with modern services, thus meeting the local demand for digital technology.

The hospital expects to serve 1,500 patients annually. Women will now be able to obtain modern mammography service without having to travel elsewhere.

In addition, Russell County Hospital will soon have the capacity to perform breast biopsies, thanks to another ARC grant of $136,000. These funds, along with a $34,000 local match, will be used to purchase a breast biopsy machine. This new piece of equipment will replace the need for the mobile biopsy unit which currently makes monthly visits to the hospital.

With the mobile unit, patients schedule a biopsy around the unit’s monthly visit, and then wait, up to a month, for the results. The new machine will allow the hospital to more quickly schedule biopsies and then provide patients with same-day biopsy results.

In addition to serving Russell County patients, the equipment is expected to serve patients in neighboring Casey, Adair and Clinton counties.

The ARC strives to be a strategic partner and advocate for sustainable community and economic development in Appalachia. LCADD staff prepared pre-applications and applications and is administering funding for the above-mentioned Clinton County and Russell County hospital projects.

WTC-KY Offers International Certification Training

Waylon Wright, Community Development Specialist at LCADD, will participate in the World Trade Center Kentucky’s (WTC-KY) international certification program which takes place from March through June.

The WTC-KY offers a yearly certification program for the international business community. This program, comprised of four individual seminars and taught by experts from banking, tax, legal, academia, customs compliance, market intelligence, freight forwarding, customs brokerage and government, will lead to the certification of International Commerce Specialist.

The skills and knowledge gained from this certification program will provide the foundation for effective and efficient management of a company’s international trade operations. In addition, the program is designed to develop skilled professionals in international trade that can spearhead the future growth of U.S. trade.

The program attracts participation from the following roles and functions: international sales representatives and managers, international marketing analysts and managers, international logistics analysts and managers, international trade compliance analysts and managers, U.S. Customs’ compliance analysts and managers, credit managers, certified public accountants, economic development specialists, among other roles and functions.

Any and all sectors that are selling products outside the U.S. and/or sourcing internationally are represented in this program. Last year’s certification program attracted participants from the following sectors: mining, chemicals, automotive, medical, food/beverage, textile, consumer goods, logistics and industrial machinery, among others.

The certification program is comprised of four separate seminars, covering the following topics: Market Research and Global Marketing, International Legal Considerations, International Payment and Export Financing, and Import/Export Compliance.
Lake Cumberland Clerk’s Association Meets In Albany

On March 7, the Lake Cumberland Clerk’s Association held its quarterly meeting at Albany City Hall with 11 clerks and deputy clerks from the region attending.

Clarissa Hart, LCADD’s Public Administration Specialist, said the association is taking a new approach to its meeting schedule beginning this year. “The association has decided to hold its quarterly meetings in each city within the region, beginning with Albany and moving alphabetically through the cities,” she said. “Each city clerk will be responsible for planning the meeting in his or her city.”

Clerks will benefit from the experiences of visiting all of the city halls in the region. “Meetings at these different locations will offer clerks insight into how other city clerks operate their offices and the atmospheres they work in,” said Hart. “These meetings really serve as wonderful opportunities for idea exchanges and networking.”

During the March business meeting, association members began working out the details of the state-wide Clerk Association’s Spring Conference which will be held within the Lake Cumberland region in April 2014. Members also enjoyed a networking opportunity during lunch at Eli’s on the Square, and then they toured the Twin Lakes Wellness Center and the old Hopkins School, two of Albany’s premiere attractions.

The City of Burkesville will host the next association meeting, which will take place in June.

Eighteen Students Certified as Child Passenger Safety Technicians

A Child Passenger Safety (CPS) training session was held March 13-16 at the Hal Rogers Fire Training Center in Somerset.

Eighteen students were educated on the proper use and installation of child restraints and safety belts through both hands-on skills assessments and written tests.

All students successfully demonstrated skills learned in the certification class and are now nationally certified Child Passenger Safety Technicians.

Classes were taught by Sharon Rengers, Clarissa Hart, Donita Lashley and Diane Kline.

Students in the CPS class, back row, left to right: Mindy Wilson, Casey County HANDS; Beth Collins, Russell County HANDS; Pat Mashburn, RN, Christian Co. Health Department; Darlene Shemwell, Christian County HANDS; Jill Vangotum, Christian County HANDS; Billy Duncan, Somerset /Pulaski County EMS; David Bell, Somerset/Pulaski County EMS; Jonathan Dobson, KYTC District 10, Manchester; Kathy Ping, Pulaski County HANDS; Sherry Coffey, Wayne County HANDS; and Shannon Beaty, Clinton & Cumberland County HANDS. Front row, left to right: Tammy Pickett, Green County HANDS; Savannah Lewis, Taylor County HANDS; Carmen Ramirez, Christian County HANDS; Kelly Wilson, Adair Co. HANDS; Tracey Franklin, Somerset/Pulaski County EMS; Kim Crabtree, McCreary County HANDS; and Wilda Morris, Pulaski County HANDS.
Pulaski Receives Funding for Recreational Trail Project

First Lady Jane Beshear recently joined Tourism, Arts and Heritage Cabinet Secretary Marcheta Sparrow and Department for Local Government (DLG) Commissioner Tony Wilder to announce more than $1.8 million in grants to local communities to develop and maintain recreational trails across Kentucky.

The total of $1,849,648 in federal grant dollars will go to 38 applicants for hiking, biking, horseback riding and other types of trails as part of the Federal Highway Administration’s Recreational Trails Program (RTP). The applicants include city and county government as well as state and federal agencies.

“Developing Kentucky trails is instrumental in increasing overall adventure tourism efforts and boosting local economies throughout the state,” said Mrs. Beshear. “These federal funds help communities get trail projects off the ground so they can bring in tourism dollars and provide areas for their citizens to be active and live healthier lifestyles.”

The Pulaski County Fiscal Court was the recipient of $27,259 in funding to be used for the Woodstock and Firebrook Park Recreational Trails Project.

RTP is funded by the U.S. Department of Transportation’s Federal Highway Administration. Kentucky’s RTP grants are administered by DLG and require that applicants match the amount of funds requested.

The grants may be used to provide assistance for acquisition of easements; development and/or maintenance of recreational trails; and trailhead facilities for both motorized and non-motorized use. Examples of trail uses include hiking, bicycling, inline skating, equestrian use, off-road motorcycling and all-terrain vehicle riding.

Governor Awards Certification to Russell County

Governor Steve Beshear recently announced that Russell County has been certified as a Work Ready Community in Progress.

The new Work Ready Communities certification program from the Kentucky Workforce Investment Board (KWIB) and the Kentucky Education and Workforce Development Cabinet assures employers that a local workforce has the talent and skills necessary to staff existing jobs and to master the innovative technologies new jobs will require.

“We are excited that Russell County has achieved Work Ready Community in Progress status and we look forward to certifying many others in the future. Work Ready Community in Progress status is not an easy accomplishment. Russell County leaders are to be commended for working together to achieve this goal,” said Crystal Gibson, chair of the Kentucky Work Ready Communities Review Panel and vice president of Communications and Public Affairs at Citigroup.

Russell County was designated as a Work Ready Community in Progress because it is close to meeting the criteria to be certified as a Work Ready Community. To achieve this level, a county must present a viable plan to meet all of the criteria within three years. The designation shows that a community is making strides and working with its business, education, workforce and economic development leaders to set and meet common goals that will give the county an economic edge.

Russell County is a role model for other communities that want to demonstrate a commitment to reaching education, workforce and economic development goals that make their communities a desirable place for businesses,” said Joseph U. Meyer, secretary of the Kentucky Education and Workforce Development Cabinet.

Kentucky is the third state to begin certifying counties as Work Ready Communities based on the quality of their labor force. To become certified, communities must gather local support and commitment and apply for the Work Ready Community designation. Counties have to meet criteria in six areas including high school graduation rate, National Career Readiness Certificate holders, demonstrated community commitment, educational attainment, soft-skills development and digital literacy.

Applications for the certification were reviewed by a panel appointed by KWIB. The panel recommended certification by the board for the counties that met the criteria. The panel will meet three times a year to review applications, which can be submitted at any time. Other counties in the district are also working toward certification.
STAFF HIGHLIGHTS

New Babies

Congratulations to Susannah Campbell, Assistant Director/Driver for the Pulaski County Senior Center, on the birth of her son, Haygen Dale Campbell. He was born on Feb. 29, 2012. He weighed 7 pounds, 12 ounces and was 19 inches long.

Our Condolences

Our condolences to the many LCADD staffers who have lost parents, siblings, grandparents and other loved ones during the past several months.

“The angels are always near to those who are grieving, to whisper to them that their loved ones are safe in the hand of God.”

—Eileen Elias Freeman

LCADD Calendar

Central Times Apply

April

6  LCADD Office Closes at Noon  Holiday
17  Workforce Investment Board Meeting  10:00 a.m.
18  LCADD Executive Committee Meeting  12:30 p.m.
26  Elder Abuse Council Meeting  10:00 a.m.

May

16  LCADD Executive Committee Meeting  12:30 p.m.
23  Area Aging Council Meeting  12:00 noon
24  LCADD Board of Directors Meeting  6:30 p.m.
28  Office Closed  Holiday

June

7  Water Council Meeting  10:00 a.m.
7  Transportation Committee Meeting  12:00 noon
19  Workforce Investment Board Meeting  10:00 a.m.
20  LCADD Executive Committee Meeting  12:30 p.m.