

KONNECTION

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District News

October 10th is “PUT THE BRAKES ON FATALITIES” Day

On October 10th, the entire nation will celebrate “Put the Brakes on Fatalities Day.” The idea for this special emphasis is to make people more aware of the causes of collisions and promote safe driving techniques in hopes of having one entire 24-hour period without a fatal crash. The theme for this fourth annual celebration is “Drive as if your life depends on it.”

Since on most days, 116 people die throughout the nation on our roadways, a collision-free day *would* be a major accomplishment. However, last year there was only one fatality on Oct. 10 in our state. The idea for choosing one special day to focus the attention of the entire nation on this problem was conceived by Larry Emig, an engineer with the Kansas Department of Transportation.

A day in October was chosen because it is one of the deadliest months on the roadways. About four dozen organizations throughout the nation are involved in planning events to call attention to the seriousness of this problem and to encourage changes in behavior and actions to promote safer roadways.

In Kentucky, events are planned for the entire week of October 4-11 to focus on safety on our roadways. The newly formed Highway Safety Manage-

**EVERY 13 MINUTES
ANOTHER PERSON
DIES ON OUR ROADS**



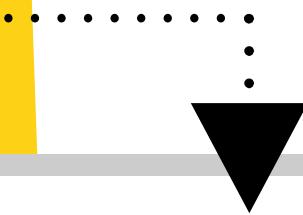
October 10

Drive as if your life depends on it.

www.brakesonfatalities.org

ment Executive Committee will be announcing several initiatives over the next few months aimed at improving safety on our roads. Representatives from more than a dozen organizations are involved in the Committee, which is chaired by KYTC Deputy Secretary Dick Murgatroyd. Safety is a concern to many groups and it takes a collaborative approach to accomplish the desired results.

It is a “natural” that the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet would be involved in this effort. We have the



year-round 24/7 responsibility for providing a safe transportation system. And earlier this month, Deputy Secretary Richard Murgatroyd issued a memo reminding Cabinet employees of their personal responsibility in this matter.

While it would be impossible to create roadways and conditions that would prevent all collisions, there are tips we can incorporate into our daily lives that will make a positive difference. The idea of this special day is for everyone to focus on their own individual behavior and listed below are some pro-active steps you can take to be safer on our roadways:

- Always use your seatbelt--every time on every trip. More than half of our crash victims last year didn't have a seatbelt on at the time of their crash. Twenty-one states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico have passed primary seatbelt legislation. However, in Kentucky, seatbelt usage is a secondary offense meaning that if you are stopped for another reason, you can be ticketed for not wearing one.

- Obey the posted speed limits.
- Slow down and move over when you approach an emergency vehicle.
- Observe signs in work zones. The road improvements are being made to make our roadways smoother and safer. In fact, for every \$100 million invested in highway safety improvements, 145 fewer traffic fatalities will

occur over a 10-year period.

- Keep your vehicle properly maintained, including keeping tires properly maintained.
- Wear appropriate protective gear when bicycling, skating or riding a motorcycle.
- Keep your children properly restrained.
- Don't drive while impaired or distracted.
- When you are out traveling—whether while working or on your private time—watch for hazards that need to be removed and inform the proper authority.

While many states are experiencing a reduction in their fatality rate, in Kentucky unfortunately the numbers continue to climb. Last year, 931 persons lost their lives on our roadways. While *that* was the highest number in decades, so far this year the numbers are even higher. Currently, our number of fatalities is 17 ahead of this same date in 2003. Teens have the highest death rate in motor vehicle crashes of any age group. In fact, those crashes are the leading cause of death for 16 to 20 years old.

So remember to drive safely—not just on October 10th—but everyday. Let's do all we can to make this year's celebration one without *any* fatalities. The life you save may be your own or that of someone you love. You are the key to making the roads safer.



MESSAGE FROM SECRETARY BAILEY

Recently I attended the annual Kentucky Aviation Conference hosted by the Transportation Cabinet and the Kentucky Aviation Association. The conference provided a great opportunity to meet with folks from the Federal Aviation Administration, the Kentucky Airport Zoning Commission, Delta Airlines, UPS, state engineering firms, fuel suppliers and other exhibitors. For two days, attendees discussed the potential aviation holds for Kentucky. Overall, attendees left the conference geared up and focused on improving aviation in the state. But I believe no one is more excited about improving aviation in Kentucky than the Transportation Cabinet.

The cabinet has clearly shown the importance of aviation to the Commonwealth as we have recently elevated the Division of Aeronautics to the Department of Aviation. Headed up by Commissioner Paul Steely and Deputy Commissioner Steve Parker, the department currently staffs 15 people. They perform annual safety inspections on all general aviation airports in the state. Once an airport passes inspection, the department issues their landing certificate. In addition, the department assists airports with their projects whether it is installing new card-reader devices or building a new T-hangar.

As I mentioned, the department deals mainly with general aviation, which is a huge part of the overall aviation industry. General aviation encompasses all aircraft except military and scheduled airline service. There are 61 hard surface runways in the state - 3 of the large airports, Lexington, Louisville and Northern Kentucky cater to scheduled service aircraft and the 58 smaller airports cater to general aviation aircraft.

You may wonder who runs the 58 general aviation airports in the state. Dedicated volunteers from all over the state oversee the airports. These volunteers, or airport board members, donate their time - free of charge - to look after these impor-

tant facilities. Each airport has its own board and there are over 300 board members statewide. The cabinet truly appreciates these board members for contributing their time and effort.

Airports are crucial elements to economic development and tourism. Believe it or not, small airports create jobs. In some communities, hundreds of jobs rely on their local airport. Today, most Fortune 500 companies and smaller companies locate in areas that are served by general aviation airports. Why? If a factory assembly line is down due to equipment failure, oftentimes a replacement part will be flown in immediately in order to get the factory up and running again. Sometimes it is necessary for companies to fly technicians in to make needed repairs. A number of factories deal with just-in-time inventory. If a factory has to wait too long for equipment or inventory and employees are idle, then that costs the company a lot of money - wasted money. As you can see, small airports are heavily used and depended on by many companies and factories.

Even tourism depends on general aviation. In the mid '80s, while Commissioner Steely was in Vero Beach, Florida obtaining his pilot licenses, he got an eye-opening experience as to the value of airports. He came to understand the importance of the airport to the local community of Vero Beach. Vacationers would fly in on their personal aircraft on Friday and stay in Vero Beach until Sunday afternoon when they would all fly back home. Without the airport, these vacationers would go somewhere else. People with personal aircraft can fly anywhere they want to go. Why not Kentucky?

Our vision is to elevate and improve the aviation system as much as we can. In the near future we hope to see more airports strategically located in the state. Our goal is to have as many people as possible be within a reasonable driving distance to a good airport facility. Currently, we are enhancing existing airport facilities



and new airports are being built in Marion, Morehead and Williamsburg. We are also studying the possibility of building more airports, such as in Gallatin County. A new airport in that area would enhance economic development and serve as a reliever for the Northern Kentucky Airport. In addition,

we are forming a joint committee that will consist of folks from the Department of Aviation, the Commerce Cabinet and the Economic Development Cabinet. This committee will look at ways airports can boost tourism and economic development throughout Kentucky. For example, the committee will look at airports with available land that could be used for industrial sites, therefore, creating the opportunity to recruit manufacturing companies to the state.

By stressing the importance of flight we are creating a brighter future for our Commonwealth, full of opportunity and hope. We are setting new horizons for Kentucky. *One mile of highway only takes you a mile...one mile of runway takes you anywhere!*

Clay Bailey

NEW CABINET APPOINTEES



David Ray comes to the Transportation Cabinet as the new Executive Director of the Office of Inspector General.

Before accepting this position, David was self-employed as a security, safety and management consultant where he conducted various types of investigations. From 1965 to 1996, he served the United States Secret Service (U.S.S.S.) in Washington D.C., North Carolina and Kentucky. Throughout his employment with the U.S.S.S., he guarded seven presidents from Johnson to Clinton and held positions such as special agent in charge and deputy assistant to the Director of the Office of Training. In addition, David attended Centre College in Danville where he received his Bachelor of Arts degree in business administration.

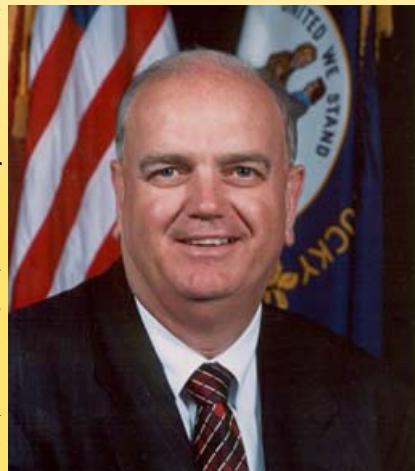
David and his wife Pamela, a retired schoolteacher, reside in Shelby County. They have four children and eight grandchildren.

His office is located on the 3rd floor of the central office building and he can be reached at 564-0501.

Bill Nighbert was recently appointed to serve as Commissioner for the Department of Intergovernmental Programs. The Department of Intergovernmental Programs, formerly the Division of Rural and Municipal Aid, is responsible for managing the Rural and Secondary Roads Program and the Transportation Enhancement Program.

Prior to joining the Transportation Cabinet, Bill served on behalf of Governor Fletcher as Deputy Commissioner for the Governor's Office for Local Government (GOLD). Before moving to state government, Bill served as mayor for the City of Williamsburg for three terms. He also served as Whitley County treasurer and Williamsburg City administrator for four years. In addition, he served as district chairman of the Cumberland Valley Area Development District, former past president of the Kentucky League of Cities (KLC), former board member of the Kentucky Appalachian Commission (KAC) and he is a 2002 Inductee of the Williamsburg High School Hall of Fame. Bill currently resides in Williamsburg.

Bill's office is located on the 6th floor in the central office building and his phone number is 564-2060.



Dan Barnett assumed his duties as the new Director of the Division of Driver Safety. He comes to the cabinet with an extensive background in public service, marketing and real estate. He was a successful businessman in Stanford and Waynesburg where he co-owned the Barnett, Demron and Fox Funeral Home and Lincoln Realty.

A native of Waynesburg in Lincoln County, Dan graduated from the University of Kentucky with an associate's degree in real estate. He also received a mortuary science degree from the Kentucky School of Mortuary Science. Dan is a member of the Masons and is an elder in the Stanford Presbyterian Church.

He and his wife Jane have two daughters, Gentry, a student at the University of Kentucky, and Cassie, a senior in high school. They live in Stanford in Lincoln County. In his spare time, Dan enjoys entertaining his family and friends on his recreational farm at Cedar Creek Lake.

Dan's office is located on the 3rd floor in the central office building and his phone number is 564-1438.



"Breath Easier" in Louisville

Secretary Bailey recently joined the Mayor of Louisville and TARC officials in unveiling the first of TARC's new hybrid-electric buses. A hybrid-electric bus uses electric power in combination with a diesel-powered engine. The buses will have a new bright design and the "Breath easier" slogan. Coming to Louisville in October, these buses will benefit Louisville through improved air quality, better fuel economy, less maintenance and a quieter ride.

In addition, TARC has switched its entire bus fleet to ultra-low sulfur fuel, which also helps improve Louisville's air quality. KYTC secured a \$305,000 Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) grant to fund this special diesel fuel.

Setting New Horizons for Kentucky Aviation

The Kentucky Transportation Cabinet's Department of Aviation in conjunction with the Kentucky Aviation Association held the 28th Annual Kentucky Aviation Conference in September in Frankfort.

Attendees from across the state gathered to discuss the role aviation plays in Kentucky. As part of the conference, attendees had the chance to view aviation exhibition booths.



Christian Trio send their Thanks to Williamsburg Welcome Center

Hello Kentucky Folks,

I would just like to express our gratitude to the Kentucky welcome center (Williamsburg) staff. I travel in a Christian trio on a tour bus every weekend. Needless to say, it's always something.

This weekend was no different. We stopped in Knoxville, Tennessee to eat and noticed that one of our fan belts was upside down. Well, we thought it would be alright but as we approached the Kentucky state line, the temperature light came on. So, I immediately pulled into the welcome center. We went to the service desk where we were greeted by Dallas Mills. We told him our problem, and he proceeded to contact a mechanic to come out and survey the damages. The mechanic came and then left to find the belts that we needed. In a little while, Dallas came out to the bus and informed us that the mechanic couldn't get the belts until the next morning.

Feeling a little hungry around 6:00 PM, we saw Mark Lawson and Linda Richardson (welcome center staff). We asked if there might be a pizza place that would deliver. Mark got the phone book and called the Pizza Hut. Pizza Hut said that they didn't deliver to the welcome center, but he persuaded them to do so. After a very pleasant conversation with Mark and Linda, our pizza finally arrived.

After a little while, Dallas knocked on our bus door. He told us if we wanted breakfast in the morning, that he drove right by McDonald's. Well, this was right up our alley.

After a good night's sleep on our bus, Dallas came to our door again. He had breakfast in hand including hot coffee.

I can't express how much these three people went out of their way to make our stay more comfortable. I said, "I couldn't think of any place I would rather break down! I wish more people were like these folks."

Thank you all for caring!

Jim Leonard, Holly Blanton and Mike Robinson (3 For 1)

CABINET RECOGNIZED ONCE AGAIN FOR THE PARIS PIKE PROJECT



Bart Bryant and David Curry,
Central Rock Mineral Company

On September 9, at its special *Globe Awards* luncheon in Boston, the American Road & Transportation Builders Association (ARTBA) presented Central Rock Mineral Company and the Transportation Cabinet one of the 2004 *Globe Awards* for the Paris Pike project. Bart Bryant, resident engineer on the project, accepted the award on behalf of the cabinet.

Division of Accounts & Division of Right of Ways Recognized for Excellence in Partnering

FHWA recently recognized folks from the Right of Way and Accounts Divisions for participating in the recovery of over \$15 million in unexpected balances on federal aid right of way projects. FHWA partnered with the divisions and together found some projects that had been inactive for over a year. They closed 80% of the inactive projects and recovered the outstanding balances.

This took the effort of several people working together. FHWA acknowledged the following individuals with the *FHWA Partnership in Excellence Award*: Right of Way's Acquisition Branch Manager **Steve Moore**, Administrative Specialist **Marion Sizemore**, Right of Way Specialist **Truman Bartleson**, and Right of Way Specialist **Paul McCauley**, as well as, Account's Graduate Accountant Manager **Rita Wallen** and Graduate Accountant Supervisor **Debbie Williams**.

Let's clean up the Bluegrass!



The cabinet held its annual Adopt-a-Highway Fall Scrub Week from September 19th - 25th. As part of Fall Scrub, Governor Fletcher helped "clean up the mess" in Frankfort by picking up trash along US 127. The Governor's staff along with folks from the Environmental and Public Protection Cabinet and the Transportation Cabinet also volunteered to bag up the litter along that section of highway.

CABINET EMPLOYEE RETIREMENTS

August 2004

June M. Joseph
Office of Budget &
Fiscal Management
Auditor II
22 Years 11 Months

Darrel B. Pigott, Jr.
Administrative Services/
Technology
Syst Anal III
31 Years 3 Months

Luther D. Jewell
Highways
Policy Adv
29 Years 11 Months

Gary S. Poole
Highways/Highway
Design
Tr Eng Spec
34 Years 5 Months

Stephen C. Hoefler
Highways/Highway
Design
Tr Eng Spec
32 Years 11 Months

Bobby G. Smith
Highways/
Environmental
Analysis
Adm Br Mgr
29 Years

Warren Browder
Highways/District 3
Hwy Eq Op II
20 Years 1 Month

William K. Crim
Highways/
Environmental Analysis
Tr Eng Br Mgr
27 Years 5 Months

James A. Eastman
Highways/
Materials
Tr Eng Te II
None

Gladys A. Finley
Highways/
District 2
Tr Eng Te I
16 Years 3 Months

Sharron E. Lake
Highways/
Traffic Operations
Adm Spec III
35 Years 8 Months

Francis A. Byrd
Highways/District 1
T Au/Tr T IV
27 Years 11 Months

Donald R. Croney
Highways/District 2
Hwy Eq Op III
25 Years

Dana A. Dawkins
Vehicle Regulation/
Driver Licensing
Adm Spec II
25 Years

Garmon C. Rhoton
Highways/District 3
Hwy Eq Op II
32 Years 10 Months

Thomas W. England
Highways/District 2
Hwy Eq Op V
24 Years 5 Months

Sherman C. Legrand
Highways/District 2
Hwy Eq Op IV
29 Years 6 Months

James W. George
Highways/District 2
Tr Eng Te III
28 Years 3 Months

Billy Taylor
Highways/District 2
Hwy Eq Op III
9 Years 11 Months

Chris L. McCoy
Highways/District 3
Hwy Eq Op I
20 Years 1 Month

Dennis D. Nugent
Highways/District 4
Hwy Eq Op III
23 Years 11 Months

Michael R. Miller
Highways/District 5
Tr Eng Te II
22 Years

Hans L. Cruze
Highways/District 5
Tr Eng Te II
25 Years 6 Months

Kenneth N. Franks
Highways/District 6
Rs En Di Adm
40 Years 2 Months

Jerry W. Justice
Highways/District 12
Tr Eng Te III
28 Years 1 Month

**Cecilia A.
Akridge-Zehnder**
Highways/District 5
Tr Eng Te II
20 Years 11 Months

Larry M. Stoltz
Highways/District 6
Tr Eng Supv
31 Years 1 Month

Lawrence Bedford
Highways/District 5
Tr Eng Te II
22 Years 10 Months

Dennis Huff
Highways/District 12
Hwy Eq Op V
28 Years 1 Month

Gordon D. Leary
Highways/District 6
Hwy Eq Op V
19 Years 9 Months

Robert D. Pridemore
Highways/District 12
Tr Eng Te II
29 Years 3 Months

Danny R. Stevens
Highways/District 8
Hwy Eq Op III
19 Years 10 Months

W. J. Holderby
Highways/District 12
Tr Eng Te III
33 Years 7 Months

John L. Hounshell
Highways/District 10
Hwy Eq Op IV
24 Years 5 Months

James E. Talbert
Highways/District 7
Hwy Eq Op III
28 Years 10 Months

Wayne R. McCleese
Highways/District 9
Tr Eng Br Mgr
31 Years 10 Months

Donald R. Baker
Highways/District 12
Tr Eng Te III
26 Years 1 Month

Scotty C. Fugate
Highways/District 10
Hwy Dis Ad Mg
37 Years

Paul S. Smith
Highways/District 12
Tr Eng Te III
25 Years 8 Months

Avonelle King
Highways/District 12
Tr Eng As II
29 Years 9 Months

Berita A. Castle
Highways/District 12
Tr Eng Te I
26 Years 1 Month

Larry R. Mann
Highways/District 10
Hwy Eq Op IV
25 Years 3 Months

Henry F. Keeton
Highways/District 10
Hwy Eq Op IV
26 Years 5 Months

Comic Corner

A little humor about laziness—

The patient explained to the doctor that he was unable to perform all the responsibilities on his job that he used to. The doctor ran a series of tests and questioned the patient for further details. When the examination was complete, the curious patient said, “Tell it to me straight, doctor. I can handle the results.”

“Well, it is quite simple,” the doctor replied, “you’re just plain lazy.”

“Okay, I can take that.” said the man. “Now could you write down the medical term so I can give it to my supervisor?”

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

No life is so hard that you can't make it easier by the way you take it.

—Ellen Glasgow



News From District Three

GROUNDBREAKING FOR KEN BALE BOULEVARD



Local officials from Warren County as well as Bowling Green along with members of the Ken Bale family participated in the September 14th groundbreaking for the new mile-long road.

A crowd of about 50 people watched the official groundbreaking for Ken Bale Boulevard on September, 14 at 10:00 AM. The boulevard, just shy of one mile (5,000 feet), is a coordinated effort pulling resources from the City of Bowling Green, the Ken Bale family and the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet. The \$1.4 million dollar project is scheduled for completion in early 2005. The completion of this 5-lane, curb, gutter and sidewalk project will facilitate economic development in the vicinity while simultaneously taking future traffic requirements into account. Other benefits of the project include improved traffic capacity at the Scottsville/Bale intersection as well as Shive Lane and Scottsville Road.

SAFETY IS AN ADVENTURE FOR KIDS

Drive Smart and District #3 participated in a safety fair held on September 15-17. The fair was sponsored by Desa International and Lowe's and ran during the day as well as the evening. Drive Smart employees, Dennis Gardner and Brandon Muravchick, received high praise from Beth Beckham, Marketing Communications Assistant with Desa. "I was very impressed with the presentation they did as well as the rollover simulator. They involved the students during their presentation and made it very educational for everyone watching," stated Beckham. Keirsten Jaggers, D-3, spoke to third graders about how to be safe when walking or riding your bike. Jaggers said, "These kids are great to work with, they all want to contribute something and for the most part, pay very close attention. And it's a good age for talking to them about these types of safety issues." Jaggers continued, "In talking about pedestrian safety, we ask them if they know the word used to describe people who walk from one place to another. For the most part, the majority of the students knew that pedestrian was the answer. However, two of them gave their answer as 'poor.'" Together, Drive Smart and District #3 spoke to close to 800 third graders from Warren County. This is the fifth year that Desa has hosted the event and they plan to do so next year as well.



DEPUTY SECRETARY MURGATROYD VISITS ELKTON ROTARY CLUB

“A safe and reliable transportation system is vital to all of the counties within our Commonwealth in order to maintain and sustain growth for future generations,” stated Deputy Transportation Secretary Dick Murgatroyd at the September 15th Elkton Rotary Club meeting held at the Milliken Memorial Community House. Sec. Murgatroyd touched on several issues during his visit to Todd County, one of those being the Cabinet’s focus on all modes of transportation and the creation of the Department of Aviation. Other changes that local officials will see pertain to the Department of Intergovernmental Programs (what was once the Division of Rural and Municipal Aid). This department will now oversee the TEA 21 reimbursement program that is used statewide by many municipalities to make sidewalk improvements within their communities. Along with an overview of highway projects within the Pennyroyal



Area Development District and how the budget plays into that process, Sec. Murgatroyd said that there is also a big push going on right now for increased safety. “A Highway Safety Management Executive Committee has been formed and has been charged with finding ways to reduce the number of fatal collisions and help provide a safe and reliable transportation system for all Kentuckians,” stated Sec. Murgatroyd. “As of September 15, 639 people have died on Kentucky’s roadways,” Murgatroyd said. “That is 20 more deaths than this time last year.



News From District Four



INTERSECTION PLAN REVEALED

At a recent public meeting, Radcliff residents got their first official look at the answer to a problem intersection. Gary Raymer, CDE, and Becky Judson, PIO, met with residents of Hardin County and presented the proposed decorative median that will hopefully prevent some of the accidents and traffic confusion that occur at the intersection of US 31W,

Lincoln Trail Boulevard and Wilson Road. With the support of the Mayor of Radcliff, construction could begin as early as November. Mayor Shiela Enyart said "Safety is the overriding factor here, and we are going to do something about it." The project should be completed by December 1, 2004. This is just one of several projects utilizing the Discretionary Funds to make safety improvements throughout the commonwealth.

Safety in the Workplace

Chad Logsdon (in bucket) and Glenn Shoffner, District 4 Traffic personnel, cut down the rest of the broken limbs at the district office that Mother Nature left during the last storm. Several large broken limbs were ready to fall and were creating a safety hazard when mowing under and around the trees. P.K. Paxton, Administrative Manager, looks on as they clean up the debris.



FROM A CLOVER-LEAF TO A DIAMOND



In July 2003, Faulkner Construction of Louisville, began redesigning the existing cloverleaf interchange at the Leitchfield exit just off of the Wendell Ford Parkway. The existing cloverleaf design created conflict for motorists exiting on KY 259. Due to the additional bridge construction on KY 259, construction was set up in four different phases. Phase I and Phase II dealt with the relocating the ramps on the northbound side of KY 259 creating the diamond interchange. Phase III and Phase IV tied the ramps into KY 259 on the southbound side and the construction of the new bridge.

The average daily traffic (ADT) taken in 2001 was 12,720. The projected ADT for 2021 is 37,300. On September 20 and 21, the east and westbound ramps to the Wendell Ford Parkway were officially opened to the public.

Below Tim Blaine, project inspector and Doug Smith, project engineer prepared and installed the message board that cautioned the public that the new ramps were open.

The projected completion date for the entire project is October 30, 2004. The project cost is approximately \$5.6 million.



News From District Five

2ND ANNUAL D5 KECC GOLF SCRAMBLE TEES OFF TO SUCCESS!

Thanks again to everyone for playing in our second District 5 KECC golf scramble! Through the generosity of our golfers and sponsors, we were able to raise \$3489 (approximately \$1000 more than last year!)

We hope everyone had a good time and will consider playing with us again in the future. We certainly appreciate the support and everyone who worked in preparing for and staffing the event.



Congratulations to all of the winners!!

1st Place with a net score of 52 was Bob Keiser, Chris Cummins, David Price and Jeff Lee

2nd Place with a net score of 55 was Jim Covany, Derrick Bailey, Troy McGinnis and Connie Vick

3rd Place with a net score of 57 was Royce Meredith, Dennis Meredith, Andy Vincent and Brent Smith

Longest Drive AB - Steven Sewell
Longest Drive CD - Spencer Coe
Closest to the Pin AB - Gary Miekcarek
Closest to the Pin CD - Kevin Ellerkamp
Longest Putt - Craig Myatt

ENGINEER TO SERVE SECOND TOUR IN THE WAR ON TERROR

KYTC's District 5 Office in Louisville will once again contribute to the global war on terror. Since September 11th, 2001, Major Steve Edwards, an Army Reserve Judge Advocate, and Chaplain (Captain) John Callihan, of the Army National Guard, (pictured below) have both been absent from their highway duties to serve in the war on terror. Chaplain Callihan spent a year in support of the homeland security effort, Operation Noble Eagle, ministering to soldiers at three Army installations in Kentucky. Now Chaplain Callihan prepares to go again.

Callihan serves the Transportation Cabinet as the Louisville district's Engineering Branch Manager for Planning.

"While the Transportation Cabinet will certainly miss John's engineering expertise, we are proud of his service to our country and lend him our full support," said Chief District Engineer Barry Sanders.

In May of 2004, Chaplain Roger Dill, State Chaplain for the Kentucky Army National Guard, contacted Callihan to see if he would be willing to serve in a second deployment as part of Operation Iraqi Freedom as several National Guard units are without chaplains. Chaplain Callihan agreed to serve again and will return to active Army duty on September 23rd. Tentatively, he is to train this fall at Fort Sill, Oklahoma with an Engineer Battalion from the Kansas National Guard. Then, near Christmas, he and the 600 soldiers from this Kansas unit will deploy to Iraq. Chaplain Callihan will serve in Iraq for one year.

"I appreciate the sacrifice that not only my wife and dear children make during this deployment, but also the support made by the Transportation Cabinet," said Callihan. "This time, I feel very strongly that I go to Iraq knowing that it is God's will. As the US Army Chaplain's motto states, Pro Deo et Patria, which in Latin means, 'For God and Country.'"

Says Callihan "What I worry about most, is not the danger I will face in Iraq, but missing a year from the lives of my 4 and 6 year old little girls." John, his wife Susan, and two daughters, Laura and Anna, reside in Louisville, Kentucky. Callihan grew up in Greenup County, Kentucky. He attended the University of Kentucky College of Engineering on scholarship with the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet and graduated in 1992. He also earned a Master of Divinity from the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary and is an ordained minister. Callihan has served in the Army National Guard for fourteen years, with the last five years as a Battalion Chaplain.



DISTRICT 5 AT ITS BEST!



**Kentucky Engineering Exposure Network
Outstanding Achievement in Reaching Students
2003-2004 School Year**



Terry Justice, Supervisor for Henry Co. Maintenance, (above) accepts the Facilities Pride Award for Best Maintained Facility and Steve Hartlage, Supervisor for Bullitt Co. Maintenance, (below) accepts the award for runner-up.





News From District Six

Scenes from District 6's Fall Scrub



Pendleton Crew 096 pictured left to right: Paul Askins, Kevin Wolfe, Tom Askins, Randy Colvin, Josh Platt, Mark Rath, Kevin Colvin, Stroud Hamilton, Steve Tolson and Randy Morgan.

On September 20th Pendleton County State Maintenance Crew 096 participated in the Fall Scrub for the Adopt-A-Highway program. Superintendent Terry Courts and his crew adopted a section on KY 330. They picked up 25 bags of garbage. Hard hats off and a big thank you to the workers at Pendleton County!



Roaden Returns to Work after Motorcycle Accident



Gary Roaden is an Operator 3 for the Bracken County crew 012 but mainly runs the track hoe for crew 275. On May 8 of this year, Gary was seriously hurt in a motorcycle accident. He had several injuries; a broken foot, two broken vertebrae, six broken ribs, and a lacerated spleen and bladder to name a few. He was on life support for eight days. Gary spent the summer in and out of the hospital. When he wasn't at the hospital he was at Cardinal Hill Rehabilitation Center in Lexington. Cardinal Hill is one of the charities that KECC sponsors. Gary said that they were just wonderful during his rehabilitation where he had to learn how to walk again.

Recently, Gary came back to work on light duty in Bracken County. He has even resumed his duties on the track hoe.

Gary wanted to tell all state employees and especially District 6 how much their support and prayers helped him and his family. "My whole family appreciates your kindness. I want to thank you from the bottom of my heart." He is forever grateful.

Despite everything, Gary considers himself fortunate. "It's so important in rehab to know you have people behind you."

RETIREMENTS



Ken Franks is retiring after 40 years of distinguished service. Ken began his career with the state on June 1, 1964. He started with the Division of Roadside Development in Frankfort. He transferred to District 6 in 1981 as the Area Roadside Environmental District Administrator. Ken feels very fortunate to have developed and carried out roadside programs. These include spraying herbicide to control weeds and vegetation, establishing ground covers on roadsides, using chemicals to help with manpower in controlling brush as well as contracting mowers to keep the interstate trimmed. Ken has worked under ten Kentucky governors.

A statewide retirement dinner was recently held in Ken's honor at the Springs Inn in Lexington where fellow agronomists and retirees had a chance to roast him. Ken graduated from the University of Kentucky with a bachelor of science degree and a master's degree in agriculture with a specialization in agronomy.

Ken and his wife Jane have been married for 42 years. They have two sons and four grandchildren. Ken is a lifelong resident of Grant County. He is a part-time farmer raising tobacco and cattle. Ken loves to farm and gets great enjoyment from it. He and Jane plan to do some traveling and will probably spend more time with their grandkids. Three of them are under age six, so Ken should stay active. Ken wishes to thank everyone for being so nice to work with.

RETIREMENTS (continued)



Donna Tupman is retiring from District Six at the end of September. She worked for seven years at the district headquarters with Mac Gaddis. He held hearings on point systems, out of state DUIs and traffic school enrollment. Later, Win Gover was the hearing officer until Donna began working in Permits in 1991.

Donna was born and raised in Boone County. She has two sons, two daughters, eight grandchildren and one great granddaughter.

"It's been a blessing having such great coworkers all these years. Remarkable really, to be able to work together without disagreements or ill treatment of each other. Not bad at all when you consider my stay has been twenty years. I leave grateful for all the friends who are also coworkers. God bless you all!"



Dennis Skaggs, superintendent II for Robertson County, is retiring. Dennis started with the cabinet in 1979. His previous positions include light equipment operator, heavy equipment operator and timekeeper.

He is a lifelong resident of Robertson County and has one daughter, Hannah, age ten. His hobbies include watching UK basketball, playing volleyball and watching Nascar. After retiring, Dennis plans on taking it easy for awhile and then eventually finding something to do.



Larry Stoltz has retired after 31 years of service. He was assistant resident engineer until 1978. He became resident engineer while working in Florence and has held that title at Kenton County for the past twenty years. When Larry first began working for the Transportation Cabinet, he worked on four Ohio River bridges- the Clay Wade Bailey, the Daniel Carter Beard and the two I-275 bridges. In 1971, Larry was considered the bridge crew. The biggest project he worked on in the 1990s was the cut-in-the-hill project. He was also involved in the widening of the Brent Spence from three to four lanes in the 1980s. And he did several rehab jobs with the Roebling Suspension Bridge. Larry doesn't have to go far to see a local project he has been involved in - these include the 275 project, the 471 bridges, Dixie Highway, KY 17 and Mt. Zion to name a few.

Larry has two children, Heather and Amy, and lives in Erlanger. Larry's retirement plans include improving his golf handicap. "It's been fun. It doesn't seem like 31 years have passed."



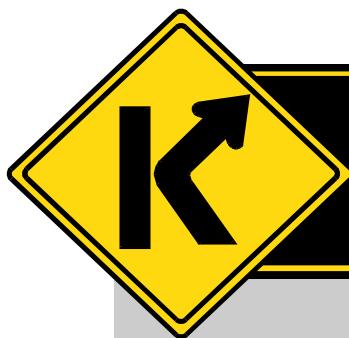
Jack Williams is retiring on September 30. He has been an operator 5 assistant foreman at Campbell County Maintenance for the past 28 years.

A native of Campbell County, he has always worked for the state. Jack and his wife Barb have two sons, Jason and Joe, and two grandkids. Upon retiring, Jack is planning to take it easy for a month or two. He enjoys fishing as well as hunting for deer and turkey. He also keeps up with the Bengals and follows Kentucky basketball. "It's been nice working with everybody."

Rust is Back!



Kevin Rust has returned to District Six as branch manager for Preconstruction. He will have specific duties as Brent Spence Bridge replacement coordinator. Kevin left in January to work briefly for Cinergy as a gas engineer. His present duties include coordinating with ODOT and the cities of Covington and Cincinnati on the Brent Spence bridge project. He is just completing an engineering feasibility study and getting ready to start the environmental analysis. Prior to his recent return, Kevin had a long history with District Six. He started working in May of 1990 as a scholarship student from the University of Kentucky. His first position was working in Construction with Crew #312 in Williamstown. After graduation he worked there fulltime. One of the first projects he worked on was the cut-in-the-hill, inspecting pile drivings and concrete paving operations. In 1995, he worked as a bridge inspector with bridge maintenance. Then in 1996, Kevin took the assistant resident engineer position with Crew #316 in Falmouth. While there, he served as the project manager for the Route 9 reconstruction project. In the spring of 1998, he got to construct a bridge on KY 10 that Pat Deming designed. In the summer of 2000, Kevin was offered the district design engineering position and in September 2002 he was named branch manager of Preconstruction. Kevin is glad to be back and feels like he's come back home.



News From District Seven

MAINTENANCE CREWS AT WORK IN FAYETTE AND CLARK COUNTIES



District Seven Maintenance Crews work to complete pavement repairs and brush clearing on I-75 Southbound in Fayette County.



Fayette County Maintenance performs repairs on I-64.



Clark County Maintenance Personnel replaces a cross drain on KY 1927 (Colby Road) between KY 1958 (Winchester By-Pass) and KY 627 (Boonesboro Rd).

*Woodford County
Prepares for
Winter*



The Woodford County Maintenance Facility recently received a new salt storage hangar.



News From District Eight

Working Together....

Adopt-A-Highway Fall Cleanup got off to an early start in District Eight. On Saturday, August 28, the VFW Post 269 (a longtime AAH member) hosted a community service project for both Southwestern and Pulaski County High Schools' JROTC units. A total of 180 cadets picked up trash along the 8 mile stretch of the 914 By-Pass in Somerset. Despite the hot, humid weather all day, a total of 227 bags of trash were collected by these two "rival" high schools.

We commend these students for taking their Saturday and making this early Adopt-A-Highway fall pickup such a successful endeavor.



District Eight Driver Safety Course



Doug Mitchell of Drive Smart explaining to the employees what will be required of them while driving.



Driver Improvement Training was held for nineteen District Eight employees working toward their Road Master Certification. Sponsored by the KYTC Division of Driver Safety and AAA, the class was taught by instructors Stephanie Daffron, District 8 Drive Smart Coordinator, Marie Lee, District 8, and Drive Smart Personnel, Doug Mitchell and Jerry Lamb.

Eighty five percent of crashes are caused by driver error. With this course being offered to our employees, we hope to convey that by Driving Smart, you will Drive Longer.

2004 FACILITY PRIDE AWARDS



Left to right: Administrative Manager Dale Taylor, Commissioner of the Department of Administrative Services Charles Hollan, Chief District Engineer Lewis Phelps, Casey County Foreman R.C. Vaught, McCreary County Foreman Eddie Cordell, Director of the Division of Property and Supply Services, Administrative Branch Manager Ron Scott, Construction Superintendent Gary Zeller

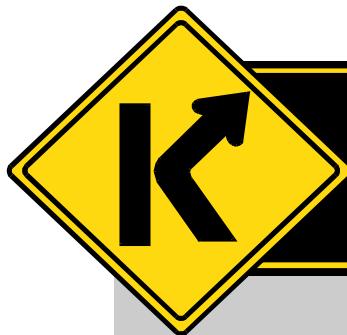
Facility Pride Awards were presented in District Eight recently. The first place winner was Casey County represented by Foreman R.C. Vaught. This year's runner up was McCreary County represented by Foreman Eddie Cordell. Vaught attributed this year's accomplishment to a good group but especially their only female employee, Edith Roy, who came to Casey County last year from Russell County toll facilities.



Casey County Maintenance Facility



McCreary County Maintenance Facility



News From District Nine

Simon Kenton Bridge Reopens to Traffic

On September 23, Secretary Bailey and other officials held a ribbon cutting ceremony to reopen the Simon Kenton Bridge in Maysville. Connecting Maysville and Aberdeen, Ohio, the bridge went under reconstruction in March 2003 and was completed in early September. National Engineering and Contracting Company of Strongsville, Ohio was awarded the reconstruction project at a cost of \$5.7 million.

The bridge, named for Simon Kenton, an early Kentucky explorer, is over 3200 feet in length and has two towers that hold the suspension cables. The towers stand at over 180 feet from the Ohio River to the top of the towers.

In November 1931, the bridge first opened to traffic and, at that time, was called the Maysville-Aberdeen Bridge. It was originally set up as a toll bridge but was paid off by 1945.

On the day the bridge opened in 1931, a ribbon cutting ceremony was held to mark the occasion. Kentucky State Senator Allie Young, responsible for most of the legislation for the bridge construction, was invited to the ceremony but was unable to attend. Instead he sent his four-year-old daughter, Jane, to officially cut the ribbon. Seventy-three years later, Jane once again cut the ribbon on the very same bridge at the recent reopening ceremony.

Two young girls from Mason County, Mary Duke and Anna Shaw, also attended the 1931 ceremony to unveil a commemorative plaque that was placed on the bridge. Mary was able to return to the bridge seven decades later to join in on the celebration.



From left to right: Senator Charlie Borders, District 9 Chief District Engineer Katrina Bradley, Mary Duke Ford, Secretary Bailey, Jane Young Holbrook, Maysville Mayor David Cartmell, Mason County Judge Executive James Gallenstein, and Representative Mike Denham



Simon Kenton Bridge



News From District Eleven

Skunk sprays would-be rescuer

By Allison McCowan, *Sentinel Echo Staff Writer*

At least one park employee got a little funky during the Laurel County Homecoming festivities.

The employee, who does not wish to be identified for obvious reasons, was treated to a healthy dose of skunk spray and subsequently forced to strip after trying to remove the creature from a blocked culvert.

Sandy Rudder, information officer for the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet, said the skunk appeared in the midst of a crowd Friday, Aug. 20, before slinking under the amphitheater stage.

A little later, in an attempt to divert potential rainwater run-off, park employees were starting to open up the congested 12-foot drainpipe when they came across the beleaguered mammal, said Bill Meadors, Levi Jackson Wilderness Road State Park superintendent.

The situation was unusual, Meadors pointed out, because skunks and other creatures typically don't hide in the culverts.

When the crew tried to run the skunk out of the drainpipe, it blasted the aforementioned employee with its pungent natural chemical spray.

At this point, the crew thought it wise to call for back-up, inviting employees of the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet to lend a hand. Employees Danny Neal, Rick Weaver, Luther Gilbert and Eldon Wyatt used a mechanical snake to clean the drainpipe, dislodging a gaggle of softballs, baseballs, soccer balls, and numerous cans -- in addition to the skunk.

Unfortunately, the skunk did not survive.

Meadors noted park staff have already taken steps to prevent a similar incident, and to further protect the park's woodland inhabitants, by placing screens across the mouths of all drainpipes within the park.

Rudder said while transportation cabinet crews don't usually try to free trapped animals, they do answer a variety of sometimes kooky calls. The department was happy to be of help, she noted, adding "not only do the employees work on roads, they assist in assuring 'the show must go on'."



The rescuers include: Back row left to right: Cabinet employees Luther Gilbert, Jr., Danny Neal, Rick Weaver and Superintendent Eldon Wyatt. Front row left to right: Park employees Bobby Ridings, Manager Bill Meadors and Orin Parker.



News From District Twelve

District 12 Facilities Pride awards go to Phelps, Allen maintenance garages

This year's Facilities Pride awards for District 12 were captured by Phelps Maintenance and Allen Maintenance.

The awards, which began in 2003, are given by KYTC's Division of Property and Supply Services. The recipients are decided by inspectors from the Cabinet who travel the District several times a year.

Don Carter, Director of the Division of Property and Supply Services, came to District 12 to present the awards, which include a large metal sign that can be posted outside the garage and a smaller duplicate sign for inside. In addition, the crew whose facility wins first place gets a gas grill.

Carter said that every county in every district participates in this event. "It is one of the few ways that people in the maintenance garages get recognition," he said, pointing out that maintenance crews deserve much more credit for their hard work and dedication than they usually receive.

That may be true in other districts, but we know our maintenance crews in D-12 are tops, and we love 'em all!

Members of the Phelps crew won a gas grill when named D 12's Best Maintained Facility. They put it to use just about as quick as they could get it out of the box! Middle photo shows Greg Preece accepting the award for the Phelps crew. Also pictured Ron Scott, Director of Administrative Services; Jerry Ashcraft; Wilma Rice, D-12 Administrative Manager; Don Carter, Director of the Division of Property and Supply; and Darold Sloane, D-12 Operations Branch Manager. Pictured below, accepting the runner-up award for the Allen Garage, are Todd Harris and Bud Akers. They are joined by Charles Hollan, Commissioner of Administrative Services; Don Carter, Ron Scott, Jerry Ashcraft, Darold Sloane, Gary Zeller, and Wilma Rice.



Johnson County crew shares strong Bonds that help 'get the job done'

Editor's Note: This is the third in a series of features about D-12's maintenance garages and field construction offices. The first two covered Lawrence and Martin County Maintenance Garages.

When asked why they think the Johnson County crew is the best in District 12, the answer is unanimous: "Look around," as if you say, "You mean you have to ask?"

More seriously, they say, "We care," with all heads nodding.

A close group, bound by their jobs and sometimes by lifelong friendships and family ties, the Men of Johnson County Maintenance are as good and likeable a bunch as you could find. Teasing and joking their way through interviews and photographs, they give each other nicknames (some that their co-workers would just as soon they forget).

But they are also there for each other when times are tough, and they've had some of those quite recently, with the death of Johnny Ray Cantrell's father in August and Leon Daniels's father just a little over a week ago (September 13).

Here's a little closer look at the men who "do the work" in Johnson County:

Leon Daniels, Superintendent II, a 19-year veteran of D-12, lives in Paintsville with his wife, Regina. Their daughter, Janeane, 25, lives in Morehead. He is the son of the late Serenia and Jeff Daniels. Leon went to school at Oil Springs and attends Highlands Church of Christ in Paintsville. He enjoys hunting and "seeing all those smiling faces" when he comes to work each day. As crew supervisor, Leon says the only equipment he operates is Barry Spriggs. His advice to everyone: Save your money.

Johnny Ray Cantrell, or "Sir," as his co-workers call him (they really call him J.R.), lives at Isonville with his wife Dinah. He's a Superintendent I with 27 years' experience doing "everything" and operating any kind of equipment whenever it's necessary. He went to school at Westland High in Columbus, Ohio, and likes farming and riding motorcycles when he's not working. "I just enjoy being with the crew," he says about his job.

Keith Hill, Timekeeper, says he thinks his nickname is "Come here" and his primary job duty is "taking care of Leon." Keith and his wife, Sheila, live in Paintsville where they attend the First Baptist Church. An eight-year KYTC employee, Keith is an alumnus of Johnson Cen-

tral High School and the son of Wand and James Hill of Red Bush. He enjoys deer hunting and fishing and "being able to make a living." He admits that the only equipment he operates is a computer and his office chair. The comment he chose to share with *News at 12* comes from John 3: 16 — *For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten son that whosoever would believe in him should not perish but have everlasting life.*

John "Possum" Adams, Operator III, has been with D-12 for a decade. He and his wife, Emma, live at Oil Springs and are the parents of three children: Tim 36, Phillip 30, and Kathy 28. Tim has a daughter Brianna, who is seven. Kathy has a son, Austin Arrington, who is eight. John is the son of the late Easter and Thermin Adams. An alumnus of Flat Gap High, John enjoys going to flea markets and riding his Honda motorcycle. He likes "working with my co-workers," running a grader, backhoe, loader, and snowplow.

Scott Adkins, Superintendent I and a member of D-12's Bridge Crew, has been with KYTC 14 years. He lives at Johns Creek (Johnson County) with his wife, Tammie, and their son Shyler 11, and daughter Lezlie 6. His parents, Patty and Billy Adkins, also live on Johns Creek. Hunting deer and turkey ("anything really") and his children are his main interests outside work, which he likes because "we get to go a lot of different places." He says he does "whatever John Sammons requests of me."

The crew member who gets the most teasing is usually the one who's been there the least amount of time. **Jonathan "Lige" Auxier**, also known as Corn Dog, just smiles and mostly doesn't answer when his colleagues give him a hard time. An Operator I from Flat Gap and a graduate of Johnson Central, he lives with his parents, Connie and Sam Auxier. Although he admits he's "courtin,'" he still finds time for hunting, fishing, and riding four wheelers. Despite the teasing, the best part of his job is his co-workers, and although he does "mostly flagging," he is eager to do "anything I'm told by my supervisor."

Roger Blair (Wormy, according to his buddies) is a 10-year veteran of D-12. He lives at Boonscamp with his wife, Tammy Jo. They have one daughter,



LEON DANIELS



JOHNNY RAY CANTRELL



KEITH HILL

Brandi Gwinn, 24, and two granddaughters, Cheyenne 6 and Christina 4. His grandchildren are his main hobby, although he does have four horses and enjoys riding. He is the son of Darius Blair of Volga. The fact that his job is close to home is what he likes best, and he's ready to do "whatever is required of me."

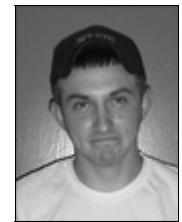
David "Super Dave" Cottle, an Operator III on the Bridge Crew, has been with D-12 for nine and a half years. He and his wife, Lila, live at Flat Gap. His parents, Roberta and James Cottle, live in Pike County. Dave went to Flat Gap Elementary and Johnson Central. The self-proclaimed wildlife photographer enjoys camping at German Bridge and his co-workers reveal that he is a karaoke aficionado. A member of the National Rifle Association, he says the best thing about his job is his "quit time" and "good people to work for." His job is to help clean and maintain all bridges in this part of D-12. He operates dump trucks, backhoes, and graders. "Being in the bridge crew has been a great learning experience," he says. "I really love this kind of work."



JOHN ADAMS



SCOTT ADKINS



JONATHAN AUXIER



ROGER BLAIR



DAVID COTTE



SCOTT FYFFE

Scott Fyffe is Punk Head or Big 'Un according to his crew mates. An Operator II who's been with the crew for eight years, he lives at Flat Gap with his wife, Alicia. His parents, Linda and Nick Fyffe, live at Red Bush. He loves to hunt and fish ("anywhere there's water"). He likes "pay day" and the fact that "everybody gets along well." Scott operates a spray truck, tandem, and whatever else that needs to be used to get the job done."

Harold "Hootie" Hall lives at Staffordsville with his wife, Cathie. They have a daughter, Gina Holbrook and a grandson, Ethan Holbrook. The son of the late Gusta and C.C. Hall, he went to school in Paintsville.



HAROLD HALL



DEAN HOWARD



CASEY JONES



PAUL KEATON



WINDELL KELLY



RICK LEMASTER



JASON MCKENZIE



DENVIL MOLLETTE

ville. An Operator IV with 17 years, Harold is a member of the Ramey Branch Community Church, Masonic Lodge and Eastern Star. The best part of his job, he says, is working different equipment, such as a gradall, loader, grader, and dump truck.

Billy Dean Howard, Johnson County's Slick Willie, is a 5-year veteran, Operator II. He lives at Red Bush with his wife, Diann, and their daughters Ashly 15, and Brittany 14. He is the son of Carol and Bill Howard of Salyersville. When he's not working and "aggravating Corn Dog," he likes car racing.

Casey "Jonesy" Jones, Operator II, 3 years. He lives at Sone Coal with his wife Tabitha and their children Kesley 8 and Joshua 6. He is the son of Bud Jones and an alumnus of Johnson Central. His hobbies are preaching (he goes to church at Ramey Branch) and coaching football and basketball. He likes the people he works with and does mostly flagging (says he operates a "sign paddle"). His words of wisdom to share are also from scripture: *I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.*

— *Philippians 4: 13*

Paul Keaton, called Bob (as in Villa) recently started his seventh year with D-12 as a Welder I. He lives at Red Bush with his wife, Emily Frances. Their daughter, Dana Karen Collett, is a physical therapist in Paintsville. Their son, Andy Paul Keaton, is an orthodontist in Pikeville. They have four grandchildren: Charlie Paul 18, Jeff 16, Emily 5, and Paul Emerson II, age 3. His is the son of Elsie Marshall Keaton Skaggs of Paintsville and the late Hershel Keaton. An alumnus of Blaine High School, his hobbies are pitching horseshoes, hunting, and going to church (he's a Regular Primitive Baptist). The thing he likes best about his job is "when all the snow has been cleared" from the roads. He's looking forward to retirement in October 2005.

Windell Jeffrey "Silver Fox" Kelly, Operator II, has been with the crew four years. He and his wife, Jeanne, live at Staffordsville with their children Scott 17 and Lyndsay Jordan 12. He is the son of Sue and Windell Kelly. His father was crew foreman before Leon. A Johnson Central alumn, he likes spending time with his family and fishing. He also likes his co-workers ("we have a great group of men").

An Operator IV with 10 years at D-12, **Rick LeMaster** (they say his nickname is Dumplin') lives at Staffordsville with his wife, Cathy, and their 14-year-old son Eric. He is the son of Ruby and Eugene LeMaster (his father is retired from KYTC). A Johnson Central alumnus, he attends the Staffordsville Church of God, enjoys hunting and fishing, and is a Mason. He calls himself a "loader man."

Jason McKenzie (Cheese Eater), Operator III, 9 years, lives at Boonscamp with his wife, Carla, and four-year-old son, Dustin. He is the son of Ruth and the late Tiny McKenzie, who used to be timekeeper at Johnson County. Another Johnson Central alumn, Jason likes to hunt and fish, likes payday and holidays, and works with the bridge crew. He is trained to run the Snooper as well as a backhoe and loader.

Denvil "Reverend" Mollette, Operator IV, 11 years, lives at Staffordsville with his wife, Ethel. They have three sons, Jeremy 22, Jonathan 19, and Jamison 6, and one grandson, Bradin Elijah, 3 months. He is the son of Fontaine and Ociline Lewis and an alumnus of Johnson Central. When he isn't working, he feeds and waters seven horses, enjoys baseball, basketball, and card collecting. He belongs to the Ramey Branch Community Church and admits he likes payday. He operates a backhoe, gradall, sloper, grader, and loader.

Jerry D. Ross, Operator I, 2.5 years, lives at Pickle Fork with his wife, Jessica, and their children Cheyenne 5 and Gabriel 18 months. Another Ramey Branch Church member and Johnson Central alumn, Jerry likes pay day and quit time. His job is "flagging, flagging, flagging." He also says, "Go to church Sunday. Jesus loves you."

An Operator II with 5 years, **Jason Seagraves** (Hog Hair, they say), went to Flat Gap and Johnson Central. He and his wife, Jennifer, live at Sitka and attend Cain's Creek Free Will Baptist. About his job, he loves "the people and Leon." Jason spends his free time hunting with his deer dogs.

Barry "Bubba" Spriggs operates a backhoe, loader, and snow plow, and works with D-12's contractors. At home in Boonscamp, with wife Becky, stepson Zack and son Bo Dylan, he takes care of 3 horses and likes to hunt. He is the son of Betty Spriggs and the late Doug Spriggs. Barry is an Operator V with 14 years at D-12. The best thing about his job, he says, are his co-workers.



JERRY D. ROSS



JASON SEAGRAVES



BARRY SPRIGGS

Tyke rescued by D-12 men; reunited with mother, brother on way to Tennessee

Tuesday, July 13, started out like another normal workday for Mark Westfall, Harry Smith, Joe Justice, and Rich McCune. But a stop at Chevron Autobahn on US 23 North of Pikeville turned the day into anything but usual.

After filling up with gas for a trip to Martin County, Mark, who was driving, went inside to pay. He opened the door for a youngster on the way. "He smiled at me real big and walked on in," Mark recalled.

When Mark was back in the car "fiddling with the gas receipt," they all saw the same little boy running after a van, screaming. "It's a wonder he wasn't hit (by some other vehicle)," Mark said, pointing out that the access road from the Autobahn to US 23 is usually quite crowded. "He did trip and fall. She (his mother) pulled right out and didn't stop. The look on the boy's face was one of pure terror. He turned around with his mouth wide open, pointing and screaming."

The Fearless Foursome from D-12 spring into action. Rich jumped out of the back seat, across the hood of the car and stayed with the boy, talking to him and getting him calmed down. "He was terrified at first," Rich said. "I have three little boys and it was easy (to talk to him). He was torn all to pieces the first five or 10 minutes. It took 20 minutes or so before they got back. I found out his name was Colin and he was six years old. He was from Tennessee and didn't know his phone number. He and his mother and brother were on their way home from visiting his papaw. We

talked about girlfriends and soccer."

Mark, with Harry riding shotgun and Joe in the back, took off after the van, which was barreling up US 23 "in a tremendous hurry," Mark said. "She definitely exceeded the speed limit. Right before Mullins School, we finally got her to pull over on the shoulder. I ran a red light to get up with her."

They both looked puzzled. I said, 'Your son?' She looked again at her older boy, and I said, 'No, your baby boy.' Then she looked in the back and realized he wasn't there. She went hysterical, started crying and all."

She followed Mark and Co. back to the Autobahn. "They were hugging each other when we pulled out.



From left, Mark Westfall, Project Manager; Rich McCune, Environmental Coordinator; and Joe Justice, Acting Right-of-Way Supervisor. Not pictured, Harry Smith, Right-of-Way agent.

The woman thought both her sons were asleep while she paid at the pump for her gas. The 14-year-old was in the front seat. The younger boy was in the back. Apparently, he got out from the other side and went inside to use the restroom. "She had no idea her baby wasn't in that van. I said, 'M'am, did you forget something?' She looked at her older boy.

I've got one his age, and it was scary. If he hadn't tripped, he would have run out in traffic or maybe under the side of the van. He was lucky."