County Viewpoint

Vol. 12, No. 7 (USPS 0279-8867) July, 1986

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Road fund money sparks debate

We thought the debate over an increase in the gasoline tax had ended when the General Assembly adjourned, but we were sadly mistaken. When several counties opted to use part of those funds to pay administrative costs of the road program, a new debate raged.

WAVE-TV in Louisville aired a stinging commentary which KACo Executive Director Fred Creasey promptly rebutted. The text of the commentary and Creasey's rebuttal follow.

Wave Commentary

What amounts to legal thievery of tax dollars is going on in some Kentucky counties — and apparently nothing can be done about it for at least the time being.

The situation involves the new money to be raised by the 5 cent a gallon gasoline tax increase passed by the Legislature. The revenue was fully intended for road and bridge maintenance. But at least one-third of the 120 counties have turned in their budgets for the coming fiscal year applying some of their road fund allocations to administrative salaries and expenses of county officials. What's worse is an Attorney General's opinion that this use of tax dollars — misuse in our view — is legal because county administrators put in time on road related problems. Neither Jefferson nor either of the surrounding counties is diverting their road funds for this purpose.

This new gas tax, effective next month, took political courage for the Legislators to support. It was designed for road and bridge work. And that's how the proceeds from the tax ought to be used. Any other usage violates the spirit if not the letter of the law. Good roads are needed to keep the state economically competitive. And we had rather see administrative lay-offs and cutbacks rather than road funds being diverted.

This loophole cannot be closed until the '88 General Assembly. But the list of counties misusing the road funds will soon be published. We hope taxpayers in those areas make phone calls, write letters and pay personal visits to make life miserable for the county officials who are misspending the gas tax money.

Fred Creasey's Rebuttal

A WAVE commentary advised some of our Kentucky citizens to "make life miserable" for county officials who are exercising a legal option to use road fund monies to pay for administrative costs of that program.

These tactics are unnecessary, as many county officials are already miserable. They are miserable because they face a probable loss of 33 million dollars in General Revenue Sharing Funds. They are miserable because the 1979 General Assembly capped property taxes and requires the overall value of property to increase before they can increase property taxes. The cost of services has sky-rocketed in past years. The cost of liability insurance has increased 400 percent; and they are miserable because they must continue to reduce your services in order to stay within their budgets.

Since most fiscal court members spend more than half their time administering the road program, I feel that some administrative costs are justified. Every business requires administrative services. Roads and bridges do not get built, repaired or maintained with inanimate dollars alone.

The sources of funding for county services are rapidly drying up. When you call, write or visit your county official, be sure to list those services you now receive which you think should be eliminated.

The Commentary alludes to "legal thievery," which I think is unfair to the many honest and hard-working county officials that we have in the Commonwealth; however, in all likelihood, it will be of no consequence. If the problems of county governments are not faced by federal and state governments, by Congress and legislatures, and by the people receiving present county services, county governments could easily become as extinct as the dinosaur.

Believe it!

Not everyone has been blind to the necessity of using some of the road fund money to pay for the costs of administering the program. Sample editorials from newspapers around the Commonwealth are below.

Share the blame
(From State Journal Frankfort, Ky.)

We're a little bit sympathetic to members of the General Assembly who are upset that some counties in Kentucky are using their state Road Fund appropriations for purposes other than building and repairing roads. But, only just a little bit.

The legislators are unhappy that about one-third of the counties in the state who have prepared their new budgets are using $1.5 million of their Road Fund money for such things as salaries and other administrative expenses. The lawmakers say they bit the political bullet this year by raising the state gasoline tax a nickel a gallon, and they expected that money to be used on county roads, not to pay county salaries. They feel betrayed by local officials who pleaded with them to raise the tax to give counties more road money from Frankfort.

They have a point, of course. The road-building needs across Kentucky are critical in many places and every Road Fund dollar ideally ought to be spent on fulfilling those needs.

But, the lawmakers aren't all that innocent when it comes to the financial plight of local governments. After all, it was the General Assembly — for the most flagrant political reasons — which slapped a 4 percent limit on the growth in local property taxes and it is the General Assembly which has failed, again because of political self-interest, either to lift entirely or ease that limitation.

Raising the gasoline tax at a time when prices were falling daily will hardly win legislators places in the political martyrs' hall of fame; lifting the 4 percent limit on property tax revenue growth for local governments and schools perhaps would earn them places in a pantheon of lawmakers who do what is right rather than what is politically expedient.

City and county governments, large and small, in Kentucky are facing the loss of millions of dollars yearly in federal revenue sharing money, at the same time the demand for government services increases, the costs of those services continue going up and one government expense — liability insurance — has become almost prohibitive when coverage is available at all. To its credit, the 1986 General Assembly addressed the gasoline tax and

Continued on page 3

Distinguished Service Award presented

Speaker of the House Don Blandford was presented KBT's Distinguished Service Award at a luncheon in his honor recently, at the Radisson Hotel, Lexington.

Two other persons have received the KBT DSA previously. They are Fourth District Congressman M. Gene Snyder, ranking minority member of the House Public Works and Transportation Committee, and former Senator Walter "Dee" Huddleston. Both received the award in 1983 for their successful efforts on the national effort in getting transportation improvements for Kentucky.

Other House members presented "appreciation" awards for their leadership in "improving transportation" were: Rep. Pete Worthington, Speaker Pro Tem; Rep. Greg Stumbo, Majority Floor Leader; Rep. Bill Donnermeyer, Majority Caucus Chairman; Rep. Kenny Rapier, Majority Whip; Rep. Hank Hancock, Chairman, Appropriations & Revenue Subcommittee on Transportation; Rep. Clayton Little, Chairman, Transportation Committee; and Rep. Richard Turner, Minority Floor Leader.

KBT Chairman Bill Cox told the luncheon, "We are here to express our gratitude for the leadership demonstrated by the Speaker and the House leadership to begin to curb the crisis that has developed in transportation in Kentucky." Cox called Blandford, "an effective, strong Speaker of the House and said that, "we deeply appreciate all you did to make it possible to improve transporation for all Kentuckians."

Others at the luncheon expressing their organizations' appreciation for Blandford's efforts were Burl Spurlock, Chairman, Kentucky Chamber of Commerce; David Beck, Kentucky Farm Bureau; Mayor Maurice Spalding, Chairman, Kentucky Municipal League; County Judge/Executve Jimmy Allen, Chairman, Kentucky County Judge/Executive Association; Fred Creasey, Executive Director, Kentucky Association of Counties; Jitter Allen, assistant to the Governor; and Carl Bradley, KYTC.

Bradley read a letter from KYTC Secretary Dawson, who was unable to attend: "The courage and skill you displayed in laying the foundation for an improved highway program is something all Kentuckians will appreciate. Kentuckians will benefit economically and from the standpoint of safety, comfort, and convenience because of your farsighted leadership. I express to you my thanks and admiration."

Allen expressed Governor Collins' regret that she was unable to attend the luncheon. Allen said the passage of the user fee was a "milestone in Kentucky politics." He said, "Everyone expects good roads, but elections can be lost when people are asked to pay additional taxes — even for services that are vitally needed.

Allen said there were some who felt it would be "political suicide" to raise the gas tax, but Blandford "never waivered in his belief" and "inspired legislators to become statesmen."

Allen said being a statesman means "voting for something that is desperately needed but that might spell defeat. Don persuaded legislators to look toward the needs of their districts and the entire state.

Allen went on to say that the Governor wants to "thank KBT for your extremely effective lobbying during the past session. Kentucky needs jobs and the Governor is working to create them. The two foundations of successful economic development are better schools and better roads. Through your work and the efforts of House leadership the gas tax never became an issue during the primary."

Blandford reflected on Associated Press writer, Mark Chellgren's snide comments regarding Blandford and KBT: "Blandford's name may be mud (when the user fee goes into effect, July 1) but before then he gets a pat on the back from a group that will benefit most from the increase" — KBT.

"Does this look like a worried face," asked Blandford, "I don't back up one minute for what we did. I'm proud of what we did and glad we could get it done. And it wasn't Don Blandford. It was a team effort. Everyone came together — the Governor's office, the legislature, Pete Worthington, Clayton Little, Kenny Rapier, Greg Stumbo, Richard Turner. It takes a team effort. One person can't do it.

"KBT was great! You just didn't say, as many organizations, 'The gas tax is right. Go up there and get it for us.' You stayed in there with us and lobbied every day. You gave us more statistics and information than we needed, but you and the Transportation Cabinet were there right beside us every day. Everybody shares the credit or blame — how ever you want to look at it — in getting the increased money for transportation.

"I'll also take issue with Mark Chellgren when he said the people who are going to benefit most are KBT members. The people who are going to benefit most are the people of Kentucky."

Kentuckians can take great pride in their legislature and legislative leaders "for rising to the challenge of protecting Kentucky's investment in roads and highways," said Jack Fish, Kentuckians for Better Transportation. "The new funding doesn't meet all the needs, but it is a giant step in the right direction," he said.

Beginning July 1, the start of the new fiscal year, Fish noted, "the sick Road Fund will begin to recover" — thanks to 87 members of the 1986 Kentucky General Assembly.

Funding for city street programs over the next two years will be up by 72 percent. Counties will be getting a 76 percent increase in County Road Aid and a 50 percent increase in Rural Secondary funds.

For the State system, Fish said the new funding means that two-thirds of the needs on the primary and secondary highways can be met. Additional funding needed for maintenance, resurfacing, and state construction and reconstruction, including the toll roads, totals $245 million for the biennium, according to Transportation Secretary Les Dawson.

New funding, together with budgetary decisions made by the General Assembly, will put an additional $166 million into these areas over the next two years, Fish said.

Kentucky had gotten to the point, Fish said, where major roads and highways were wearing out, and — with the exception of the Interstates — there were virtually no funds to repave or rebuild them. "The Road Fund simply could not provide essential services," he said.

The new funds will help Kentucky keep pace with growth and development, facilitate better traffic movement, and provide safer conditions for motorists. Beginning to solve the Road Fund problem during the last session of the legislature means that Kentucky is more attractive for expanding business and industry," Fish said.

Fish said the cost of increased user fees will be far less for the average motorist than the added cost of driving on bad roads if fees had not been increased.

Fish said "total recovery" for the Road Fund depends largely on the return of coal severance tax revenue. Governor Brown started diverting the revenue to the General Fund, and the practice was followed by the present administration. For the current year, $47 million is being diverted. Over the next two years, the amount is $43 million annually.

Both Tennessee and Virginia have increased motor fuels user fees, effective July 1. The Tennessee user fee on gasoline will rise from 13 cents per gallon to 17 cents (including 1 cent per gallon inspection fee). The fee on diesel fuel, now 13 cents per gallon, will rise to 15 cents per gallon on July 1 and to 16 cents per gallon on July 1, 1987.

Virginia's motor fuels user fee on gasoline and diesel will rise from 11.5 cents to 15 cents per gallon. Kentucky's fee on gasoline rises to 15 cents per gallon on gasoline and 12 cents on diesel, effective July 1.

Fees in other states bordering Kentucky are: Illinois — gasoline, 19 cents (13 cents plus 6 percent sales tax)/diesel 21.5 cents (15.5 cents plus 6 percent sales tax); Indiana — gasoline, 19 cents (14 cents plus 5 percent sales tax)/diesel, 20 cents (15 cents plus 5 percent sales tax); Ohio — 12 cents; and West Virginia — 15.35 cents.



KBT Chairman Bill Cox presents KBT's Distinguished Service Award to Speaker of the House Don Blandford.



KACo Executive Director Fred Creasey presented a plaque naming Blandford an honorary member of KACo for his "years of dedicated service" to Kentucky counties.

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Road fund sparks debate — continued

Road Fund issue. It was unable, however, to take any action on the crisis in liability insurance for local governments.

There are counties — and cities and school districts — in the state which complain about the lack of money from Frankfort while failing to take advantage of all possible sources of local tax revenues available to them. Many, however, have gone to the local revenue well and, particularly because of the loss of revenue sharing money, still face financial problems now or in the near future. Franklin Fiscal Court, to meet its growing service responsibilities, is considering imposition of an occupational tax on people who work in the county. The City of Frankfort, though in better shape than many Kentucky cities, will deplete its reserves and face a deficit budget in only a few years without more revenues.

It isn't surprising, then, that some counties are using Road Fund money to help pay expenses that, in fact, involve administering the county road program. Rather than complaining, members of the General Assembly ought to be preparing now for confronting the revenue problems of local governments and doing something about it.

Counties should be able to use money

(From Daily News
Middlesboro, Ky.)

Some state legislators have lost their cool about what they consider the misdirection of state road funds by at least one-third of the state's counties. They have fired hot charges against the county officials, accusing them of dodging the political repercussions of another tax hike while legislators take the heat.

And, to a degree, that is exactly what has happened with the nickel-a-gallon gasoline tax. The idea was to see the some $20 million added to the Road Fund divided among the Commonwealth's 120 counties to be used for road improvements — and road improvements only. But already more than 40 of the county budgets sent to state officials earmark a portion of the tax monies for areas other than roads.

It seems the state senators and representatives. . . envisioned miles of new or improved highways and bridges rolling over Kentucky hills soon after the tax goes into effect, July 1. Instead, a large portion of the levy will go for the "unseen" part of the roadwork, the personnel and paperwork portion.

Despite the legislators' unhappiness, we have to agree with an Attorney General's opinion making Road Fund allocations open for administrative use. After all, the roads don't just happen; somebody. . . has to run the show.

We hope the state legislators who expressed unhappiness over the budgeting of the gasoline tax dollars will reconsider. We'd bet that if most would check with the members of county governments in their areas, as well as their constituents, they would find most see the link between the administrative costs and roadwork.

Counties' hands are tied by uneducated legislators

(From Citizen-Voice
Irvine, Ky.)

A June 16 Associated Press story in the Lexington Herald-Leader told of state legislators who are upset that counties are using Road Fund money for salaries and administrative purposes.

The legislators said the nickel increase in the state gasoline tax they recently approved was intended to improve roads.

House Majority Leader Greg Stumbo, D-Prestonsburg, was worried about the "political heat" he and his counterparts were taking for enacting the tax.

He said that while they take the heat, the counties are "reaping the benefits."

If Stumbo were educated about the financial situations in the counties, and about the limitations the body of which he is a member have placed on fiscal courts in generating revenue, he would surely be less critical.

The Estill County Fiscal Court would, without doubt, be glad to exchange some of the heat they have taken recently, in an effort to raise money, with that of the state legislature.

When the Frankfort lawmakers decide to loosen the ropes around the wrists of county government, then they will have more right to complain because the counties do not carry their political heat-taking weight.

Lawmakers need to help local government funding

From Times-Tribune
Corbin, Ky.

We're a little bit sympathetic to members of the General Assembly who are upset that some counties in Kentucky are using their state Road Fund appropriations for purposes other than building and repairing roads. But, only just a little bit.

The legislators are unhappy that about one-third of the counties in the state who have prepared their new budgets are using $1.5 million of their Road Fund money for such things as salaries and other administrative expenses. The lawmakers say they bit the political bullet this year by raising the state gasoline tax a nickel a gallon, and they expected that money to be used on county roads, not to pay county salaries. They feel betrayed by local officials who pleaded with them to raise the tax to give counties more road money from Frankfort.

They have a point, of course. The road-building needs across Kentucky are critical in many places and every Road Fund dollar ideally ought to be spent on fulfilling those needs.

But, the lawmakers aren't all that innocent when it comes to the financial plight of local governments. After all, it was the General Assembly — for the most flagrant political reasons — which slapped a 4 percent limit on the growth in local property taxes and it is the General Assembly which has failed, again because of political self-interest, either to lift entirely or ease that limitation.

Raising the gasoline tax at a time when prices were falling daily will hardly win legislators places in the political martyrs' hall of fame; lifting the 4 percent limit on property tax revenue growth for local governments and schools perhaps would earn them places in a pantheon of lawmakers who do what is right rather than what is politically expedient.

City and county governments, large and small, in Kentucky are facing the loss of millions of dollars yearly in federal revenue sharing money, at the same time the demand for government services increases, the costs of those services continue going up and one government expense — liability insurance — has become almost prohibitive when coverage is available at all. To its credit, the 1986 General Assembly addressed the gasoline tax and Road Fund issue. It was unable, however, to take any action on the crisis in liability insurance for local governments.

There are counties — and cities and school distircts — in the state which complain about the lack of money from Frankfort while failing to take advantage of all possible sources of local tax revenues available to them. Many, however, have gone to the local revenue well and, particularly because of the loss of revenue sharing money, still face financial problems now or in the near future. Franklin Fiscal Court, to meet its growing service responsibilities, is considering imposition of an occupational tax on people who work in the county. The City of Frankfort, though in better shape than many Kentucky cities, will deplete its reserves and face a deficit budget in only a few years without more revenues.

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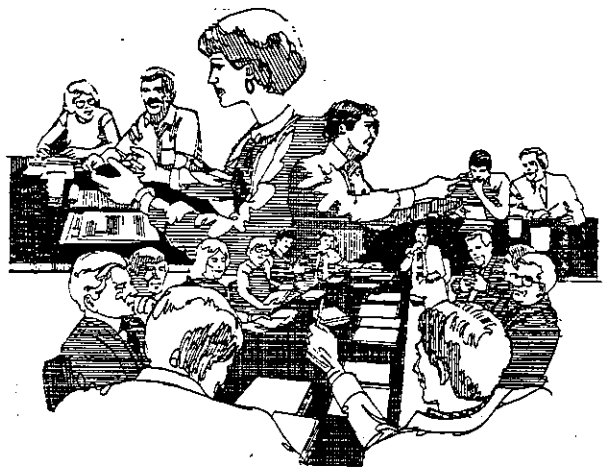

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Establish good relations with the media

Editor's Note: The following article is reprinted by permission of the Association of Minnesota Counties.

Public officials versus the media. Traditionally it's a rivalry of classic proportions.

Popular perceptions of the relationship often run to opposite extremes. Reporters can be seen as dedicated crusaders determined to nab the corrupt officials with the legendary smoking gun as he's about to abscond with the public funds to the tropics. Or, officials can be seen as selfless public servants incapable of wrongdoing, yet hounded and dragged through the mud by sensation-seeking reporters who would just as soon sell out their country for a flashy headline as they would down another whiskey. Colorful stuff for the movies, but hardly the norm.

Some cases do lend a certain degree of substance to the cliches — Watergate, Westmoreland versus CBS, the Earl Butz fiasco, nearly anything of National Enquirer ilk.

But reality is that the majority of officials and journalists are honest, hardworking, and try to do the best job they can. Most reporters strive to make their news stories as objective and accurate as possible. They are concerned with writing good stories based on solid information and reporting, not selling newspapers with scandal sheet exposes.

And reality is establishing good working relationships between public officials and jounalists based on mutual respect, fairness, and understanding of each others' professional roles, needs, and perspectives.

Despite the best efforts of both journalists and officials, problems can occur. Officials can misunderstand the media's purpose, creating expectations contrary to journalistic ethics or goals. People can be misquoted, their remarks can be taken out of context, important information can be omitted from a story. Sometimes information appears that officials hadn't intended for publication, resulting in feelings of betrayal, distrust or anger.

Officials and journalists alike can make mistakes or be incompetent.

But suspicion and distrust can easily be minimized by opening lines of communication, acknowledging each other's expectations, and simply understanding each other's jobs.

Journalists traditionally perform a watchdog function, scrutinizing government on behalf of the people and ensuring that the public interest is being pursued. The public's right to know is a journalist's paramount concern, and the nation's democratic institutions depend on a free press, unfettered by any governmental controls, as guaranteed by the First Amendment.

The media, in essence, act as the public's surrogate, since it would be impossible for citizens to attend every town or county board meeting, legislative debate, Congressional session or presidential news conference.

Journalists' primary purpose is to collect raw data, transform that into meaningful information and present it to the public. They try to do this as accurately, completely and objectively as possible.

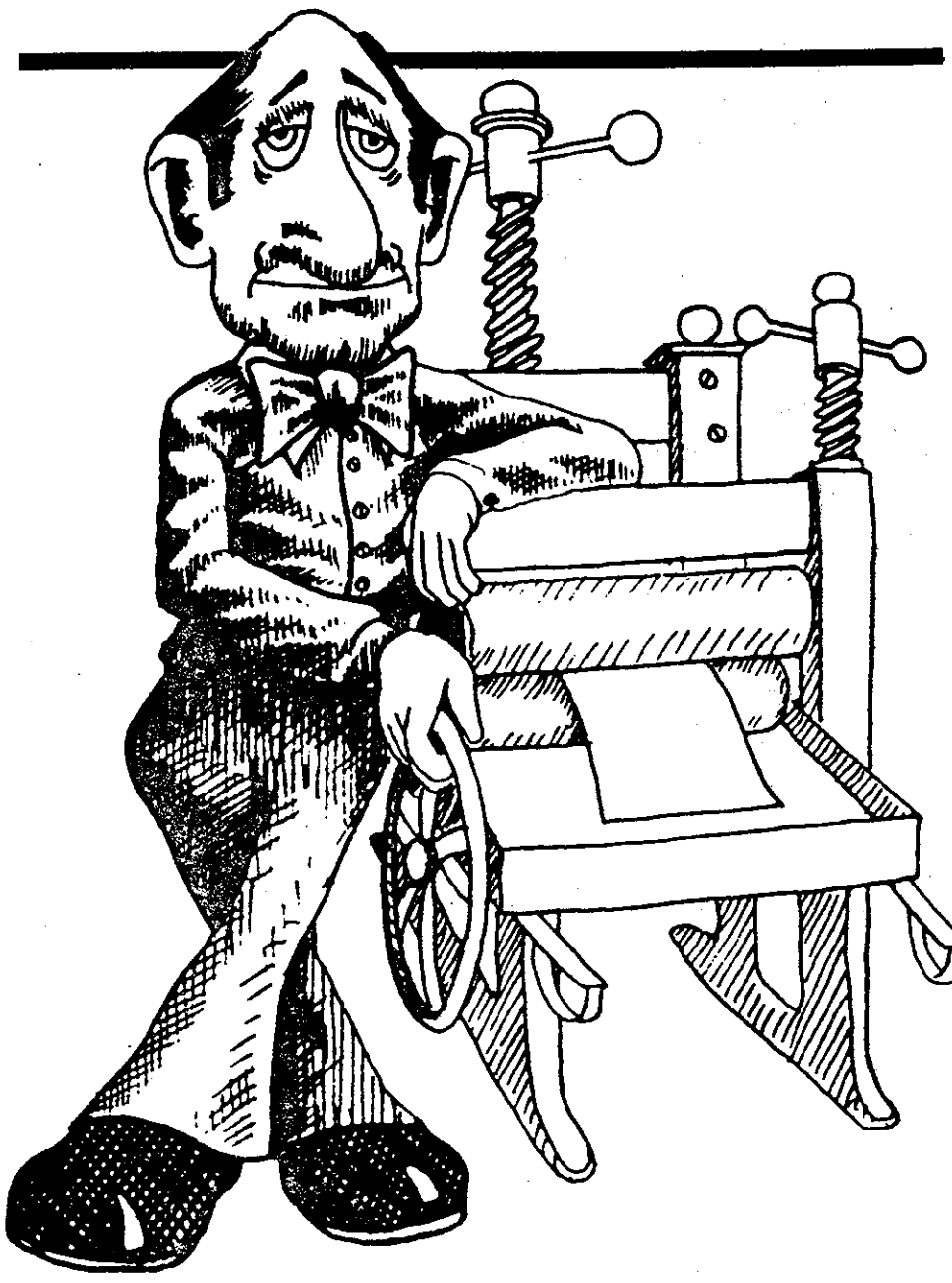
Since public officials are paid by the public, oversee the spending of public funds, and create and implement policies directly affecting all citizens, they particularly are subject to attention.

Reputable reporters are not out to "get" anybody. Their job is to collect and disseminate information, and that may entail probing into matters and reporting facts that may sometimes make public officials squirm. Officials may sometimes find themselves portrayed in less than flattering ways. But that's one of the risks they must take when entering the public sector.

One common misconception of the press' role is that the media exists as either a cheering section or a public relations outfit for the city or county.

What constitutes a "good" or "bad" story depends on one's perspective. If information comes to light that could reflect badly on the county or individual commissioners, it isn't the reporter's function to decide whether that material should be reported or suppressed for the supposed good of the community. The journalist's job is to report the news, good or bad, regardless of the consequences.

That may seem like a harsh natural law, especially to officials who may see the detriments outweighing the gains. But that's the only way the media can maintain its independence and credibility. And ultimately, the people decide for themselves, as they should in a democracy.



The watchdog role does not mean that journalists regard every public official with suspicion and distrust. It does mean that officials are in the public eye, however, and their motives and methods are fair game.

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Good relations — continued

In the vast majority of cases, as long as public officials and journalists treat each other fairly, professionally, and with mutual respect, officials should have no reason to fear, dislike or distrust the press.

Officials must, however, understand the press' mission, and know how to deal with journalists in an open, courteous and professional manner.

The main thing is to work with the media, not against it. Although the press may sometimes seem to be a rival, it is not an enemy. In fact, good media relations not only enhance the public's right to know, they can be advantageous to officials as well. Journalists can be much more amenable to officials' concerns and priorities if they know the officials are factual, cooperative, straightforward, and don't try to manipulate the press.

Besides generally acting like a decent human being, there are a few things to keep in mind when dealing with reporters.

●**Don't lie.** When confronted by an inquisitive reporter with unpleasant questions, the initial instinct may be to lie in an attempt to throw the reporter off the scent. Don't do it. Making up false information, telling only part of the story or feigning ignorance may get you off the hook for the moment, but they're liable to backfire with disastrous results. Reporters are professional diggers. If *they know enough to ask you a* question, chances are very likely that the entire story will eventually come out. Then, you'll not only have to respond to the initial questions, but also explain why you initially lied. And regardless of the initial issue, cover-ups alone on the part of a public official are big news anywhere. It was enough to bring down a U.S. president. Lying also plays havoc with your credibility and reputation — not only with the press, but with co-workers and constituents as well. Once they're tarnished, they'll never quite recover. It may be a cliche, but honesty is still the best policy.

●**Off-the-Record Comments.** Unless there is an extremely compelling reason to do so, never comment off the record. If you are going to tell a reporter something that you consider sensitive, carefully consider why you want that information to be kept from the public. In many cases, the information may not be as sensitive as you initially imagined.

If you think the information should be made pubic, but don't want to be identified as the source, you can offer it to the reporter on the condition that it's not for attribution. But again, carefully consider whether it's really necessary that you remain anonymous. Also remember that reporters may be unwilling to accept information on that basis, and even if they're willing to consider it, they'll want a solid explanation of your rationale.

Even if the reporter agrees to accept off-the-record information, there's no guarantee that it still won't appear in print. Confirmation may be found elsewhere from someone willing to talk for publication. And reporters may come back, asking for more information or seeking permission to print what you've already said. If it's valuable information, don't expect reporters to give up.

Another important factor to consider is whether or not you can trust the reporter to keep your information and/or identity confidential. The vast majority of journalists will stick to your agreement, and some have even gone to jail rather than reveal a source. But there are no absolute guarantees — there are some unethical journalists, just as there are some unethical officials. Also, never play one reporter against another. What's on the record for one reporter should be on the record for all reporters.

Equally vital is to establish the ground rules before any information is exchanged. If you lay out some facts to a reporter and then conclude by saying, "Oh by the way, all that was off the record," you're out of luck. Unless an agreement is reached in advance, the reporter can use the information however he or she sees fit.

●**No Comment.** Brushing aside a reporter with a brusque "no comment" may get the media off your neck for now, but you're likely to pay a price for your silence. "No comment" isn't perceived as a neutral statement, it carries negative connotations. Right away, both the reporter and the public begin wondering why.

Don't delude yourself into thinking your refusal to comment will sidetrack a story or an investigation. Reporters are likely to smell blood and start digging with even more determination. And your "no comment" is likely to be prominently displayed in the story. Reputations can suffer terminal damage from a headline and story that says an official refuses to comment about missing funds, for example. As with lying, one "no comment" could wind up involving far more explanations than answering the initial question may have required.

So what are your alternatives if you're surprised by a reporter wielding a menacing looking microphone? If you're not thoroughly versed on the information the reporter seeks, refer him or her to someone who is. You can offer to collect more information on the matter and meet with the reporter later, providing the specified time fits in with the reporter's deadline. You can suggest the interview take place in a less confrontational setting than the street or a hallway, such as an office or conference room.

Or if the matter is sensitive, such as

Continued on next page

Just a reminder

KACo Unemployment Insurance Fund quarterly reports due

Recently, each member was mailed their Employer's Quarterly Unemployment Wage and Tax Report (UI-3) for the second quarter. These quarterly reports must be completed and returned to the KACo offices no later than July 24, 1986. The new law, taking effect July 15, 1986, authorizes the state agency to impose penalties for delinquent reports. An automatic $25 penalty will be assessed for reports that are not in on time. Reports that are more than 30 days late will incur an additional penalty of $50 for a total cost of $75. If a member has subsequent late reports during a calendar year, there will be an automatic penalty of $100 in addition to the $25 and $50 assessments. Don't let your county or office incur unnecessary expense. Please complete the reports and return them to the KACo U.I. Fund by the July 24, 1986 due date.

If you have questions about the quarterly reports or any aspect of the Unemployment Insurance program, please call us at our toll free number, 800-372-2966. We will be glad to answer any of your questions or schedule a personal consultation with you.

First, the fire station caught fire...

Then, the fireman drove the hook-and-ladder over the hydrant outside, flooding the dry cleaning store on the corner. The owner, naturally upset, ran screaming into the street and narrowly escaped being run over by the chief's car. The chief swerved, avoiding the irate dry cleaner, and drove through the front porch of the church across the street. The policeman directing traffic got a little too excited and charged an innocent bystander with arson. Meanwhile, the paramedic accidentally dropped the stretcher carrying the lady who lived in the house next to the fire station and who thought she was having a heart attack. It was indigestion, but she broke her arm in the fall. And, when the smoke finally cleared. . .

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Good relations — continued

something in litigation, you can explain the situation and why you can't comment further.

●**Providing information.** The easiest way to help establish good relations with the media is simply to be cooperative when reporters call seeking information. Facts are the currency journalists deal with, and they can never get enough. Often reporters will check with you to see if anything newsworthy is going on, or to get an explanation or clarification of an issue, or to seek background information to help put an issue into perspective. Relevant reports and documents also help a reporter write an accurate story, and they should be provided whenever possible.

If you don't know the answer to something a reporter asks, don't try to blunder your way through. Rather than provide erroneous information that could get yourself and others in trouble, refer the reporter to someone who is more likely to know the answer.

●**Interviews.** When a reporter requests an interview, find out what subjects will be covered and prepare yourself accordingly. You may want to review material that may come up during the interview and have additional information that may be useful on hand. If the reporter hasn't mentioned what publication or station he or she represents, ask.

Remember that refusing to do an interview usually won't prevent a story from being published or broadcast, but it could mean your perspectives or side of the story won't be included.

If you are the most knowledgeable person about a particular issue reporters are investigating, don't refer them to others who will inevitably refer the journalists back to you. It saves a lot of annoyance on all ends. Especially don't send reporters to public relations people for quotes. Journalists generally don't want to talk to p.r. flacks unless it's for very general information or to set up interviews with others.

During the interview be honest, factual, straightforward and as helpful as possible. Yes and no answers usually aren't much good without an explanation. And remember that examples help flesh out facts and figures and clarify points. If the reporter wants to use a tape recorder, don't be intimidated. It's purpose is to guarantee accurate quotes, and there's little worse than being quoted inaccurately.

Try to avoid using in-house jargon and acronyms. A common term used by people working in a particular field may be virtually incomprehensible to most members of the general public. Your concern should be getting your point across, not demonstrating your vast expertise in some esoteric area.

Don't ask to approve the story before its published. Not only does it imply that the reporter is incompetent, an insult to any professional, it also suggests that you're trying to manipulate or control the press, something that's not at all appreciated, especially coming from a government type. It's also futile to ask the reporter such things as where in the paper the story will run and what the headline will be. On all but the smallest papers, where the reporter and editor might be the same person, the reporter has no control over when or where the story will run, and probably will have no part in writing the head.

What the interviewee can do is tell the reporter that you'll be available for follow-up questions, or for checking the accuracy of quotes or technical information. In addition, if you realize after the fact that you inadvertently told the reporter some faulty information or if you uncover some more relevant material, call it to the reporter's attention.

A special note about television interviews: Obviously, TV is a much different medium than print, but the same basic principles apply when dealing with the local crew with the sprayed-on hair. Everything moves quicker on TV and indepth interviews can in reality be little more than superficial. What the TV folks look for are energetic, snappy quotes that sum up your point in less than half a minute. Long, rambling explanations, no matter how brilliant, aren't going to get on the air. So keep it brief, colorful and to the point.

How you look is going to make an impression on viewers, but if you usually wear red leisure suits just before the interview is not the time to haul out Gentlemen's Quarterly or Vogue. The best strategy is to dress relatively normally and in subdued colors. Don't try to look flashy or overdress, you're liable to end up looking uncomfortable and out of place. When you're on the air, try to relax, speak directly to the reporter, and try to ignore the camera.

●**The Media's Mission.** Understanding and accepting the media's mission is critical to establishing good relations. It cannot be overemphasized that the media has no obligations to perform as a public relations arm of the county. The media cannot concern itself with what is supposedly "good for" any particular governmental unit, or community, or individual. Determining whether something is good for something or somebody else is a purely subjective judgment. A free press' perspective is that publishing or broadcasting factual informaion is in the public's best interests, whether or not it makes a government or individual look good or bad.

It may be beneficial for officials to meet with local reporters and editors to discuss such issues. At the same time, officials can get an idea about such nuts-and-bolts realities of journalistic operations as deadlines, space limitations, the respective roles of the reporter, editor and publisher, how decisions are made about what goes in the paper or is broadcast, and any other editorial constraints.

Getting together on a regular basis to discuss current issues as well as mutual concerns about media coverage may also be a good idea. Such communication could help ensure good relations, avoid misunderstandings and promote fair treatment on all sides. But don't expect preferential treatment or special favors because you have coffee with the paper's editor once a month.

●**Media Relations Policies.** Media relations experts advise most organizations to establish media relations policies. In simplest terms, such a policy is meant to clearly establish who should say what about a particular issue or range of issues, and under what circumstances.

This can be particularly beneficial in helping direct a media inquiry to the most knowledgeable individual in an organization on that particular topic. Questions about the county's highway program, for example, would more logically be directed to the county engineer, not the head of the county's welfare programs.

Media consultants generally recommend spelling out who can officially speak for the county and its various departments. They also recommend that routine questions about procedure and requests for general information be handled at the staff level. Policy and personnel questions should be handled at the management level, however.

Governments and their employees have special obligations of public accountability, and attempting to restrict officials' or employees' rights to talk to the press raise serious ethical and Constitutional questions. It's one thing to designate a particular individual as a spokesperson for the county's official position, and quite another to tell everyone else to keep their mouths shut. But a media policy can ensure that individuals' opinions are not misrepresented as the county's position.

Similarly, county board decisions are fair game for any commissioner to comment on, whether or not they're in the majority. Elected officials are elected to speak their minds and give the public the benefits of their wisdom, not silently acquiese in the name of some misguided stab at harmony. Democracies thrive on openness and unfettered freedom of expression.

●**Media Errors and Abuses.** You pick up the latest Daily Tattler and discover you've been misquoted, facts have been twisted, your views have been misrepresented, or you otherwise feel you've been treated unfairly. What are your alternatives?

The media deals in factual information, and if an error has been made, they have an obligation to set the record straight. So the error should be brought to their attention.

But before you determine how to respond, you have to figure out the nature and extent of the mistake or abuse. Obviously, you have a vested interest in an article that mentions you personally or your department. Have a few other people, with more objective perspectives than your own, read the offending item, and evaluate the significance of the errors.

In the meantime, carefully consider the entire matter and develop a reasonable response. This allows for a cooling-off period so that you don't say something unfortunate in the heat of your anger or frustration.

If the errors are factual, they should be brought to the reporter's and/or editor's attention. Minor errors may not need a printed correction. If it's a significant mistake, you should request a correction or clarification. Most reputable publications will want to print a correction whether or not you request one, and many have a specific space set aside for corrections in each issue.

Critical omissions can be handled the same way.

Sometimes material is left out of a story that you may consider significant. But in the news judgment of the editor or reporter, it had limited news value or was omitted due to space limitations. If you feel strongly enough about the omission, write a letter to the editor.

Also consider writing a letter to the editor if you want to respond to a critical editorial or opinion column. Remember, an editorial is an expression of the editor's viewpoint. It's not the same thing as a news story. And although editorials shouldn't misrepresent facts or others' opinions, they have no obligation to pull their punches.

Letters columns are really public forums, and most publications are happy to print any rational, well-written letter. Letters are chosen for publication, in part, by their news value. Public officials inherently have news value, and have an unmistakable edge in getting a letter published. Remember that publications have no obligation to print letters, and they reserve the right to edit letters for length and grammatical errors.

If you've been maligned on television, you can request air time to respond. Broadcasters have to abide by a federally imposed equal time provision, but equal time applies only to politicians running for office. If air time is given to one candidate, the same broadcaster must offer an equal time slot to other candidates for the same office.

A more ephemeral regulation imposed on broadcasters by the Federal Communications Commission is the Fairness Doctrine. It's based on the theory that there are a limited number of airwaves, and those granted broadcast licenses have an obligation to present all points of view on matters of public importance. Determining fairness is often subjective, however.

Recently the Fairness Doctrine has come under increasing attack because it puts journalistic restrictions on broadcasters that aren't on the print media. The doctrine may not be around too much longer.

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

FRANKFORT, KENTUCKY 40601



Governor Collins

I am pleased to announce that Kentucky will soon join nine other states whose environmental protection programs focus on ways to prevent pollution. Until now, most government efforts have focused only upon treating pollution or disposing of waste. Kentucky's new pollution prevention program will redirect these efforts.

Pollution prevention programs start by asking what can we do to reduce the pollution we create — now what can we do with pollution after we create it. Experience with pollution prevention is showing that the concept is not only technically sound and ecologically beneficial, it is also profitable for industries and their employees.

Companies that have been successful in reducing their waste use two basic approaches: (1) they perform an environmental audit of their operations to find out exactly where the raw materials are used and where they are turned into waste; and (2) they encourage their workers to direct their creative, problem-solving abilities to developing pollution prevention approaches for their companies, and they reward them when they are successful.

How can waste be reduced? The changes which companies have put into practice to reduce waste include housekeeping, substituting materials, redesigning equipment and operation, recycling and reusing, and exchanging wastes with other companies.

Programs currently underway in other states differ in the ways they are organized and the assistance they offer. Generally, programs offer technical assistance, training, information sharing, research, and public education. They are often totally separate from the regulatory agency, such as the state EPA.

Kentucky's program will be built on the recommendations of an advisory committee made up of 33 representatives of the state's business, trade associations, environmental, and educational community. These individuals were appointed by Charlotte Baldwin, Secretary of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Cabinet, which is spearheading the development of Kentucky's pollution prevention program.

The steering committee includes Ed Holloway of Associated Industries of Kentucky, as well as Tony Sholar, Kentucky Chamber of Commerce; Ray Dailey, Westvaco; Dr. Mickey Jones, Mason & Hangar Engineering; Tom Herman, Dow Corning; Mack Morgan, Kentucky Retail Federation; and Tom FitzGerald, Kentucky Resources Council.

The committee expects to complete its work soon and submit recommendations for implementation of a state program. As Kentucky's pollution prevention program develops, we hope to involve the entire population, not just business and industry. Local units of government may be asked to participate in the program at a later date. Preliminary consultations with the Department of Local Government indicate that public instruction and information regarding the program may best begin at the local level.

This innovative program will further ensure a healthy, safe environment for residents of the Commonwealth. Our new focus on preventing many forms of household, business and industrial pollution is merely the latest in state government's efforts to preserve and protect Kentucky natural resources. I hope each of you will promote the program locally and motivate residents in your communities to become involved.

Boswell warns of insurance crisis in the agricultural industry

The following letter has been sent by Kentucky Agriculture Commissioner David E. Boswell to members of the Kentucky Congressional delegation and key Congressional committee chairmen, along with the Agriculture and Natural Resources committee chairmen of the Kentucky House and Senate.

The purpose of the correspondence is to alert those representatives to the growing insurance crisis in Kentucky and the threats it poses to the Commonwealth's agricultural industry and economy.

* * *

I am writing to express my concern on behalf of farmers, businesses and consumers in Kentucky over what has become a near-calamity with regard to the availability of liability insurance, not only in Kentucky but across the nation.

As I am sure you are aware, the number of insurance firms and agents willing or able to write new liability insurance for homes, autos or businesses diminishes almost daily. When available, the rates are skyrocketing. A direct result of this is that many businesses which depend upon their contact with the public are faced with extinction. They cannot afford the rates and cannot afford not to be insured.

Already the Kentucky Legislature has taken special steps to relieve part of this burden for some Kentucky companies through lightening coverage requirements, but this is only a band-aid approach. It is going to take some strong-minded Federal controls to slow down and make the American insurance industry more service-conscious.

Also, the Kentucky homeowner is finding it more and more impossible to afford the most modest coverage against damage, injury and illness.

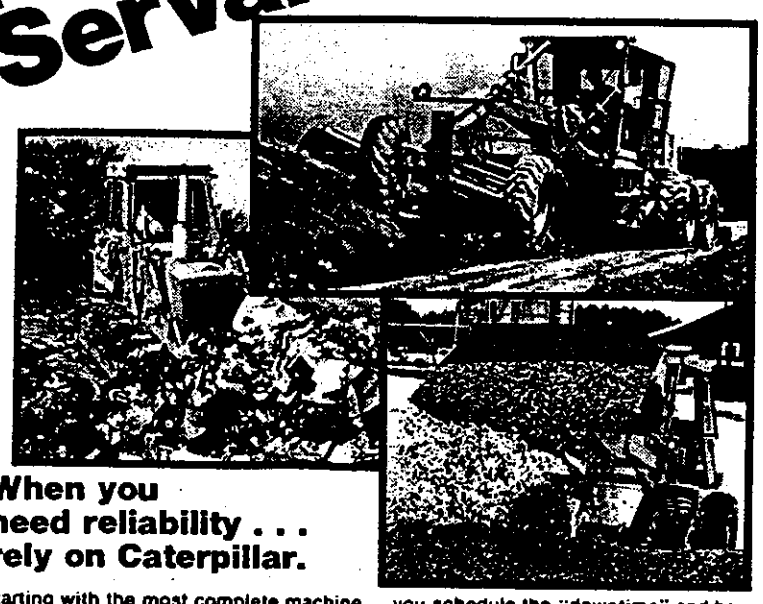
Much is said these days about the need to attack unemployment through the development of new jobs and the protection of those which now exist. However, business in America will soon be unable to expand, perhaps even survive, should insurance continue its disappearing act, or grow too expensive, while liability judgements roll on, unchecked.

This nation's farmers, already burdened by the agricultural crisis, cannot stand the added burden of growing liability costs as part of the price they must pay to stay on their land.

I urge you to use your good offices to work to identify the causes of our national liability insurance crisis and bring about remedies in all possible haste.

Sincerely,
David E. Boswell
Commissioner

Public Servants



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1995 population projected for Kentucky counties

Here is the projected 1995 population for each Kentucky County as compiled by the Urban Studies Center at the University of Louisville.

Adair 16,804.
Allen 15,327.
Anderson 15,438.
Ballard 8,406.
Barren 38,474.
Bath 10,878.
Bell 36,221.
Boone 64,317.
Bourbon 20,016.
Boyd 57,664.
Boyle 27,301.
Bracken 7,967.
Breathitt 17,528.
Breckinridge 17,399.
Bullitt 53,070.
Butler 12,817.
Caldwell 13,328.
Calloway 30,338.
Campbell 77,947.
Carlisle 5,457.
Carroll 10,742.
Carter 28,144.
Casey 16,244.
Christian 72,251.
Clark 32,565.
Clay 26,498.
Clinton 11,053.
Crittenden 9,622.
Cumberland 7,685.
Daviess 96,214.
Edmonson 12,609.
Elliott 7,600.
Estill 16,303.
Fayette 232,104.
Fleming 13,418.
Floyd 55,826.
Franklin 50,700.
Fulton 7,711.
Gallatin 5,747.
Garrard 12,252.
Grant 16,628.
Graves 35,030.
Grayson 25,242.
Green 11,379.
Greenup 41,219.
Hancock 8,770.
Hardin 106,939.
Harlan 44,520.
Harrison 16,822.
Hart 17,883.
Henderson 46,961.
Henry 14,815.
Hickman 5,483.
Hopkins 49,995.
Jackson 13,246.
Jefferson 686,874.
Jessamine 33,572.
Johnson 30,364.
Kenton 146,756.
Knott 19,698.
Knox 34,480.
Larue 12,828.
Laurel 49,501.
Lawrence 18,544.
Lee 8,694.
Leslie 17,372.
Letcher 34,590.
Lewis 15,556.
Lincoln 20,392.
Livingston 9,425.
Logan 27,609.
Lyon 6,729.
McCracken 65,055.
McCreary 17,063.
McLean 10,807.
Madison 54,005.
Magoffin 16,453.
Marion 18,639.
Marshall 27,630.
Martin 16,662.
Mason 17,892.
Meade 24,888.
Menifee 5,750.
Mercer 21,549.
Metcalfe 11,186.
Monroe 13,122.
Montgomery 22,155.
Morgan 13,023.
Muhlenberg 33,989.
Nelson 32,066.
Nicholas 8,051.
Ohio 25,330.
Oldham 36,628.
Owen 9,932.
Owsley 6,315.
Pendleton 11,619.
Perry 41,192.
Pike 93,176.
Powell 13,033.
Pulaski 55,803.
Robertson 2,470.
Rockcastle 15,561.
Rowan 19,744.
Russell 16,784.
Scott 26,321.
Shelby 27,068.
Simpson 16,752.
Spencer 6,353.
Taylor 25,950.
Todd 11,450.
Trigg 9,625.
Trimble 6,732.
Union 19,557.
Warren 90,539.
Washington 10,440.
Wayne 19,446.
Webster 15,653.
Whitley 41,361.
Wolfe 7,549.
Woodford 22,021.

Resolution

A RESOLUTION urging the county judges/executives to utilize all state road funds distributed through the county road aid program on maintenance and repair of county roads.

WHEREAS, the 1986 General Assembly saw and addressed the problem of deterioration of the road system within the Commonwealth by imposing a $.05 increase on motor fuel taxes beginning this month; and

WHEREAS, in order to assure that road repairs would be completed on all types of roadways, the General Assembly increased the local road allotments by almost $28 million; and

WHEREAS, the realization of the dilapidated condition of our roads also came through testimony from local officials stating that increased road funding was a number one priority for their areas; and

WHEREAS, now some of the same elected officials are making overtures toward using this money for salaries and other administrative costs rather than asphalt, limestone, ditching, grading and other methods which would better enhance the road improvements as intended by the General Assembly; and

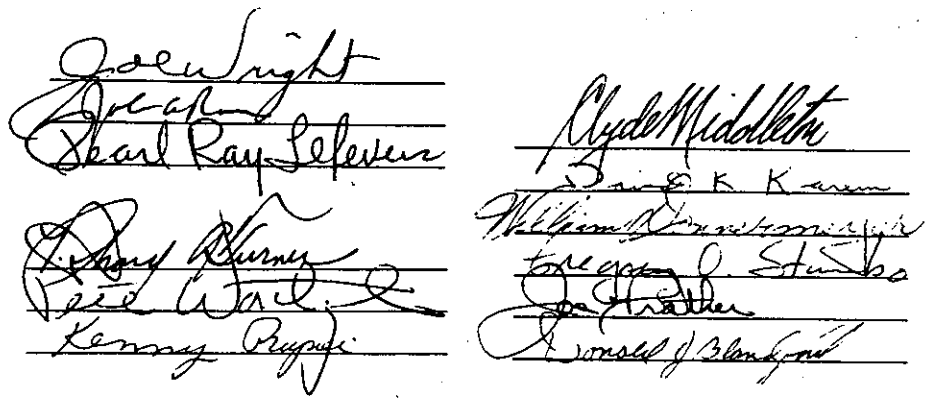
WHEREAS, since these new funds are being applied in a manner that ignores legislative intent, legislation to prevent the use of these funds for payment of administrative costs without state government approval should be introduced and supported by the Legislative Research Commission during the 1988 Regular Session of the General Assembly.

NOW, THEREFORE,

Be it resolved by the Legislative Research Commission of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

Section 1. That the Legislative Research Commission does urge the local elected officials to act judiciously and prudently by using all county road aid funds for activities which will improve road conditions rather than increase the administrative and overhead costs of the road program.

Section 2. That a copy of this resolution be transmitted to the Kentucky Association for County Judge/Executives, the Kentucky Association of Counties, the Kentucky Municipal League, the Secretary of Transportation and the Deputy Secretary of the Department of Rural and Municipal Aid.



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John Weaver
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Kentucky Association of Counties

Associate Membership

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513-241-2450

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Nashville, Tennessee 37215
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Lexington, Kentucky
606-272-6656

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Catlettsburg, Kentucky 41129
606-739-5191

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606-436-3158

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Florence, Kentucky 41042
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502-886-9484

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606-278-5412

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Owensboro, Kentucky 42301
502-926-1808

Luckett & Farley, Architects, Engineers & Const. Managers, Inc.
215 W. Breckinridge Street
Louisville, Kentucky 40203
502-585-4181

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606-223-1000

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Lexington, Kentucky 40503
606-223-5694

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Madisonville, Kentucky 42431
502-821-7375

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2365 Harrodsburg Road
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Lexington, Kentucky 40504
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Columbus, Indiana 47202
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502-223-3415

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Bowling Green, Kentucky 42101
502-781-6111

Bank of Benton
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Benton, Kentucky 42025

Citizens Fidelity Bank & Trust Co.
Hikes Point Banking Center
P.O. Box 33000
Louisville, Kentucky 40232
502-581-2100

Citizens National Bank of Covington
P.O. Box 561
Covington, Kentucky 41012
606-292-3700

Continental National Bank
500 South 6th Street
Louisville, Kentucky 40202
502-585-4600

Deposit Bank & Trust Co.
Pleasureville, Kentucky 40057
502-878-4272

Farmers & Traders Bank
Mt. Olivet, Kentucky 41064
606-724-5403

Farmers Bank & Capital Trust Co.
Farmers Bank Plaza
Frankfort, Kentucky 40601
502-227-7341

First City Bank & Trust Co.
P.O. Box 549
Hopkinsville, Ky. 42240
502-887-2289

First National Bank of Louisville
3700 First National Tower
Louisville, Kentucky 40202
502-581-4200

Kentucky National Bank
N.W. Corner Sixth and Madison
Covington, Kentucky 41012
606-291-9955

Hart County Bank & Trust Co.
P.O. Box 217
Munfordville, Kentucky 42765
606-524-2231

The Huntington Bank
P.O. Box 2655
Covington, Kentucky 41012
606-292-7500

Liberty National Bank
P.O. Box 32500
Louisville, Kentucky 40232
502-566-1600

Lincoln National Bank
P.O. Box 116
Hodgenville, Kentucky 42748
502-358-4116

Associations
Kentucky Association of Community Action Agencies
41 Fountain Place
Frankfort, Kentucky 40602
502-564-4200

Monticello Banking Co.
116 North Main Street
Monticello, Kentucky 42633
606-348-8411

The Bank of North Hardin
500 W. Lincoln Trail Blvd.
P.O. Box 309
Radcliff, Kentucky 40160
502-351-1123

Peoples Bank & Trust Co.
P.O. Drawer K
Madisonville, Kentucky 42431
502-821-1661 Ext. 49

Peoples Exchange Bank
Beattyville, Kentucky 41311

Republic Bank
35 Village Plaza
Shelbyville, Kentucky 40065
502-875-7041

Republic Savings Bank
Main Street
Frankfort, Kentucky 40601
502-875-4300

Peoples Liberty Bank & Trust Co.
P.O. Box 589
Covington, Kentucky 41012
606-292-6200

Union National Bank
P.O. Box 320
Barbourville, Kentucky 40906
502-546-6262

United Bank & Trust Company
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Versailles, Kentucky 40383
606-873-3136

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Lexington, Kentucky 40579
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Louisville, Kentucky 40219
502-968-4151

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1733 Harrodsburg Road
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606-744-3361

Carpenter Construction Company
Annville, Kentucky 40402
606-364-5424

East Kentucky Paving Corporation
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Grayson, Kentucky 41143
606-474-5755

C.E. Pennington Company
362 South Broadway
Lexington, Kentucky 40508
606-253-1511

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1075 Eaton Drive
Covington, Kentucky 41017
606-331-2303

Continued on next page

KACAM membership — continued

Firemaster
1371 Barnes Mill
Richmond, Kentucky 40475
606-623-4566

Ford & Son Paving Contractors
P.O. Box 246
Tompkinsville, Kentucky 42167
502-487-5818

Hinkle Contracting Company
P.O. Box 200
Paris, Kentucky 40361
606-987-3670

Ken-Tenn Construction Company
P.O. Box 429
Fulton, Kentucky 42041
502-472-3712

The Kentucky Stone Company
P.O. Box 7556
Louisville, Kentucky 40207
502-897-1731

Kentucky-Virginia Stone Company
P.O. Box 368
Middlesboro, Kentucky 40965
606-248-2594

Lake Paving Company
Grand Rivers, Kentucky 42045
502-362-8661

Mago Construction Company
P.O. Box 578
Bardstown, Kentucky 40004
502-248-3953

Marion Contracting Company
P.O. Box 466
Lebanon, Kentucky 40033
502-692-6191

Mountain Enterprises, Inc.
P.O. Box 13070
Lexington, Kentucky 40583-3070
606-223-4000

Murray Company, Inc.
P.O. Box 410
Anchorage, Kentucky 40223
502-245-8896

Ohio Valley Paving Company
P.O. Box 346
Carrollton, Kentucky 41008
502-732-6606

R. E. Gaddie, Inc.
P.O. Box 300
Bowling Green, Kentucky 42101
502-842-6341

Rodgers Construction Co.
133 Locust Hill Lane
Frankfort, Kentucky 40601
502-875-2244

Scotty's Construction, Inc.
P.O. Box 3250
Bowling Green, Kentucky 42101
502-781-3998

Southern States Asphalt Company
930 Youngs Lane
P.O. Box 8280
Nashville, Tennessee 37207
615-226-6000

Computer Services

Appalachian Computer Services, Incorporated
P.O. Box 140
U.S. Highway 25 South
London, Kentucky 40741
606-878-7900

Applied Computing Technology, Inc.
P.O. Box 765
Murray, Kentucky 42071
502-759-4779

Computer Emporium, Inc.
620 South Fifth Street
Louisville, Ky. 40202
502-582-4187

Datamax Computer Corporation
1401 Spring Bank Drive, Suite A22
P.O. Box 1862
Owensboro, Kentucky 42301
502-926-4781

Mentor Systems, Inc.
962 Delaware Avenue
Lexington, Kentucky 40505
606-231-0519

Trico Stone, Inc.
P.O. Box 236
Tompkinsville, Kentucky 42167
502-487-5894

NCR Corporation
1420 North Broadway
Lexington, Kentucky 40505
606-259-0535

Drainage Products

Armco Steel Corporation
1905 Blairmore Road
Lexington, Kentucky 40504
606-277-5307

Allmetal Manufacturing Co., Inc.
P.O. Box 5191
Evansville, Indiana 47715
812-476-1666

Education — Research & Training

University of Kentucky College of Medicine
Chandler Medical Center
Room MN-150
800 Rose Street
Lexington, Kentucky 40536
606-257-1188

Kentucky Transportation Center
College of Engineering
Transportation Research Bldg.
533 S. Limestone Street
Lexington, Kentucky 40508
606-257-1188

Election Service

Kentuckiana Election Service Co.
H.C. 80 Box 90
Eastern, Kentucky 41622
606-358-9183

Electrical

A-M Electric Co., Inc.
823 West Main Street
Louisville, Kentucky 40202
502-584-7878

Equipment & Machinery

Bunton Company
4303 Poplar Level Road
Box 33247
Louisville, Kentucky 40232
502-966-0550

Construction Machinery Corp.
Decimal Drive, P.O. Box 99096
Louisville, Kentucky 40299
502-267-9000

H.G. Shaw Equipment, Inc.
Route 4
Hickman, Kentucky 42050
502-236-3104

John Deere Industrial Equipment
115 Creekside Drive
Georgetown, Kentucky 40324
502-863-3640

Municipal Equipment Company
1441 South Preston Street
Louisville, Kentucky 40217
502-634-0527

Rudd Equipment Co.
4344 Poplar Level Road
Louisville, Kentucky 40232
502-456-4050

Whayne Supply Company
P.O. Box 35900
Louisville, Kentucky 40232
502-774-4441

Financial Services

Carroon & Black, Inc.
P.O. Box 1280
Nashville, Tennessee 37202

Professional Planning Consultants
A Division of Carroon & Black of Ohio
50 West Broad Street, Suite 1400
Columbus, Ohio 43215
614-228-5841

Flags

Colonel R.K. Walker Flags
P.O. Box 14008
Iroquois Station
Louisville, Kentucky 40214
502-366-6516

Health Care

Johnson-Mathers Health Care, Inc.
P.O. Box 232
Carlisle, Kentucky 40311
606-289-7181

Kentucky Local Government Insurance Plan (PENco)
c/o Larry Hartman
P.O. Box 32189
Louisville, Kentucky 40232
502-458-5843

Marsh & McLennan, Inc.
2400 Brown & Williamson Tower
Louisville Galleria
Louisville, Kentucky 40202
502-585-2261

Insurance

Russ Gailor & Assoc., Inc.
5358 New Cut Road
Louisville, Kentucky 40214
502-368-2576

Liquid Asphalt Materials

Asphalt Materials, Inc.
300 E. Dixie Ave.
P.O. Box 2454
Elizabethtown, Kentucky 42701
502-737-4144

Asphalt Material & Construction, Inc.
4900 West 86th Street
P.O. Box 68123
Indianapolis, Indiana 46268
317-872-6010

Big Sandy Asphalt
Division of Ashland Oil, Inc.
Hwy. 23 So., P.O. Box 526
Catlettsburg, Kentucky 41129
606-739-6788

Southern States Asphalt Company
Division of Ashland Oil, Inc.
930 Youngs Lane, P.O. Box 8280
Nashville, Tennessee 37207
615-226-6000

Southern States Asphalt Company
Division of Ashland Oil, Inc.
Barkley Terminal, Hwy. 810, P.O. Box 338
Kuttawa, Kentucky 40255
502-388-9742

Meeting & Convention Services

Capital Plaza Hotel
405 Wilkinson Boulevard
Frankfort, Kentucky 40601
502-227-5100

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KACAM SPOTLIGHT

Mentor Systems, Inc.

Mentor Systems, Inc. with 70+ employees headquartered in Lexington is Kentucky's largest software firm. Working exclusively with local government software we have 43 public sector customers in Kentucky and approximately 600 installed in 48 states. Many of our products are licensed, warranted and marketed by the IBM Corporation under the IBM label to local governments in the United States and in Canada. We also serve as IBM's national competency center for the public sector. Several of our PC software products are not only recommended by the National Association of Governments (a division of the National Association of Regional Councils NARC) but marketed under their label (NAG) to Councils of Governments throughout the nation. The number of county governments installed using Mentor software number in the hundreds, ranging from Los Angeles County California (our largest) to Charles City County Virginia (our smallest pop. under 6,000).

In addition to software products we also provide education, training, HELPLINE support, consulting services, etc. for local governments. Mentor not only specializes in automation of information for the Public Sector but is dedicated to being the best in the industry.

Russ Gailor & Associates

Russ Gailor & Assocs., Inc. was established over 40 years ago. Thomas Gailor is the president of the corporation. There are two agents who handle the insurance transactions of the agency. Joseph B. Tharp has over 25 years experience in the insurance field having been an Adjuster, Company Claims Manager, Company Branch Manager and Independent Agent. Hugh R. Jones has 10 years experience in the insurance field having been a Company Sales Manager, Independent Agent, and past recipient of the National Sales Achievement Award given by the National Association of Life Underwriters.

Presently the Gailor Agency is providing Property and Liability for the City of Leitchfield and Hardin Fiscal Court.

KACAM membership — continued

Galt House
4th & River
Louisville, Kentucky 40202
502-589-5200

Municipal Financing

Almstedt Brothers, Inc.
A Subsidiary of J.C. Bradford & Co.
425 West Market Street
Louisville, Kentucky 40202
502-589-7660

Fox, Reusch, Merit Securities, Inc.
1200 Tri-State Building
Cincinnati, Ohio 45202
513-721-1331

Seasongood & Mayer
220 Dixie Terminal Bldg.
Cincinnati, Ohio 45202
513-621-2002

First Kentucky Securities
Second National Plaza
Suite 1130
Lexington, Ky. 40507
1-800-KYBONDS

Office Supplies

M.S. Ginn Company
P.O. Box 427
Bladensburg, Maryland 20710
301-853-4221

Oil

Ashland Petroleum Company
230 East 33rd St.
P.O. Box 15040 Latonia Station
Covington, Kentucky 41015-1250
581-5800

Ashland Petroleum Company
815 River Road
Louisville, Kentucky 40206
606-589-4555

Chevron, U.S.A., Inc.
1527 Starks Building
Louisville, Kentucky 40202
502-587-7531

Pavement Sealing

G&H Pavement Sealing Co., Inc.
Highway 60 West
P.O. Box 377
Lewisport, Kentucky 42351
502-295-6888 or 3793

Printing

Harp Enterprises, Inc.
742 Werne Drive
Lexington, Kentucky 40504
606-253-2601

Photography

Film Tech, Inc.
P.O. Box 3600
569 River City Mall
Louisville, Kentucky 40201
502-587-7500

Records Management

Public Records Division
Ky. Dept. of Libraries & Archives
P.O. Box 537
Frankfort, Kentucky 40602
502-875-7000

Rock Quarry

Medusa Aggregates, Inc.
175 Moore Drive
Lexington, Kentucky 40503
(606) 278-0538

Reed Crushed Stone Company
P.O. Box 35
Gilbertsville, Kentucky
502-362-4266

Signs

Hall Signs, Inc.
3000 West Third Street
P.O. Box 515
Bloomington, Indiana 47402-0515
800-457-4444
812-332-9355

Saf-Ti-Co., Inc.
2400 Millers Lane
Louisville, Kentucky 40216
800-292-3566

Lexington Office:
825 Contract Street
Lexington, Kentucky 40505
606-233-9236

Surplus Property

Division of Surplus Property
Department of Education
514 Barrett Avenue
Frankfort, Kentucky 40601
502-564-4836

Travel Services

Aldemeyer Travel Agency
3303 Dixie Highway, Suite 203
Edgewood, Kentucky 41017
606-331-6312

Capital Travel
116 West Main Street
Frankfort, Kentucky 40601
502-875-3234

Waste Management

CECOS International, Inc.
11475 Northlake Drive
Cincinnati, Ohio 45242
513-489-8722

Waste Management of Kentucky
Louisville, Inc.
1901 Outer Loop
P.O. Box 19380
Louisville, Kentucky 40221
502-969-3112

'Kentucky soil touches all of us'

Food for thought in Kentucky

By Kentucky Agriculture Commissioner David E. Boswell

The other day, I spoke to the board of directors of one of our fine area development districts in the northern part of the Commonwealth on a subject which I feel is critical to all of us. . . the capturing of the opportunity by Kentucky farmers to produce vegetables for the fresh and processed market.

And by the time this column is published I will have met and discussed with a committee of leaders of at least four ADDs studying the feasibility of combining resources to create a regional fresh vegetable retailing, receiving and transhipping facility to accomodate farmers in the area seriously undertaking vegetable production.

Now, no one is advocating that Kentucky farmers should get out of the production of tobacco as a central cash crop. Tobacco has for centuries been the economic backbone of most Kentucky farm operations and its revenues have supported government, business and many regional economies for generations. But as inroads into tobacco's commerce continue to gradually erode the Kentucky farmer's earning power, he should have the opportunity to examine and branch out into other production areas.

Tobacco will always be with us, we hope. We believe that as long as there continues to be a production quota program, Kentucky farmers will continue to raise the best and the most burley, along with other strains, in the world. But we should be open-minded about our opportunities.

If Kentucky farmers can raise quality tobacco, then they can raise quality vegetables. There is no question that Kentucky is a prime state for the development of new vegetable production opportunities. . .and there is no question that for those farmers who are watching the agricultural marketplace, vegetables can be a solid bet.

Kentucky farmers have the experience, the technique, the equipment, the land and the climate. And they understand the considerations as to pest control and other critical production issues which for vegetables are almost identical to tobacco raising.

The main difference between the two, it seems, is the consistency of good price. A lot of the reliable price for tobacco over the years has developed from the cooperative and well-controlled and monitored way in which tobacco is produced.

When we talk about a vegetable retailing, wholesaling and transhipping facility, we're talking about a place in which all vegetables grown by producers from an entire region of the Commonwealth could be received and readied for shipment to markets already established and guaranteed the previous year. . . markets all across this great country.

These kinds of facilities work well in other parts of the southeast: In Nashville, Chattanooga, Huntington, and a new facility built by the special appropriation of millions of dollars by the State of Alabama has just been opened in Montgomery.

Where these outlets are planned well and well built, they work very well.

Last month, Kentucky farmers set out 4.5 million pepper plants and they planted seeds for another 5.5 million cucumber, eggplant, cabbage, summer and winter squash and tomato plants. A great deal of this produce will be ready to harvest before too much longer. Hopefully, these crops will be blessed by plentiful rainfall.

These activities are conducted through several growers cooperatives in Lexington, Monticello, Russell Springs, Hopkinsville and Beattyville. Other co-ops are coming, including one in Corbin.

Our cooperatives are going to be the focal points around the opening of a whole new direction in Kentucky farming. Kentucky is blessed with a pentitude of good farmers, consumers, labor, good weather, good soil and knowhow. The sky is really the limit.

Kentucky farmers are pioneers, innovators, a hardy breed, ready and willing to adapt and conquer challenges when others might become discouraged. Vegetables offer a challenge that can be extremely beneficial.

We know that we in Kentucky import from other states and countries 63 percent of the food we consume, at an annual cost of $2 billion. That means that we have the opportunity to produce nearly two-thirds more of the food we eat right here at home. . . not to mention a share of the vegetable needs across the country.

Those dollars we export for our nutrition to California and other states create 155,000 farm and farm-related jobs elsewhere. That's an extravagance we cannot afford.

Meantime, we in the Kentucky Department of Agriculture continue to be excited about what's going on right now in the field of vegetable production in the Commonwealth. We have just completed publication of a new fruits and vegetable market guide. It describes the location of every fruit and vegetable U-Pick-Em, roadside market and farmers market we have been able to learn about.

You can get copies of the directory by contacting your county agent or the Department's Division of Market Development at (502) 564-2297. And don't forget to look for the Farmers' Market at the Kentucky State Fair next month.

Sheriff training is lacking

Kentucky has no minimum requirements

From the Messenger-Inquirer, Owensboro, Ky.

Despite coming attempts to increase the opportunities for sheriff and deputy training, many small departments will face the task of operating without any state-required training.

"It's a scary thing to have someone in a life-or-death situation with no training," said John Bouvier, Daviess County sheriff.

Kentucky requires no training of sheriffs' employees, but local sheriffs expect that to change, possibly by the time the state legislature meets again in 1988.

"Before the sheriffs succession act passed (in 1984), the state had a legitimate excuse for not funding a training program that would have a turnover every four years, but now that sheriffs are trying to upgrade their offices, training has become an important concern," Bouvier said.

The state requires city police officers to pass a state-financed training program, with an additional $2,500 paid to each cadet while in training, Bouvier said. "Any training we have comes out of our own time and own pocket," Bouvier said.

Eastern Kentucky University has an accredited program in police officer training and is trying to open a 10-week training course designed for sheriffs and deputies in the fall, according to Jefferson County Sheriff Jim Greene, president of the Kentucky Sheriffs' Association.

"I think Eastern may have gotten a nudge from Western." Greene said. Western Kentucky University is beginning a program in sheriffs' training in mid-July, which will stress such non-law enforcement aspects as serving legal papers and tax collection.

Even with some training available, many departments lack the staff or finances to be able to attend these programs. "I think every police officer should have as much training as possible, but we just don't have the money to pay for it," said Sheriff Hugh Frashure of McLean County, who has two deputies.

Sheriffs from four counties contacted hope to attend the WKU classes, but none expect they will attend the first session July 20, which costs $600 for four weeks. There has been $600 donated for the first session, Greene said, but unless more donations are received, the price of the second session will be $1,200.

The Daviess County Sheriff's Office took training matters into its own hands four years ago by providing in-house training. "We have a 26-part course emphasizing everything from how to fill out a report to defensive driving and how to handle domestic disputes," Bouvier said.

Daviess County, which Bouvier said is the largest sheriff's department in the state with law enforcement capability, has drawn some area sheriff's departments to their training sessions. "It's not a very far drive from Hancock County to Daviess," Hancock Sheriff Phil Bozarth said.

Bozarth favors state-required training, but he thinks much of the training offered now is wasted.

"The state requires 40 hours of training on the breathanalyzer, but we could teach that in two or three hours," Bozarth said. "Most of it is bull."

Despite the trouble it would be to get to EKU for classes. Bouvier is still adamant about state-required training. "The state requires barbers and hairdressers to have months of training, but have neglected the sheriff's department," Bouvier said.

The state requires barbers to attend 1,500 hours of barber school, pass an exam, then serve an 18-month apprenticeship before being tested again, and then are licensed. Hairdressers and cosmetologists must complete 1,800 hours in a cosmetology school and serve a six-month apprenticeship, aside from their two examinations to be licensed.

Another aspect Bouvier points out is that the $2,500 paid to police cadets comes from a special tax on property insurance, which everyone pays. "There are people outside the city who pay for the training and get no benefits from it."

Boone County on the move as leader in growth

From the Ky. Enquirer, Covington

Northern Kentucky's Boone County, home of the Florence Mall and the Greater Cincinnati International Airport, is projected to be fastest growing of the state's 120 counties during the 10-year period 1985-1995.

According to recently released statistics from Urban Studies Center at the University of Louisville, Boone County's 1985 population of 51,623 will increase to 64,317 by 1995, which represents a 24.6% growth rate.

Gerald Newton, director of the Boone County Planning Commission, said Saturday that the news of the county's projected growth was good news, but that it does not come as a complete surprise.

"We've said all along that Boone County has all the amenities, regardless of what people are looking for," Newton said. "That means there's something in Boone County that's attracting them."

The amenities Boone County boasts include an abundance of developable farmland, access via Interstates 75 and 275, a regional shopping center, an international airport, a race track, a hospital, a large industrial park and comparatively low tax rates.

The increase is "through in-migration," or new people moving into the county, Newton said. "And once they come, they're staying."

Meanwhile, Campbell County's population is expected to decrease from 81,047 to 77,947 during the 10-year period. Kenton, the largest of the three Northern Kentucky counties with a 1985 population of 137,500, will maintain that distinction with a projected 1995 population of 146,756.

By 2020, Boone County's population is projected to have reached 86,607. Campbell County's population will continue its decline, bottoming out at 71,337 in 2020, and Kenton County's population will have reached 158,835.

The Toyota Corp. automobile plant being built near Georgetown in Scott County has upped its projected growth from 5.5% to 18.6% through 1995, the urban studies center said.

Overall, Kentucky's population is expected to grow by 7.6% from 1985-1995, reaching 4,034,290 in 1995.

County Viewpoint

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