

Unbridled

VOICE

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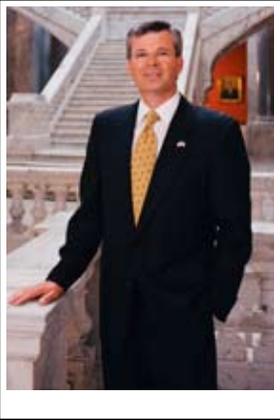
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Did you know?

The Kentucky Unbridled Spirit Gift Card can be used at the Kentucky Artisan Center at Berea, the Kentucky Horse Park, the Kentucky Historical Society and its museum store as well as all Kentucky state parks?



**COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR**

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February 2007

Kentucky is fortunate to have thousands of talented state employees who, every day, share their gifts and skills with the citizens of the Commonwealth. Each year, state employees display their ingenuity by participating in Kentucky's Employee Suggestion System, an incentive program designed to support you as you encourage good management practices across state government.

Recently, at the Governor's Mansion, 43 state employees were recognized for finding innovative ways to improve state government operations. To date, their suggestions for running the services we provide to Kentuckians more efficiently have resulted in a savings of nearly \$400,000. Since an agency can realize the savings from a suggestion for five years, the estimated five-year savings of the 43 suggestions is nearly \$2 million.

This is wonderful news. The creativity and resourcefulness within each agency of state government have produced an improvement in efficiency, both in terms of our work day and how state government uses taxpayers' dollars to help each Kentuckian.

In this edition of *The Unbridled Voice*, you can find more about the award recipients, including Linda Clements in the Cabinet for Health and Family Services. Linda's suggestion involved automating a mail-in recertification procedure and amounted to a first-year savings of \$70,783.

Her fellow state employee, Stacey Ewalt in the Finance and Administration Cabinet suggested that cabinet field representatives use state-owned vehicles instead of their personal vehicles. Her idea saw a first-year savings of nearly \$47,000. Linda and Stacey each received an award of \$2,500.

I wish to thank these individuals, the 41 other state employees who saw their ideas become reality and the others who submitted proposals. Their work is one of hundreds of examples of state government providing cost-effective and responsive services.

You can read about more ways we are improving state government in the following pages. You can also learn about David Morgan's 22 years of work preserving Kentucky's historic places. In 1979, he created the Kentucky Main Street project, which is the oldest statewide main street preservation and revitalization program in the United States. I congratulate David for his work to keep Kentucky's history alive for the next generation of Kentuckians.

Sincerely,

Ernie Fletcher, Governor
<http://governor.ky.gov/>



AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER M/F/D

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Employee Suggestion System winners pose with Personnel Cabinet Secretary, Brian J. Crall, before the ceremony held at the Governor's Mansion, Dec. 7, 2006.

Saving Money, Saving Time: Employees' Suggestions Work

"Whether they get paid for it or not, employees should submit ideas," said Employee Suggestion System Award winner Donald Redmon of Justice and Public Safety.

Redmon, who won \$2,500 for his suggestion to have inmates refurbish surplus computers, was among 43 state employees to win monetary rewards and recognition this year at the 27th Employee Suggestion System Awards Ceremony held at the Governor's Mansion on Dec. 7, 2006.

Redmon said his idea was five years in the making before it became fully implemented. "I had only been in state government a year when that suggestion came about," he said. Redmon's idea coincided with Governor Fletcher's "No Child Left Offline" program – to ensure that all Kentucky schools have access to computers.

Computers refurbished by Department of Corrections' inmates were provided to schools in low-income districts. Initially, 80 used state computers were purchased

from surplus properties, refurbished by inmates and provided to schools in low income districts. Connect Kentucky organized the distribution of computers to schools. Redmon's suggestion resulted in a first-year savings of \$44,584.

Another winner, Linda Clements, who recently retired from the Cabinet for Health and Family Services, saved the Commonwealth \$70,783 in the first-year of her idea's implementation. Her suggestion: to eliminate one costly step in the mail-in recertification procedure

to determine payment of medical premiums. Paperwork is now mailed directly from Frankfort to clients, eliminating the extra step of being mailed first to field offices throughout the state. Time and money was saved as a result.

“The workers who are on the front line know what works and what doesn’t,” Clements said. “By making useful, time-saving suggestions, they are better serving the citizens of the Commonwealth.”

Cash awards, Clements said give employees an extra incentive to submit ideas.

“Thanks to the innovation and creativity of these state employees, Kentucky saved nearly \$400,000 in the first year their ideas were implemented,” said Personnel Cabinet Secretary Brian J. Crall. “The Employee Suggestion System is an incentive program that works – recognizing employees for their achievements while also increasing efficiency in state government.”

Employees’ suggestions represent an exact first-year savings of \$384,806 since the date of implementation. The cash awards received by Employee Suggestion System winners this calendar year amounted to \$31,089.

“The workers who are on the front line know what works and what doesn’t.”

**Linda Clements
ESS Award Winner**

Cabinet secretaries presented awards to the winning recipients within their offices, each claiming to have the best staff. In terms of employee suggestions, the cabinet with the largest first-year savings - \$74,953 - was the Cabinet for Health and Family Services (CHFS). Six employees in CHFS received awards totaling \$3,418.

The Kentucky Employee Suggestion System has been reaping substantial savings for both employees and citizens of the Commonwealth since its inception in

1981. Cash awards - ranging from \$100 to \$2,500 - and certificates are awarded to employees for implementation of ideas resulting in improved safety and efficiency in operations, cost reduction and cost avoidance and improved public relations. Taxpayers benefit as government operations are streamlined, potentially making more money available for other state needs.

“I think a lot of money can be saved for the Commonwealth,” Redmon said. “There are a lot of intelligent people in state government.”

Cash awards are paid by the cabinet(s) realizing the savings. Since its establishment in 1981, first-year savings for employee’s suggestions during that time total more than \$27 million.

To submit an employee suggestion, visit www.personnel.ky.gov

Click on the Kentucky Employee Suggestion System – the light bulb icon – on the left side of the screen.

agriculture

Spay/Neuter Vouchers Available

The Kentucky Department of Agriculture (KDA) is offering pet owners with low incomes the opportunity to receive vouchers to help pay for spaying and neutering of their pets, beginning Jan. 1, 2007.

The Animal Control Advisory board has budgeted \$100,000 for the program.

“This program will reduce the number of unwanted animals in Kentucky,” said Agriculture Commissioner Richie Farmer. “That will reduce the workload and expenses of local animal shelters.”

Pet owners with low-income can get a voucher application from participating veterinarians by calling the KDA toll-free at 1-888-297-9093, or by downloading the application at www.kyagr.com.

community

KSP Troopers Recognized for DUI Enforcement Efforts

Sixteen Kentucky State Police (KSP) troopers and one sergeant were recognized at the 2006 Governor's Impaired Driving Enforcement Awards ceremony



KSP Troopers are recognized for DUI enforcement efforts at a ceremony held in Louisville in December, 2006.

held in Louisville in December. They were part of a group of 190 law enforcement officers from 186 agencies across the state recognized for their efforts to keep impaired drivers off the road. Together, these KSP troopers accounted for 1,253 impaired driving arrests during this time period. As an agency, KSP made 9,712 impaired driving arrests during this time.

Those receiving awards included: Tpr. Cory Jessup, Post 1 (76 arrests); Tpr. Dan Morck, Post 2 (105 arrests); Tpr. Erik Salman, Post 3, (46 arrests); Tpr. Jonathan Vaughn, Post 4, (66 arrests); Tpr. James Mitchell, Post 5 (36 arrests); Tpr. Delzie Kelly, Post 6 (43 arrests); Tpr. Toby Coyle, Post 7 (61 arrests); Tpr. Chris Hollon and Tpr. Toney Allen, Post 8 (59 arrests each); Tpr. Austin Hicks, Post 9 (49 arrests); Tpr. Jason York, Post 10 (74 arrests), Sgt. Steve Walker, Post 11 (184 arrests); Tpr. Mitch Harris, Post 12 (69 arrests); Tpr. Joey King, Post 13 (41 arrests);

Tpr. Shane Goodall, Post 14 (76 arrests); Tpr. Jeremy Johnson, Post 15 (70 arrests) and Tpr. Paul Herron, Post 16 (139 arrests).

Kentucky's Firefighters to Receive More than \$2.2 Million in Grants

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) has provided \$2,224,579 in direct assistance grants to 20 fire departments and first responder organizations in Kentucky through the Fiscal Year (FY) 2006 Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) program.

The AFG program awards grants to firefighters, emergency response personnel and first responders throughout the nation to enhance response capabilities and to more effectively protect the health and safety of first responders and the citizens in their communities. AFG grants

provide resources for training, first responder health and safety programs, and response equipment and vehicles.

Visitors Guide Brings New Changes

New for 2007 is a section on Abraham Lincoln and information on the upcoming bicentennial celebration which recognizes Kentucky as Lincoln's birthplace. The 176-page, full-color publication provides a wide range of visitor information, organized into the state's nine travel regions. Each region features an overall description as well as information on accommodations, campgrounds, marinas, historic sites, state parks, major events and attractions.

Copies are available by request and will be distributed at no cost. To obtain a copy of the guide, visit www.kentuckytourism.com. Call 1-800-225-8747, or stop by one of Kentucky's eight welcome centers or the visitor desk at the State Capitol.

Unbridled Spirit Gift Card Sales Soar

Kentucky Unbridled Spirit gift card sales have more than doubled this year compared to the same two-month time period in 2005. In the first two months of sales, beginning Oct. 2006, 2,251 gift cards were sold worth \$121,110.96. The Kentucky Unbridled Spirit gift card was launched Oct. 11, 2006. This card, unlike Kentucky's original



gift card, launched in 2005, can be used at several state venues. The former card could only be used at state parks.

Kentucky is the first state in the nation to create a statewide gift card. In fact, before cards were sold, the Kentucky Department of Parks sold paper gift certificates in 2004. The seed was planted and grew.

The Kentucky Unbridled Spirit gift card can be used at the Kentucky Artisan Center at Berea, the Kentucky Horse Park, the Kentucky Historical Society and its museum store and all Kentucky state parks.

The card never expires and there is never a fee to use it, reload it or spend it. Cards can be purchased in person, online or over the phone. They can be for any denomination \$10 or higher or a pre-loaded amount when bought online.

Purchase the Kentucky Unbridled Spirit gift card by calling 1-800-PARK or by going online at www.kyunbridledspirit.com.

environment

Knobs State Forest: More to See

Kentucky's newest state forest recently got bigger by an additional 429 acres, making the total acreage of Knobs State Forest in Bullitt County 1,539. The new acreage, purchased from the estate of Dr. W. Stephen Aaron, adjoins Knobs State Forest 28 miles south of Louisville.

Activities allowed in the forest at this time are hiking and wildlife viewing. Regulated hunting will be permitted in the future. Horseback riding and all-terrain-vehicles are prohibited.

The Knobs State Forest is Kentucky's first Forest Legacy Project. For information about the Forest Legacy Program, visit: www.fs.fed.us/spf/coop/programs/loa/flp.shtml



Going Green for the New Year

Did you receive an electronic gift over the holidays? The Kentucky Division of Waste Management encourages all of us to “buy green” throughout the year and to dispose of old electronics or “e-scrap” responsibly. E-scrap includes “end-of-life” telephones and cell phones, TVs, computers, audio/stereo gear, VCRs, DVDs, and video game consoles.

Electronic appliances contain toxins that can be harmful unless properly handled. An estimated 70 percent of heavy metal in landfills is from e-scrap -- and it is the fastest growing waste category in the nation. Individuals can legally dispose of electronic equipment in their garbage, provided local landfills accept it. Contact the solid waste coordinator in your county to be sure. For more information on e-scrap and other waste management issues, e-mail the Division of Waste Management at waste@waste.gov or call (502) 564-6716.

Fish & Wildlife

Long-time conservation educator Doug Travis, a 59-year employee of the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources, has been honored with a wildlife management area dedicated in his name. The former Westvaco Wildlife Management Area was recently renamed to be the Doug Travis Wildlife Management Area. Governor Ernie Fletcher attended the ceremony, held in December.



Doug Travis, 59-year employee of the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources, is honored with a wildlife management area dedicated in his name.

“Doug Travis has devoted his life to conserving and safeguarding Kentucky’s irreplaceable treasures and has taught hundreds of thousands of young Kentuckians about the importance of preserving Kentucky’s wild places and using our resources wisely,” said Governor Fletcher.

technology

Kentucky Named 8th in 2006 Digital States Survey

Kentucky has been recognized as the eighth most digitally advanced state government in the nation by the Center for Digital Government’s 2006 Digital States Survey. The 2006 survey is the first to rank the state’s digital transition since 2004, when Kentucky ranked 12th.

The biennial survey considers factors such as best practices, policies and progress in the use of digital technologies and the delivery of technology-related government services to citizens.

“Some people may not immediately think of Kentucky as a leader in e-government,” said Finance and Administration Cabinet Secretary John Farris. “Hopefully, this important national recognition will change some misconceptions of Kentucky and bring attention to the advancements made in the application of technology in the homes of Kentucky citizens and in the Commonwealth’s delivery of public services through Governor Fletcher’s Prescription for Innovation.”

tourism

Smithsonian Exhibit to Visit Old Fort Harrod State Park

How do you actually define American food? The food on the American table may not define exactly what we are as a nation, but the traditions surrounding our foods speak volumes about who we are.

Through January, a Smithsonian exhibit on American food is visiting Old Fort Harrod State Park in Harrodsburg showcasing the diversity of our eating habits.

“Key Ingredients: America by Food” delves into the historical, regional and social traditions that merge in everyday meals and celebrations of the American table.

The exhibit will be open for the public to view at Old Fort Harrod State Park’s Black Box Theater Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. and Saturdays from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m.

Old Fort Harrod State Park is offering a discounted ticket of just \$1.00 to tour the fort while visiting the Smithsonian Exhibit. For more information contact 859-734-6811 or 859-734-9614 or view the Web site at www.keyingredients.org.

State Parks Announce Camping Improvements; Changes for 2007

The Department of Parks will spend \$2.5 million this year on improvements at campgrounds across the state. Improvements include the electrical and sewage systems, bath houses and amenity and convenience improvements.

Campers should look for the following changes in 2007 at state campgrounds:

- The minimum stay for the holiday weekends of Memorial Day, July 4th and Labor Day has been reduced to three days at all parks. (Some parks previously had holiday minimum stays of up to seven days).
- Parks will continue not charging for children 16 years old and younger.
- Reservations are suggested, but not required. Reservations are taken 48 or more hours in advance. Walk-ins are still welcome.
- Computers have been installed at all campgrounds to assist with check in and customer service.

Reservations are accepted up to a year in advance for camp sites. For more information or to make camping reservations, call 1-888-459-7275 or go to www.parks.ky.gov.

Promoting Kentucky Through Signage

New Ryder Cup and FEI World Equestrian game signs have been placed on roadways across the state, along with new “Welcome to Kentucky – Birthplace of Abraham Lincoln” signs.



This is one of several “Birthplace of Abraham Lincoln” signs placed along Kentucky’s roadways.

The signs promote the upcoming sporting events and the 200th anniversary of Lincoln’s birth. Lincoln’s birthday celebration begins in Hodgenville in 2009 and runs through February 2010.

agriculture

Bright Forecast of Record Farm Receipts in 2007

Kentucky agriculture cash receipts are expected to reach a record of nearly \$4.3 billion in 2007, according to the Office of Agricultural Policy.

Economists with the University of Kentucky, College of Agriculture announced the forecast in its 2007 economic outlook. UK expects Kentucky farm receipts next year to reach \$4.296 billion, which would break the record of \$4.13 billion set in 2004.

"The 2006 results and 2007 forecast shows that Kentucky is succeeding in diversifying its agricultural industry," Commissioner Richie Farmer said. "The investments of tobacco settlement funds and the Kentucky Proud marketing program are working."

commerce

Eagle Watch Weekends

Through February, four state resort parks will participate in "Eagle Watch Weekends," a chance to see the American Bald Eagle in the wild.

These tours offer travelers a chance to view the eagles from land and water. Experts are also available to offer information about these birds and their habitat through a cooperative program with the Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

The parks, phone numbers and dates for the Eagle Watch Weekends are:

Dale Hollow State Resort Park
Jan. 26-28, Feb. 16-17.
800-325-2282

Lake Barkley State Resort Park
Jan. 26-28.
800-325-1708

Kenlake State Resort Park
Feb. 2-4.
800-325-0143

These resorts offer lodges, cottages and restaurants. Registration is required for the Eagle Watch Weekends. Call the parks for details and fee information.

In addition to Eagle Watch Weekends, Kenlake State Resort Park on Kentucky Lake, will be offering cruises on the CQ Princess, a commercial yacht that offers indoor and outdoor viewing. These additional cruises will be offered during the week. Weekday packages include rooms, meals and a cruise. Call Kenlake at 1-800-325-0143 for details.

Elk Tours at Jenny Wiley State Resort Park

Visitors to Jenny Wiley State Resort Park near Prestonsburg will have an opportunity to see the results of the elk reintroduction program with elk sighting tours.

Jenny Wiley State Resort Park will offer elk tours on the following dates in 2007: Jan. 27-28; Feb. 10, 17 and 24; and March 3 and 10. The tours cost \$12 a person and include a van ride to the viewing area at a reclaimed surface mine. Reservations are required. For more information call Jenny Wiley State Resort Park at 1-800-325-0142.

Fall Into Winter at Kentucky State Parks

The Kentucky State Parks will be offering a special "Fall Into Winter" promotion, running through Feb. 1. Visitors to any of the 17 resort parks can get one night in a lodge room and breakfast for two for \$55.95 Sunday through Thursday.

For \$99.95, guests can get one night in a lodge room (kids stay free) and a \$50 gift card on Friday or Saturday night and for \$149.95, guests can spend Friday and Saturday night in a lodge room and get a \$50 gift card.

Call 1-800-255-PARK for reservations.

Subject to availability and park-specific black-out dates.

Crawlathon and Wild Caves Day

The 26th Crawlathon will be Jan. 26-28 at Carter Caves State Resort Park near Olive Hill. Crawlathon is a weekend packed full of wild caving trips, canoeing, pit plunging, vertical workshops, proper techniques of caving workshops and kids' trips.

Registration is \$30 for adults ages 13 and older and \$15 for children 6-12. The fee includes access to all evening programs, workshops, cave tours (two trips Saturday and one trip Sunday), transportation to selected caves and a uniquely designed T-shirt. On-site registration begins at 4 p.m. on Jan. 26. Call 1-800-325-0059 for information.

economic development

Cabinet for Economic Development Secretary Gene Strong Retires

After 15 years of service to the Cabinet for Economic Development, Secretary Marvin E. "Gene" Strong Jr. announced he will retire from his position as secretary effective January 31, 2007.

"It has been a privilege and distinct honor to serve as secretary of the Economic Development Cabinet for nearly 14 years," said Secretary Strong. "I appreciate the support I have received over the years from three Governors, the Kentucky General Assembly, the Partnership Board, a host of global business leaders and the Kentucky economic development community. I am especially thankful for the outstanding and talented staff that serves the cabinet."

Strong began his tenure with the Cabinet for Economic Development as deputy secretary in December 1991 under former Governor Brereton Jones and

was named secretary of the cabinet in March 1993 by the Kentucky Economic Development Partnership Board. Since becoming secretary, new manufacturing and supportive industry jobs in the commonwealth have soared to record levels with more than 274,500 new jobs being created. Total estimated capital investment in the state has increased by more than \$34.5 billion.

“Secretary Strong has done an outstanding job of bringing jobs and economic development to Kentucky,” said Governor Fletcher. “I have worked with Gene going back to my days in Congress, and he has done an exemplary job of representing Kentucky around the world.”

“I’m proud to have been a part of Governor Fletcher’s administration over the last three years,” said Strong. “I’ve had the privilege to travel all over the world with him in pursuit of new and expanding business opportunities for the state. He is a tremendous asset to the state’s economic development efforts and I truly am grateful for his support.”

Prior to joining the Cabinet, Strong spent 11 years as executive vice-president for a national real estate development company based in Lexington, where his duties included marketing and negotiating office and industrial real estate transactions throughout the U.S. He successfully negotiated and finalized real estate transactions with many of America’s Fortune 500 companies.

“I feel the time has come to enjoy the next stage of my life,” added Strong. “The time commitment required to successfully perform this position is more than I want to continue at this point. I am very much looking forward to spending more time with my family, especially the opportunity to enjoy my grandchildren.”

ethics commission

Ethics Training

May you have lunch with a prospective vendor? May you accept an honorarium

from a trade association? May you accept employment with a company regulated by your state agency?

All employees within the Executive Branch are expected to comply with the laws provided in the Executive Branch Code of Ethics, KRS Chapter 11A. The Executive Branch Ethics Commission provides free training explaining how the Executive Branch Code of Ethics applies to state officials, officers and employees. Some of the topics covered by the training include jurisdiction, the acceptance of gifts by employees, solicitation, contracting with state agencies, representation before state agencies, conflicts of interest, endorsements, outside employment, post-employment and statements of financial disclosure requirements.

The staff of the Executive Branch Ethics Commission will provide up to a 3-hour basic ethics presentation for your agency at no charge. This class can be tailored to your specific agency and will focus on particular issues or situations that your agency faces, including many “hands-on” activities. Sessions can be held at your agency location or we will locate training space, if necessary. All materials will be provided by the Executive Branch Ethics Commission. Just bring your questions.

To help educate officials, officers and employees of your agency, please contact Daphne Criscillis at 502-564-7954 or daphne.criscillis@ky.gov to schedule a basic ethics presentation.

health & family services

New Diabetes Centers of Excellence

Six Diabetes Centers of Excellence will be established in health departments around the state this year. The program is designed to help Medicaid members and others with diabetes to better manage the disease through a unique partnership involving the patient, primary care physician, local health department and community resources, such as

hospitals, in order to improve care and the patient’s quality of life.

More than 15,000 Medicaid members have been diagnosed with diabetes in the 33 counties served by the district and county health departments selected to establish centers. The six health departments which received \$100,000 each include: Purchase, Barren River, Madison County, Lake Cumberland, Lincoln Trail and Floyd County.

The Department of Public Health within the Cabinet for Health & Family Services, will measure outcomes by tracking patient progress, including the number of doctor visits and medical costs to Medicaid.

transportation

The year 2006 proved that using seat belts saved lives in Kentucky. The Commonwealth marked a five-year low in highway fatalities on the state’s roadways in 2006, with 78 fewer deaths on Kentucky roads than there were in 2005. In 2005, 71 percent of the people who died in Kentucky traffic crashes were not wearing seatbelts.

The issue of “buckling up” took center stage when Governor Ernie Fletcher championed the primary seatbelt law and advocated its successful passage during the 2006 Kentucky General Assembly. The law allows officers to pull over motorists solely for not buckling up. Motorists were given a six-month grace period before actual citations were issued. As of January 1, 2007, violation of the law results in a \$25 fine.



Guard Your Household Against a Poisonous Intruder

Carbon Monoxide: The Silent Killer

With another heating season upon us, Kentuckians are urged to learn about the dangers of carbon monoxide – a silent killer that sneaks into the body with an invisible, odorless, colorless gas created when fuels such as gasoline, wood coal, natural gas, propane, oil and methane burn incompletely. An estimated 300 people die each year in the United States as a result of carbon monoxide poisoning.

In the home, heating and cooking units that burn fuel are potential sources of carbon monoxide. Vehicles or generators running in an attached garage can also produce dangerous levels of carbon monoxide.

Risk/Symptoms

Infants, pregnant women and people with conditions that limit the body's ability to use oxygen, can be severely affected at lower concentrations of carbon monoxide.

Symptoms of carbon monoxide poisoning mimic those of common ailments such as the flu or food poisoning. They include shortness of breath, nausea, headache, dizziness, blurred vision or feeling light-headed.

Fresh Air

If you think you are suffering from carbon monoxide poisoning, you should get fresh air immediately. Open doors and windows, turn off fuel burning appliances and leave the house. Go to an emergency room and tell the physician you suspect carbon monoxide poisoning.

Safety tips inside the home:

- Install carbon monoxide alarms listed by an independent testing laboratory. Place alarms in a central location outside each sleeping area.
- Test carbon monoxide alarms at least once a month.
- Carbon monoxide alarms are not substitutes for smoke alarms. Know the different sounds.

- Have fuel-burning heating equipment (fireplaces, furnaces, water heaters, wood and coal stoves, space or portable heaters) and chimneys inspected by a professional every year before cold weather sets in.
- When using a fireplace, open the flue for adequate ventilation.
- Never use your oven to heat your home.
- When buying an existing home, have a qualified technician evaluate the integrity of the heating and cooking systems, as well as the sealed spaces between the garage and house.

Safety tips outside the home:

- If you need to warm a vehicle, remove it from the garage immediately after starting it. Do not run a vehicle, generator or other fueled engine or motor indoors, even if garage doors are open. Make sure the exhaust pipe of a running vehicle is not covered with snow.
- During and after a snowstorm, make sure vents for the dryer, furnace, stove and fireplace are clear of snow build-up.

- Never use barbecue grills – which can produce carbon monoxide – in the home, garage or near building openings. Use them only outdoors.
- When camping, remember to use battery-powered lights in tents, trailers and motor homes.

Hand Washing Works

Now that cold and flu season is upon us, the Center for Disease Control and Prevention reminds everyone to wash their hands often and well.

To wash your hands effectively:

- Use soap and water.
- Rub hands together for at least 15 seconds, covering all surfaces of the hands, fingers and wrists.
- Rinse with water and dry thoroughly.
- Use a paper towel to turn off the faucet and open the bathroom door.
- Washing your hands frequently helps reduce the spread of germs that cause illness.

Why Weight Kentucky?

Feeling weighed down to the point that your back hurts, your knees hurt, you have stomach ailments, your blood pressure is soaring and you have little energy to carry you through the day? “Why Weight Kentucky,” offered to state employees insured through the Kentucky Employee Health Insurance Program, can help you fight the battle of the bulge. The program, designed for Kentucky through its health-benefits administrator, Humana, and ActiveHealth, focuses on obese employees.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 63 percent of adults in Kentucky are either overweight or obese. The Why Weight Kentucky program will provide weight education and solutions to state employees and their dependents.

Kentucky spends more than \$1 billion on obesity related illness every year and is now one of the first states to offer a wellness plan to fight obesity among state employees.

“Why Weight Kentucky” is a key part of Governor Fletcher’s ‘Get Healthy Kentucky’ plan, and is intended to not only lower obesity rates and associated health care costs, but more importantly, to provide a richer, more active life for our employees,” said Personnel Cabinet Secretary Brian Crall. “We approached Humana and ActiveHealth to develop a plan which allows us to identify and assist those most willing to accept support in their battle with weight and provide them with the assistance they need. This proactive approach will enhance quality of life for all affected state employees and their dependents.”

To see if you qualify for Why Weight Kentucky, visit www.kehp.ky.gov.

Click on KEHP’s 2007 Plan and scroll down to Why Weight Kentucky.

Spotlight

Kentucky Heritage Council Executive Director & State Historic Preservation Officer David L. Morgan retires After 22 Years

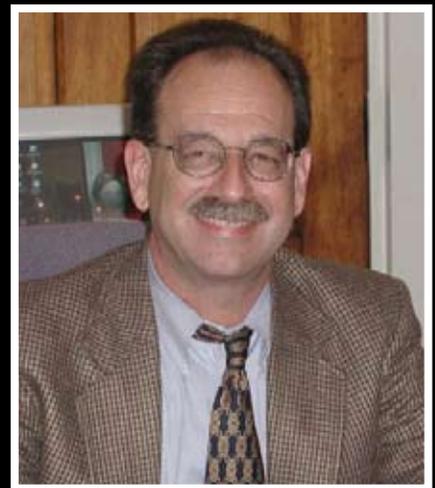
No doubt the Kentucky landscape would look much different today had David L. Morgan not taken the career path that he did. Fortunately, he recognized his love of historic buildings early on and instead of becoming an architect chose to focus on preservation. Now after 29 years with the Kentucky Heritage Council / State Historic Preservation Office -- the last 22 as executive director and state historic preservation officer -- Morgan has retired from a post he has held since Martha Layne Collins first appointed him in 1984.

"I've been so privileged to be able to work with a variety of people from all over the state, and after all these years, that is what I am going to miss the most," Morgan said. "I can't even begin to name all of these individuals but these are the people on the front lines in every community in every county of the state, usually volunteers, who are actively working to save and preserve their local heritage. I also grew up and worked with a whole generation of committed public servants who started working in Frankfort about the same time that I did, and looking back, we were able to accom-

plish some amazing things over the last 30 years."

Morgan has survived funding crises, shifting political priorities and five governors on both sides of the political aisle by fostering an entrepreneurial approach to address challenges and change. Throughout his tenure, the agency has achieved many successes at the federal, state and local level based on three principles: that all preservation must happen locally, that partnerships are essential for success, and that historic preservation addresses many important issues facing the state. These ideals have translated into the Heritage Council being active in a variety of important statewide initiatives pertaining to affordable housing, jobs' creation, economic development, community revitalization, environmental conservation and building quality of life.

"David Morgan's contribution to preserving the Commonwealth has been truly historic," said George Ward, Commerce Cabinet Secretary. "Not only did he have the knowledge of why buildings, battlefields or structures were worthy of saving; he taught me and countless



David Morgan, retired Executive Director, Kentucky Heritage Council

others why preservation was vital to a thriving economy. David knew that future growth could be balanced against the needs of preserving our past."

A native of Oxford, Ohio, Kentucky captured Morgan's attention as a student at Centre College. Following internships with the Heritage Council (formerly the Kentucky Heritage Commission) and graduation, he joined the agency full time in 1977 and went on to earn a master's degree in historic preservation from Columbia University.

Thanks to Morgan

In 1979 Morgan created the Kentucky Main Street Program, the oldest statewide main street program in the country, which encourages downtown revitalization within the context of historic preservation.

Today the Kentucky Main Street Program has 110 participating communities from Paducah to Ashland that have since reinvested more than \$2 billion in their communities.

Also because of Morgan's encouragement that communities apply in unison, Kentucky has remained the top state in the White House Preserve America initiative since its inception, today with 65 designated Preserve America Communities, three neighborhoods and one historic district.

Kentucky was also one of the first states to focus on rural preservation. Created in 1991, the Heritage Council's Civil War Sites Preservation Program has been widely hailed as a national model because of its proactive focus on identification, protection, preservation and education. In 2005, central Kentucky was selected as one of two regions nationally for the Rural Heritage Development Initiative pilot project of the National Trust for Historic Preservation, in partnership with the Heritage Council and Preservation Kentucky, Inc. Goals are to utilize historic, cultural and natural resources to develop preservation-based rural economic development strategies.

Another example of the agency's approach to innovative partnerships is the Kentucky Archaeological Sur-

vey, a program shared between the Heritage Council and University of Kentucky Department of Anthropology, which provides archaeological services and educational programs to public and private agencies and assists with the preservation of historic sites.

The federal Transportation Enhancement program has been particularly successful in Kentucky, with more than \$110 million awarded to transportation-related historic preservation projects since 1991. Morgan also engineered a partnership between the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet and Federal Highway Administration, Kentucky Division to draft a landmark Memorandum of Agreement for widening historic Paris Pike using a context-sensitive design to retain the historic nature of the route. This led to a national award, the John H. Chafee Trustees Award for Outstanding Public Policy, presented in 2002 by the National Trust.

Morgan's Legacy Honored

To honor his legacy, Preservation Kentucky has created the David L. Morgan Endowed Fund "to support historic preservation projects throughout the state and maintain David's legacy of work in Kentucky," according to Joanna Hinton, executive director. A farewell dinner in Morgan's honor November 10 at the newly restored Henry Clay Hotel in Louisville raised several thousand dollars for the endowment and drew nearly 200 people.

In 2002 Morgan was named a Centre College Distinguished Alumnus. In 2004, National Trust President Richard Moe honored him with a President's Award, which read in part, "In grateful appreciation for his outstanding leadership in tirelessly advocating for historic preservation causes... His dedication to the preservation of Kentucky's significant historic resources has earned him the admiration of preservationists throughout the Commonwealth and across the nation." In March, the National Conference of State Historic Preservation Officers honored Morgan with a Lifetime Achievement Award in recognition of a current SHPO, Deputy SHPO or staff person who has made a significant, long-term contribution to historic preservation.

Morgan will retire to Washington, DC, where he will join his wife, Marcia. They have a son, Ned, a freshman at the University of Kentucky.

Heritage Council Site Protection Program Manager, Dr. David Pollack has been named by the 16-member Kentucky Heritage Council to serve as interim executive director until a successor is appointed. Pollack is also director of the Kentucky Archaeological Survey. A job description for the executive director position is posted at the Heritage Council Web site, www.heritage.ky.gov.



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