



Someplace Special

Hickman County

Kentucky Work Ready Communities In Progress

APPLICATION

Hickman

1 Name of County

2 High School Graduation Rate (most recent state NCLB reporting)

100.00%

List Source/Method: i.e. summer 2014 5 year adjusted Cohort method

AFGR (Cohort)

Would you like to include high schools that are not in the traditionally reported graduation rate shown above?

NA

If so, please enter revised graduation rate here. Please **attach** a list of schools included and your calculations.

3 Educational Attainment Rate (ages 25-64)

20.0

(Source: US Census, most recent American Community Survey five-year estimates)

4 Community Commitment

(check off)

Name of Organization

- Economic Development
- Elected Official(s)
- Education
- Workforce Development
- Business and Industry

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Hickman County Economic Development Authority
All Hickman County Local Governments
Hickman Co Schools, WKCTC, MSU
West KY Workforce Investment Board
Hickman Fulton Co RECC (and others)

Attach meeting minutes and meeting attendance sheets showing these signatures. Letters of Commitment from various organizations are helpful as well.

5 Percentage of Households with Broadband Internet Access Available

99.9

(Source: broadband.gov)

Rural or Urban County

Rural

6 Are you including criteria for occupational attainment?

Yes

(**Attach** narratives and list sources and calculations)

7 Your Contact Information (primary contact for your county application)

Kenny Wilson

270-653-4369

hickmancountyjudgeexec@gmail.com

name

phone

email

Mailing Address

116 S. Jefferson Clinton, KY. 42031

TABLE OF CONTENTS

TEAM MEMBERS

Kenny Wilson
Judge Executive

Sabrina Tucker
Hickman County
Adult Education

Melissa Goodman
Hickman County
Cooperative Extension

Casey Henderson
Hickman County Schools

Kevin Estes
Hickman County Schools

Beverly Hopkins
Hickman County Schools

Debbie Weatherford
Hickman Fulton County
RECC

Deena Pittman
Chamber of Commerce

Ivan Potter
Arts Council, Chairman

Mary Anne Medlock
Purchase Area
Development District

Hickman County, Kentucky

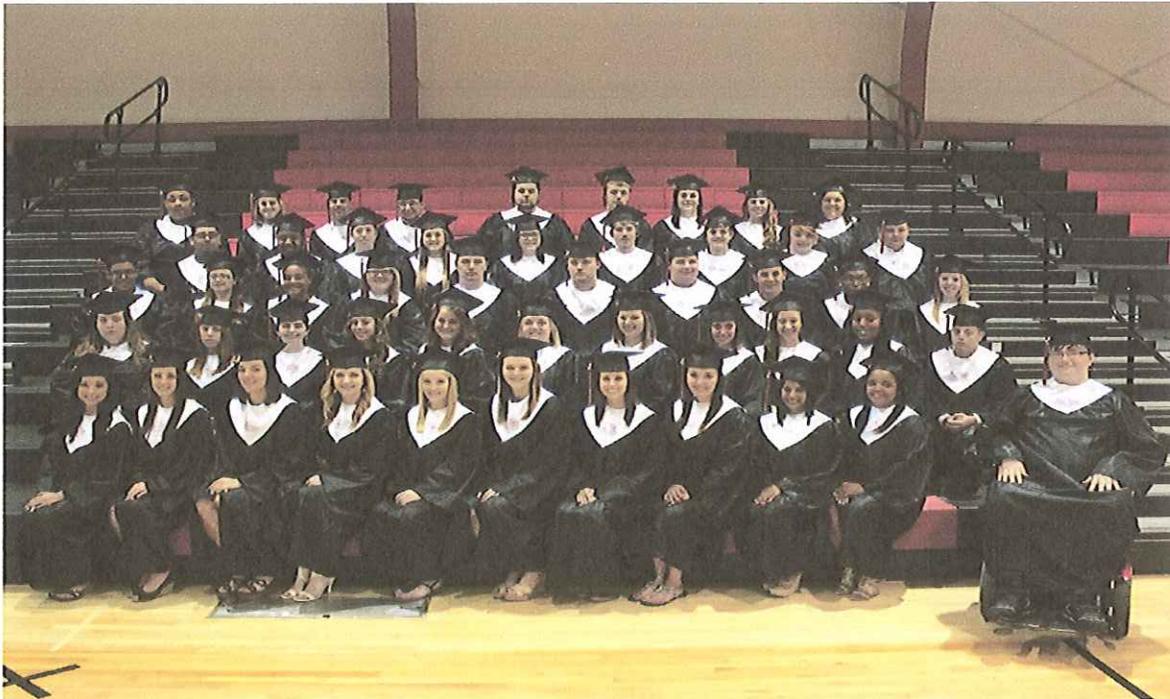
1. Graduation Rate
2. National Career Readiness Certificate Holders
3. Education Attainment
4. Soft Skills Measurement
5. Digital Literacy
6. Supplemental Criteria
7. Community Commitment

Appendix

- A. Letter of Intent to Participate
- B. Columbus Belmont State Park
- C. Hickman County High School Mission Statement
- D. Resolutions
- E. Work Ready Community Pictures
- F. Team Meeting Agendas, Meeting Minutes and Signature Pages
- G. Newspaper Articles



Chapter One Graduation Rate



Hickman County High School is a School of Distinction, with a College and Career Readiness score of 100, and 77 percent of students in 2014 being either college or career ready, according to KDE standards.

In partnership with and in service to our community, the mission of Hickman County Schools is to prepare every graduate to be college and career ready. Hickman County Schools is a small rural school system off the banks of the Mississippi River with 740 students. Students receive instruction in core content courses but also have a plethora of choices for additional opportunities to be college and career ready.

The Hickman County school staff, certified and classified, work toward establishing and maintaining high expectations for our students while creating a positive learning environment that is safe and productive. Our faculty receives extensive professional development in culture building, diverse learning styles, and highly effective teaching and learning strategies. Hickman County continues to analyze school culture, as well as current and on-going test data, in efforts to ensure academic and personal excellence.

Hickman County Schools services students beginning at age 3- and 4-year-olds and continue offering rigorous life-long learning process through graduation. Hickman County High School currently offers seven dual-enrollment classes (in algebra, English, public speaking, agriculture, psychology and youth non-profit) and nine dual-credit courses (in auto body, business, computer application, health sciences, machine tool, and welding), and fifteen online courses offered through a partnership with West Kentucky Community and Technical College in Paducah and Murray State University in Murray. Graduates of Hickman County High School can leave high school with up to 35 college credits or receive industry certifications in several vocational programs, all free to the student and paid for through the Falcon Academy of local sponsors.

Chapter One
Graduation Rate

Hickman County High School is committed to developing College and/or Career Ready students by instilling pride, motivation, and ownership of academic and personal excellence. Our system wants to ensure that each student obtains this excellence regardless of socio-economic status, race or gender. Hickman County High School is proud of its school average on the ACT of 21.56 for 2015 and believes this is a testament to the excellence of all the students.

Table 1 AFGR for HICKMAN COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL

ACADEMIC YEAR	GRADUATION RATE	METHOD
2010-2011	69.9	AFGR
2011-2012	75.7	AFGR
2012-2013	100	AFGR (Cohort)
2013-2014	100	AFGR (Cohort)

Source: Kentucky Department of Education

Hickman County High School has implemented a plan to continue to maintain a graduation rate of 100%.

The graduation data from the Kentucky Department of Education (KDE) for Hickman County High School (HCHS) located in Table 1 shows great gains over a three year period with a 100 percent AFGR for the class of 2013 and a maintaining 100 percent for the class of 2014. HCHS ranked number one for graduation rate in the state of Kentucky for 2013 and 2014. In addition, HCHS achieved 100 points in College and Career Readiness for 2014, having 76.9 percent College and Career Readiness rate.

Below is a list of key strategies that will allow Hickman County High School to sustain the graduation rate:

1. College and Career Readiness

Hickman County High School's mission is to develop students to be College and/or Career Ready. The process for preparing students to be college and career ready does not begin in high school but early on in preschool and elementary school. In partnership with the Fulton County Area Technology Center and Hickman County High School, we believe the following is vital to providing our students the necessary tools to be college and career ready:

- *Rigorous cross-discipline course work that prepares students for college and careers*
- *Provide hands-on and thought provoking skills that develop our students' skills towards a career or transferable to other careers or higher learning*
- *Educate students about potential careers that allow Hickman County students to be employable in the county, state, and global markets*
- *Continued partnerships with community to develop employable or transferable skills*

Chapter One

Graduation Rate

2. Career Pathways

Hickman County High School and Fulton County Area Technology Center offer twelve (12) career pathways to students to ensure every student has the opportunity to pursue a pathway and become career ready. HCHS goal is for every student to complete a pathway of his/her choice, become preparatory, and successfully pass the KOSSA, Work Keys, and/or Industry Certification. Career pathways at HCHS include culinary, family and consumer management, administration support, business technology, agriculture power and structures, and environmental science. Career pathways at ATC include health science, information support services, machine tech, automotive maintenance, carpentry, and business management. In addition, the ATC is pursuing welding as a new pathway due to the industry on the river.

3. Counseling Model

Hickman County High School guidance department is committed to ensuring each student gets individual guidance on academics, personal growth, and career choice. The success of the Falcon Academy and ensuring each student meets his/her goals is the responsibility of the counselor and counselor's assistant. HCHS commitment to achieving this success began in 2010 with the creation of the counselor's assistant position to maximize the guidance of the students and to meet their needs.

Each student at HCHS has an Individual Learning Plan (ILP) which begins in the 6th grade and is monitored/revised each year to assist in preparing for future college or career aspirations. The process at HCHS begins in the middle school with every student enrolled in a practical living and vocational studies class. In PLVS class every student completes a career skill and interest inventory, sets academic and career goals, and creates and maintains a resume. Throughout high school the guidance counselor and/or the counselor's assistant meets individually with students to ensure information is up to date, correct and especially to ensure pathways and dual credit courses are followed. The ILP process allows students to connect with post-secondary institutions and the Kentucky Higher Education Assistance Authority (KHEAA).

4. Postsecondary Partnerships

Hickman County High School offers the Falcon Academy to students meeting benchmarks on ACT, COMPASS, and/or postsecondary institutions. In partnership with Murray State University and West Kentucky Career and Technical Center, The Falcon Academy is a dual credit opportunity for students and is free of charge. The Falcon Academy obtains sponsorships from the community and reduced tuition from Murray State University and West Kentucky Career and Technical Center to ensure each student eligible for dual credit classes receives these classes free of charge. These partnerships are crucial to providing students the experiences to be successful and to ease the transitions beyond high school. Because of these partnerships, the class of 2014 graduated with over 1150 college credit hours, and the class of 2015 earned 633 college credit hours.

National Career Readiness Certificate

Three local organizations have authority to offer ACT's WorkKeys: the Hickman County Board of Education, the Fulton County Area Technical Center, and the Hickman County Adult Education Center. Regional organizations able to offer the assessment include the Kentucky Career Centers, West KY Workforce Investment Board, and West KY Community & Technical College.

The Hickman County Community Team has developed a plan to reach the Work Ready Community's required 9% and 15% benchmarks in the next three and five years, respectively. The plan includes providing high school seniors and adult education participants a National Career Readiness Certificate (NCRC), like many Kentucky counties have successfully implemented in their attempts to raise their NCRC rates. The final piece of the plan includes a unique partnership between the Hickman County Adult Education Center and the Hickman County Industrial Development Authority, which will help the county create a strong, evidenced-based program to demonstrate that Hickman County has a skilled workforce which is essential to the county's efforts for industrial recruitment.

Current NCRC Status

When the community began pursuing the Work Ready Community In-Progress designation in January 2015, only 71 residents (2.51% of working age labor force) had earned their National Career Readiness Certificate. Most of these individuals were former high school students that had demonstrated career readiness by earning their NCRC or were enrolled in Fulton County Area Technology Center courses. Others who had earned their NCRC were dislocated workers, job seekers, and adult education participants. In order to meet Work Ready Community goals, 255 more residents will have to earn their certificates within three years to reach 9%, and 424 more residents will have to earn their certificate within five years to reach 15%.

The Community Team recognized that in order to reach the NCRC benchmark rates, local employer involvement would be essential. But they quickly realized that none of the local employers actually utilized the NCRC in their hiring practice because they were not aware of it and they did not understand it. In addition, the team recognized that paying for the NCRC would present a challenge to many of the county's low-income residents.

County Judge/Executive Kenny Wilson visited each local employer, including the school district, to encourage them to utilize the NCRC to identify potential training area in their current workforce in order to increase productivity. He also encouraged them to become familiar with the scoring methodology and explore implementing the NCRC as part of their overall hiring rubric; as well as, consider WorkKey job-profiling for specific key positions within their organizations.

Judge/Executive Wilson then approached the Hickman County Industrial Development Authority requesting that the economic development organization offset the cost of NCRC testing for any Hickman County resident. The development authority approved \$2500, which will cover the testing fees for 114 individuals. Without their funding support and the support of the Hickman County School District who has obligated funds to pay for each senior's fees, it would take the county many years to achieve NCRC benchmark goals.

The West Kentucky Education Cooperative has established a separate WorkKeys Realm ID number that will allow any of their Adult Education Centers, including Hickman County, to administer the WorkKeys to any resident or employer—expanding their opportunity to serve the community and not just those needing to earn their GED.

Let's Show the World What We've Got

Judge/Executive Wilson utilized Operation Workforce funding from the West Kentucky Workforce Investment Board to purchase newspaper ads and place posters around the county. Using the theme, *Let's Show the World What We've Got*. The ads and the posters are designed to help educate employers and residents on Hickman County's competitiveness in a global economy by explaining how the National Career Readiness Certificates validates worker skills unlike any other tool available.

We compete against communities
all over the world for jobs.

**Let's Show
the World
What
We've Got** 

Prove your skills by earning a
National Career Readiness Certificate.
Show the world what we all know:
Hickman County can compete.

Until May 20th, the Hickman County Economic Development Authority will cover the cost for testing for any Hickman County resident at the Hickman County Adult Education Center. Pick up your free testing voucher at the County Judge/Executive's office located at 116 Jefferson Street in Clinton. For more information, call Judge/Executive Kenny Wilson at 270-633-4753.

By April 2015, the number of NCRCs earned had increased to 96 certificates earned. By June, that number had increased to 124 thanks to the school district, which is the county's largest employer. To help their personnel understand the nature of the WorkKeys and the types of skills it measures, the school district utilized professional development time to administer WorkKeys to 27 of its staff. This gave the district an opportunity to demonstrate how the WorkKey's can validate skills, not only for their students but for the entire county.

The Community Team believes that with the additional NCRCs earned since January 2015, they have built a good foundation. They have established the rubric below to help them stay on track until they reach the required 9% and 15% as the county moves forward in achieving full Work Ready Communities status.

Year	Base Number	High School Seniors	Adult Education	Hickman County IDA	Total NCRC's
June 2015	124	53	20	40	237
June 2016	237	50	25	40	352
June 2017	352	50	30	34	466

Future Plans

The Community Team understands that there are three stakeholders in the NCRC process: the school district, adult education, and the Hickman County Industrial Development Authority. It will take the participation of all three to help Hickman County achieve NCRC benchmarks.

- To help support the county's efforts to increase the number of NCRCs earned by the working age labor force, the school district has established a policy where every senior will take the WorkKeys in hopes of earning a National Career Readiness Certificate. On August 27, 2015, the high school will begin testing its 53 seniors.
- To help support the county's efforts to increase the number of NCRCs earned by the working age labor force, the Hickman County Industrial Development Authority has authorized funds to pay for 114 individuals to earn their NCRC.
- To help support the county's efforts to increase the number of NCRCs earned by the working age labor force, the Hickman County Adult Education Center, a member of the West Kentucky Educational Cooperative, will increase its efforts toward offering instruction, encouraging citizens to earn NCRC, and supporting those employers who have committed to supporting the Work Ready Communities process to implement NCRC testing for their current and future employees.

Other Stakeholders in the Process of Raising Hickman County NCRC Rates

- Circuit County judges can assist in vocational rehabilitation of people coming before their courts to make earning this employability tool part of their work portfolio.
- West Kentucky Community & Technical College's Workforce Solutions staff can refer local employers for WorkKey job profiling services, therefore encouraging the local labor force to pursue NCRC certification.
- Kentucky Career Centers can develop a roster of companies that utilize the NCRC as part of their pre-hire rubric as well as encourage veterans and dislocated workers to pursue NCRC certification.

EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT - NARRATIVE #3

Hickman County is currently listed to have a 20% educational attainment rate in the 25-64 age group. The American Community Survey results from 2009-2013 do not take in effect the education culture community changing program the Falcon Academy.

The Falcon Academy established in 2010 by the Hickman County Schools District gives our young adults the opportunity to take a multitude of dual credit classes through WKCTC and Murray State University while still in high school. This effort helps ensure the success of our students as they pursue a diploma in the college of their choice through a more rigorous course schedule at a reduced expense for our families. Students are given the opportunity to take courses from approximately \$50.00 per 6 hours of college credit to \$450.00 per course online within their regular daily schedule of high school classes.

Dual Credit Hours taken by Hickman County students the past 5 years:

2010-2011	54 Seniors	777 Credit hours
2011-2012	48 Seniors	842 Credit hours
2012-2013	37 Seniors, 64 Juniors	982 Credit hours
2013-2014	65 Seniors, 60 Juniors	1150 Credit hours
2014-2015	53 Seniors, 31 Juniors	1013 Credit hours

The curriculum for the Falcon Academy is very rigorous. The academic expectations for student achievement in this program are very high and require a certain level of individual motivation to participate. Any student who does not perform to their academic potential may be subject to a reduction in course offerings during the remainder of their involvement in the Falcon Academy. The administration will reserve the right to do whatever it takes to assist our students in academic success. Failure is simply not an option!

THE FALCON ACADEMY HAS CHANGED HICKMAN COUNTY SCHOOLS

- Our students understand how to do blackboard, CANVAS and other programs which help them to communicate with college professors at each of our local universities.
- It has led to increased student attendance. Top county school in the state!! Over the past 4 years, Hickman County has ranked as high as 2nd.
- 100% graduation rate and zero dropouts since the Falcon Academy has begun.
- We rank 1st in the state of Kentucky in College and Career Readiness, up from 140th four years ago.
- Office discipline has gone from 800 to less than 300 in the past four years
- Students at Hickman County now have the hope and confidence that they can further their post-secondary and have a better life.

The upward spiral of Educational Attainment in Hickman County is due to the fact that these 4764 dual credit hours earned have been FREE to students and parents. The impact of every student leaving Hickman County with an average of 17 college hours attained or

equivalent to one college semester is saving the students and parents an average of \$15,000. What an economic development package that is!!!

Sixty two community members along with the Robbie Rudolph Four Rivers Scholarship foundation have paid for every dual credit hour since the beginning of the Falcon Academy in 2010. Dr. Terry Holliday, Commissioner of Education in Kentucky has called the Falcon Academy the number one dual credit program in the state. Commissioner Holiday states in his education blog:

- Student who take dual credit courses were 2.2 times more likely to enroll in higher education.
- Students who took dual credit course were two times more likely to return for a second year of college.
- Students who took dual credit courses were 1-7 times more likely to complete a college degree.

Students taking Falcon Academy classes are reaching new academic heights according to KCEWS statistics. GPA's for Hickman County students was 3.20 in 2011 compared to a state average of 2.81 and in 2012 it was 3.26 locally versus 2.86 for the state. KEES money awarded for 2011 was \$1355 compared to a state average of \$1029 and \$1444 in 2012 versus \$1089 for the state average. In fact, the GPA for Falcon Academy classes in 2014 – 2015 in 3.45. Student success = Educational Attainment.

PLANS TO INCREASE EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

There is great excitement in Hickman County as the first class of Falcon Academy students are beginning to graduate. Some are graduating in 2.5 years while others in 3 years due to the dual credit hours gained in high school. Not only are student loans and costs less, but the confidence and experience of doing post-secondary work is helping our students as they apply for post-secondary jobs. The Hickman County Community will continue to pursue these ongoing programs to increase the percentage of the work force with post-secondary diplomas.

- Continuing the Falcon Academy and paying for all dual credit classes. This gives Hickman County students a head start to educational attainment. No other county in the state does this but Hickman County. This should tell prospective employees how we value education.
- Continue to aggressively pursue graduation for all high school students. Three years without a dropout, 100% graduation rate and top student attendance by a county school in the state are bench marks we do not want to relinquish.
- Partnering with WKCTC and Murray State to help identify people who are close to graduation but have dropped out for various reasons.

The College and Career Readiness initiatives enabling Hickman County to score 100.6 along with three listed initiatives has Hickman County in a rapid upward acceleration of Educational Attainment. The latest data from KCWS show Hickman County students attending college at a

70% rate with the numbers of Associate and Bachelor's degrees increasing. Thus it is felt that Hickman County can easily reach the 25% target in three years and 32% within five years.

PLAN TO DECREASE THE NUMBER OF HICKMAN COUNTY RESIDENTS WITHOUT A HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA OR EQUIVALENCY CERTIFICATE

Hickman County Adult Education provides services such as adult education classes, GED preparation, family literacy instruction, English as a second language classes, workforce education such as workplace skills and the National Career Readiness Certificate (NCRC) and reading instruction for eligible Kentuckians. Hickman County Adult Education is operated by the West Kentucky Educational Cooperative, which operates multiple adult education centers in the Purchase Region.

Hickman County has 513 residents (18% of the 18-64 population) who don't have a high school diploma or a GED credential, according to the 2008-2012 American Community Survey.

To meet stated goals of reducing those numbers by 3% in three years and 5 % in five years (bringing the total of Hickman residents without a high school diploma or GED to 13%), the following action steps are planned:

- *Establish and/or utilize satellite adult learning facilities such as the new Hickman E-Learning Center located within the senior citizen building to add to the venues at the main adult education center located with the Hickman Economic Development Board, and the adult education program at the Hickman County Detention Center.*
- *Establish extended hour classes to better accommodate students who have day jobs.*
- *Enhance opportunities for "distance learning" by helping coordinate and monitor student learning from the top on-line GED preparation sites.*
- *Increase marketing efforts in a wide range of formats and media to reach the older adult population, encouraging them to enroll in classes.*

Hickman County High School

Hickman County High School, along with community leaders, work force, and the community education director, has developed a partnership to lead, guide, and direct our students in developing the soft skills needed to be employable and successful upon graduation. The students of Hickman County High School participate in a variety of programs that focus on the employable soft skills that many employers are seeking. The activities include Reality Store, Career Day, Leadership Group, and Entrepreneurial Day. Each of these activities are organized and conducted by our community leaders and workforce. These leaders and employers intentional emphasize the being a team player, flexible, communication, problem-solving, creative-thinking, professionalism, and constructive feedback.



Career Day – Students and local employers discuss soft skills, resumes, and interview skills

Hickman County High School has entered into a five (5) year grant to become a Leader in Me school. Beginning with the 2015-2016 school year, HCHS will begin incorporating Stephen Covey's *7 Habits of Highly Effective People*. This curriculum will begin in the 7th/8th grades and over a five (5) year period will incorporate the entire high school. The curriculum revolves around the employable soft skills needed for the graduates of Hickman County High School. The plan is to incorporate the Leader in Me curriculum into the high school in the classes of the six (6) career paths offered. In conjunction with already established programs like the Leadership group and Entrepreneurial Day, the Leader in Me curriculum will make our students aware and proficient in the soft skills area. Students that attend Fulton County Area Technology Center also have extensive soft skills training as reflected on KOSSA testing and completers of the pathways.

The ultimate goal is to offer a certificate of soft skills completion on graduation night to those students who have met the following criteria:

- *No more than two unexcused absences*
- *No more than two unexcused tardies*
- *No level 2, 3, or 4 discipline referrals during the certifying year*
- *Involvement in at least one extracurricular/co-curricular activity*
- *Completer of Pathway*
- *Successful completion of the Leader in Me curriculum*

Chapter Four
SOFT SKILLS MEASUREMENT

Hickman County High School will work in conjunction with the Hickman County Chamber of Commerce to develop an advisory council to advise and validate the program for soft skills and develop Key Performance Indicators. The advisory council will help forge partnerships with industry-work force and schools, provide expertise and advice to educators, and provide focus on improving college and career readiness for our students.

Hickman County Chamber of Commerce and Hickman County Schools: Chamber Leadership Program

Clinton- Hickman County Chamber of Commerce and Hickman County Schools have partnered to establish a new foundation for the cultivation and growth of inspired local leaders and empowered future workforce. A portion of the foundation is the Chamber Leadership Program which is beginning the seventh year in Hickman County. In order to meet the demands and challenges of this century, our community desires to develop the leadership and soft skills potential of our citizenry. The Chamber of Commerce Leadership Committee is involved in the development and implementation of the program. The committee is made up of chamber board members, school representatives and business leaders.

This program has allowed high school juniors the opportunity to work in three critical areas: personal soft skills and leadership development, inter-relation of civic/government organizations and strategic community vision development. The Program concentrates on team building, group dynamics, and community awareness. Participants tour local businesses, interact with entrepreneurs and community leaders and gain awareness of the local economy. Participants are required to commit to the program for nine months, complete a major project, and commit to volunteer hours in the community. The students are provided a real world problem for leadership class to tackle in such a manner as to benefit the individual for learning leadership and problem solving skills while providing the community to benefit from having a new local “think tank” generating new ideas for solving local problems. Participants receive a Chamber Leadership certificate of completion.

100 High School sophomores, juniors and seniors have graduated the program over the last six years. Post Evaluation of the participants 74% were able to state and discuss 3 economic facts about Hickman County; 100% could see a connection between Hickman County’s History and



Chamber Leadership participants tour Peerless Premiere Appliance Company in Clinton, KY lead by Plant Manager Vernon Hill and Production Manager Melinda Cole.

Chapter Four
SOFT SKILLS MEASUREMENT

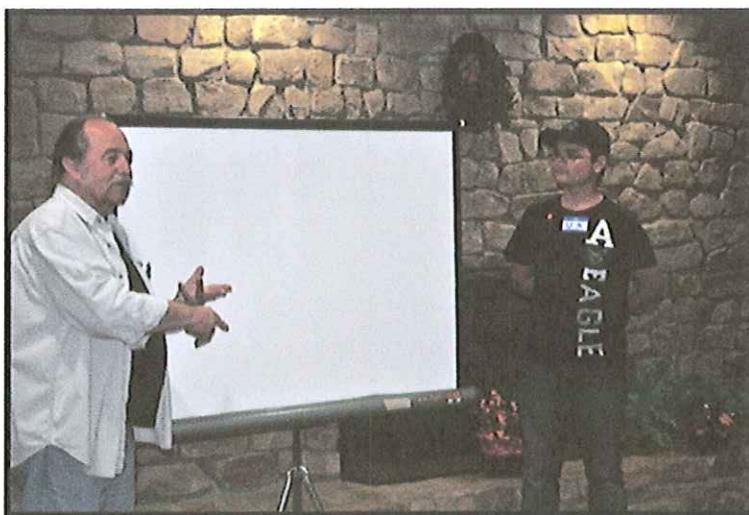
current tourism and economic development activities; 100% were motivated to use new information about Hickman County to get involved in a community development project; 100% were able to state three strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats associated with Hickman County; 80% understand how County Government works; 100% understand the roles of civic organizations; 100% are now comfortable within a leadership role; 100% are comfortable making presentations and speaking in public; 100% increased critical thinking skills. Program evaluations and observations throughout the last five years have shown increase in knowledge of leadership skills and community involvement of participants. Graduates of the Chamber Leadership program have stated that participation in the program has increased their marketability to employers and increased scholarship opportunities.

The strong sustainability of this program is due to the support of local businesses, county government, and cooperation of the school system. This program is offered free to Hickman County students due to the generosity of our local businesses and civic organizations. Hickman County businesses plant the seeds of leadership in these students and know that one day after they finish their academic careers, they will reap the benefits of a ready work force.

University of Kentucky Cooperative Extension- Hickman County: Adult Soft Skills Credential

The University of Kentucky Cooperative Extension Service, in conjunction with the Clinton-Hickman County Chamber of Commerce, has started working with local business leaders and county government officials to develop a sustainable soft skills credential program for post-secondary adult population of Hickman County. This committee on Community Economic Development (CED) includes business leaders from Hickman County Schools, Hickman County Adult Education, Peerless Premiere, First Community Bank, Clinton Bank, Burgess Grain, City and County Government. The CED committee will assist the Extension Service in developing or adopting curriculum, identifying job skill competencies and employability skills, and marketing program to adult workforce population as well as partnership opportunities.

Hickman County Cooperative Extension is committed to helping hard-to-reach adults or teens prepare for the workplace. We have resources to teach life skills to employees in the workplace. Tackling the Tough Skills™: A Curriculum Building Skills for Work and Life (Revised Edition) offers a fresh,



The Adult Soft Skills Credential will include modular, hands on, engaging activities that focus on five key skill areas of communication, teamwork, leadership, critical thinking and responsibility (which includes attendance/punctuality).

Chapter Four SOFT SKILLS MEASUREMENT

innovative approach. Originally developed to help adults transition from welfare to work, this evidence based curriculum is being used to teach life skills to at-risk adults and teens around the world and soft skills to employees in the workplace. The curriculum is easily adaptable to a wide range of audiences with objectives to include: attitude, responsibility (to include attendance and punctuality), leadership, communication, problem solving, workforce preparation, anger management, conflict resolution, critical thinking, self-esteem, teamwork and stress management.

The Adult Soft Skills program is designed to target post-secondary adults looking for work, adults recommended by employer due to needed soft- skill competencies or adults seeking to increase their employability through the soft skills credential. The following guidelines must be met to obtain the Adult Soft Skills Certification

- Successful completion of the Tackling the Tough Skills- A Curriculum for Building Skills for Work and Life.
- Attendance of 8 of 10 one hour sessions
- Completion of Work Readiness Portfolio
- Involvement in at least one civic/volunteer activity

Hickman County Cooperative Extension will work in conjunction with the Clinton-Hickman County Chamber of Commerce and CED committee to validate the program and evaluate the program for based on measurable goals and annual improvement of the percentage of the workforce credentialed. The Clinton Hickman County Chamber will give employers information about the credential and provide information on how to use the credential to qualify applications for hiring and retention. In addition, employers will be asked to give preference to candidates completing the soft skills credential program. The committee is currently working on a five year plan to assure sustainability of the program and ensure outcomes of success.

Entrepreneurial Day

Knowing how to start a business and employ other people is a key to making Hickman County better. Our Fiscal Court is working with our school system and Murray State University decided to sponsor an Entrepreneurial Day with all 54 seniors participating. Five local small business owners shared their wisdom of beginning a business to our seniors. Dr. Tim Todd, Dean of the Arthur J. Bauernfeind School of Business at Murray State University took the program to the students in showing how they could start their own business. Soft skills discussions like attendance, work ethic and the treatment of others were stressed by every speaker. The day was a resounding success and will become an annual event between the Hickman County Fiscal Court and our high school seniors. This for sure is the next step after preparing our students to be college and career ready.

NARRATIVE 5: Broadband Availability

Availability of Internet as an Indicator of digital literacy

A county must have 3Mbps speeds or greater available to 90 percent of housing units with the exception of those they can show to be inaccessible (cost prohibitive) by technology other than wireless – where there must be 1.5Mbps speeds available to 90 percent of housing units.

Based on the June 30, 2014 data reported on the National Broadband Map, broadband availability for Hickman County is as follows:

- **99.9% = Total Broadband Availability**
- 50.2% = Wireline Availability
- 99.9% = Wireless Availability

All availability information is based on download speeds of 3 Mbps or higher and upload speeds of 768 Kbps or higher. According to the National Broadband Map, Hickman County is ranked 84th out of 120 counties, but only 0.1% out of being tied for first. The complete ranking is included and available at <http://www.broadbandmap.gov/rank/all/county/kentucky/percent-population/speed-download-greater-than-3mbps-upload-greater-than-0.768mbps/ascending/>.

The providers listed on the national broadband map with at least 3 Mbps broadband service in Hickman County include:

- AT&T Inc. (wired & wireless)
- Ken-Tenn Wireless, L.L.C (wireless)
- Windstream Corporation (wired)
- Verizon Communications (wireless)
- Zito Media, LP (wired)
- TOAST.net (wired reseller)

All data came from the National Broadband Map. A broadband profile for Hickman County is included in the following pages and available at <http://www.broadbandmap.gov/summarize/state/kentucky/county/Hickman>.

Analyze » Summarize

State » Kentucky
County » Hickman

Below is a summary of the broadband characteristics for the area listed above. The broadband data below is as of June 30, 2014 and represents data collected by SBDD grantees. Click on the section headings to see more information.

Print this page • Export Data

Wireline

Speed	Percent Population	Nationwide
Dn>3Mbps Up>768kbps	50.2%	94.8%
Download > 3Mbps	53.5%	95.4%
Download > 6Mbps	50.2%	94.2%
Download > 10Mbps	48.6%	92.9%
Download > 25Mbps	4.1%	85.3%
Download > 50Mbps	4.1%	83.2%
Download > 100Mbps	4.1%	64.8%
Download > 1Gbps	0.0%	7.9%

Source: API Call

Wireless

Speed	Percent Population	Nationwide
Dn>3Mbps Up>768kbps	99.9%	99.3%
Download > 3Mbps	99.9%	99.3%
Download > 6Mbps	96.9%	98.5%
Download > 10Mbps	96.9%	98.2%
Download > 25Mbps	0.0%	14.0%
Download > 50Mbps	0.0%	6.6%
Download > 100Mbps	0.0%	4.3%
Download > 1Gbps	0.0%	0.1%

Source: API Call

Technology	Percent Population	Nationwide
DSL	81.3%	90.0%
Fiber	4.1%	25.4%
Cable	29.4%	88.8%
Wireless	99.9%	99.4%
Other	0.0%	0.0%

Source: API Call

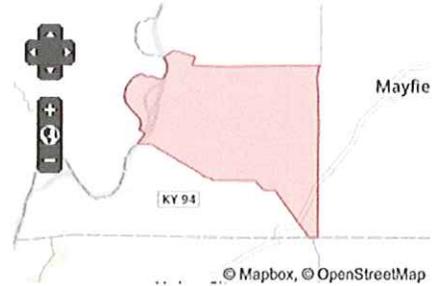
Share »

Share this page with my community

Short URL »

Tweet

Like 0



Demographics

Total area (sq miles)	239
Population	4,265
Housing Units	2,285

Age	Area (%)	Nationwide
under 5	3.5%	5.7%
5 - 19	18.4%	20.8%
20 - 34	17.1%	19.6%
35 - 59	30.6%	32.7%
60+	30.5%	21.3%

Race	Area (%)	Nationwide
White	91.6%	69.3%
Black	8.3%	11.2%
Hispanic	0.1%	14.9%
Asian/Pacific Islander	0.0%	4.1%
Native American	0.0%	0.5%

Income	Area (%)	Nationwide
Median income	\$30,875	\$58,811
Poverty rate	18.7%	15.8%
Below \$25k	40.1%	24.0%
\$25k-\$50k	24.6%	24.6%
\$50k-\$100k	28.7%	30.7%
\$100k-\$200k	6.1%	16.5%
\$200k or more	0.6%	4.2%

Education	Area (%)	Nationwide
High School graduate	65.8%	79.9%
Bachelor's	9.1%	24.8%

Hickman-Fulton Counties Rural Electric Cooperative Corporation is a member owned electric cooperative. HFRECC serves all of Hickman, Fulton and parts of Carlisle, and Graves County in Western Kentucky and parts of Obion and Lake County in Northwest Tennessee. HFRECC strives to provide reliable, affordable, and safe electricity to the members.

In the late 1930's rural residents of Fulton and Hickman County had a vision of changing the quality of life by providing electrical services to the people. Since that time HFRECC has grown to over 3800 meters and 700 miles of primary distribution lines across these counties. In 2012 HFRECC saw the need, with the fast changes technology, to establish a fiber communications backbone on the distribution system. HFRECC built a gigabit fiber optic infrastructure connecting our office, warehouse, and substations. The current facilities were built along major state highways in Fulton and Hickman Counties.

This communication loop not only allowed us to monitor the electric system, but also the opportunity to provide the businesses in the counties a high speed connection to the internet. We also provide dark fiber lease for businesses to connect their own facilities. HFRECC can provide a customer with speeds in excess of 100MBPS. This connection speed can allow businesses higher bandwidth speeds necessary for video, internet, and voice services.

With any business in Hickman and Fulton Counties having the capability to receive these services, HFRECC is doing its part in making Hickman County a "work ready community".

SUPPLEMENTAL CRITERIA

Working Together – That is Hickman County

Prospective employees should understand that Hickman County has embraced the idea of working together to make Hickman County a better place for its citizens.

Interlocal Agreements – The cities of Clinton and Columbus have signed interlocal agreements with the Hickman County Fiscal Court. These agreements (the first in the history of our county) enable a county government to be able to help each city if asked. Local government should be there to help the citizens and these agreements allow this to happen.

Falcon Academy – As discussed in the Educational Attainment narrative, 62 citizens have become sponsors to pay for all dual credit college classes at Hickman County High School. Not only does this give our students a head start with an average of 17-20 hours per student it gives our kids the confidence and know how to succeed in their post-secondary careers. No other county in our state can say they work together to help make their students a success like our county does.

Arts Council – Arts and Crafts Fair – For over 10 years now members of our community have worked together to host cultural events in Hickman County. These range from writing contests in our schools, displays in our courthouse and music writing sessions led by renowned musicians. Each year at the end of November our local Arts Council hosts its annual Arts & Crafts Fair. This fair is held at our elementary school. Usually there are 60 – 70 vendors with around 1000 in attendance. This event has become a community tradition.

Chicken Festival – Chamber of Commerce – Five years ago our local Chamber of Commerce and other civic groups came together to host a community celebration at the end of April called our Hickman County Chicken Festival. This is a two day event held around our local courthouse square. Vendors of all kind set up around the court square. Music from local groups fill the air both Friday night and Saturday. All parts of our community come together to make this a special event.

Hickman County Museum – Community members working together have put their stamp of cooperation on our local museum. Hickman County has a rich heritage of historical events. Our museum has expanded from one building to now four buildings housing historical exhibits. The latest building, a doctor's office from the early 1900's, has led to the establishment of a new county event called Heritage Days to be held on September 12. Working well with others is a characteristic our museum committee is noted for.

Hickman County Arts Council, Inc.
Cultural District Certification Program

Introduction

Hickman County is the third smallest county in the state of Kentucky with a population of 4,902. The county is located in the Jackson Purchase, in the far western end of the state. The county is bounded on the west by the Mississippi River, on the east by Graves County, Carlisle County to the north and Fulton County to the south.

The largest town is the county seat, Clinton, with a population of 1200. One other incorporated town, Columbus, population 105, is the site of Columbus – Belmont State Park. Other small communities, Fulgham, Springhill and Oakton, dot the rural landscape.

Hickman County is 244 square miles, with a population density of nineteen persons per square mile. The primary activity in the county is farming; the primary crops are wheat, corn, soybeans and chickens. The largest employer is Ingram Barge Company with a repair facility located at Columbus.

Hickman County has long been home to educational institutions. At one time, the city of Clinton boasted three colleges, several hotels, an opera house, multiple eateries and stores. Vice President and US Senator Alban Barkley was born in Clinton and worked as a janitor at Clinton College. The joke that continues to circulate about Clinton is that "Barkley swept here."

Columbus has a long and interesting history. The first Europeans to set foot in the area called Columbus "Iron Banks" for the red clay they found along the Mississippi River.

During the Civil War, Columbus was occupied by Confederate troops under the command of General Leonidas Polk. The Confederates sought to interdict travel on the Mississippi River by stretching a huge chain across the Mississippi River. A portion of the chain and the anchor that held it are on display at Columbus Belmont State Park.

Columbus was overwhelmed by the great flood of 1927. Old Columbus had to be abandoned and the town was moved uphill and farther from the Mississippi River.

Other events are part of Hickman County's history. The greatest earthquake in American history, the New Madrid Quake of 1811 shook the area. The quake created Murphy's Pond, now a nature preserve in Hickman County. One branch of the Cherokee Trail of Tears went through Hickman County. Hickman County was recently designated a stop on the Trail by the national Trail of Tears organization.

Hickman County has one library and one school system, Hickman County School District. The elementary school serves 379 and preschool 98 children. The high school serves 338 students. The two schools share an art teacher, a music teacher and band director. The students stage at least one play each year. Last year, students created a series of murals honoring veterans. The murals held a place of honor on the courthouse lawn through November of 2010.

Hickman County Arts Council, Inc.
Cultural District Certification Program

Introduction

Music teacher Melinda Paul was named Kentucky Music Educator of the Year in 2007. In addition to her other duties, Paul plays the piano and organ at her church and has directed massed choirs in the area.

Stained glass art is created at Church Art Glass in Clinton. True to its name, the company specializes in creating and repairing stained glass windows. The company has done work in surrounding states. One of its latest creations is a stained glass window for Oakton Baptist Church, pastured by Ricky Harrison, the high school art teacher.

Artists and authors include over forty local residents and families with art and literature talents. The Hickman County Arts Council is sponsoring an essay contest for high school students that will require the student to choose one local artist to interview for an essay. (See enclosed guidelines for Virginia Jewell writing contest)

Performance Expectations

1. Cultural and Strategic Planning -goals, objectives and expected outcomes

As the Introduction indicates, Hickman County is tiny in population, but rich in history and artistic talent. Because of its expanded geography, the Hickman County Cultural District would have several goals:

- A. Creating and encouraging artistic events that take advantage of the agricultural environment.

A group of local residents are currently working to become master gardeners. Their interests and talents have already been put to use to beautify downtown Clinton. Assisting the group in expanding is one of the goals of the Hickman County Arts Council. It is expected that the efforts at increased horticulture and beautification will have a positive effect by improving the look of the community.

Hickman County is home to 200 chicken barns. In recognition, a "Chicken Festival" started last spring in Clinton. Local businesses and homes used chicken themed items to decorate their windows and outdoors. The festival attracted musicians, artists and craftspeople. Food booths featured creative chicken dishes. The Arts Council sponsored an art contest for fourth grade students during this event. Student work was displayed in the Hickman County Courthouse. It is hoped that this event will continue to grow.

Hickman County has several quilt squares on barns. The cultural district will work with local groups to create more of these attractions and a tour to accompany it. The Hickman County Arts Council created a four sided display of quilt squares which now graces the Hickman County Courthouse lawn.

Performance Expectations – continued

B. Incorporating ideas from students for the arts.

Students in the Hickman County Chamber of Commerce Leadership Program presented research papers to local leaders and presented a power point presentation that offered ideas of how the county can grow through art. High school students will be encouraged to join the Arts Council; they will give hours of community service in lieu of a membership fee.

C. Offering services and sales outlets to artists and craftspeople in the area.

Artists need space to display their work and sell their art. At the present time, there is no gallery located in Hickman County. There are empty buildings that could accommodate a gallery if resources can be brought to bear to rehab them to make them suitable for a new and interesting uses.

The Arts Council will continue to hold its annual Arts, Crafts and Book Fair on the first Saturday in December and to sponsor photography exhibits as sales outlets.

2. Planning that has taken place for creation of a cultural district.

The creation of a cultural district is a natural progression of the work that has gone on in the county for the past several years. Cooperation among arts and historical groups is a hallmark of the county. The Hickman County Arts Council, Inc. is an organization that has worked with the schools (presenting poetry, art and music programs) and the local museum and historical society to foster interest in events at those organizations.

The Arts Council is supported by both city and county government. Funds for television advertising for the upcoming Christmas in Clinton day long celebration came from local government and the economic development board. Discussions on creating a cultural district have taken place at local meetings like the Women's Club and Rotary and at Clinton City Council and Hickman Fiscal Court meetings.

3. Structure of cultural leadership team/steering committee, including a list of members, their areas of expertise and their anticipated roles and responsibilities.

The Hickman County Arts Council, Inc. is a 501 (c)(3) organization founded in 1988 with the purpose of fostering the arts in Hickman County. Presently, Sheri Roberts, a poet, photographer and artist, chairs the Council. Katie Beck, master gardener and retired librarian and museum display designer, is vice chair. Henry Brazzell, retired social worker and musician, is treasurer. Millie Winthurst, a retired writer, serves as secretary.

The Council has approximately twenty three members, including Danny Whitlock, a potter and retired school administrator, Coralyn Bugg, a retired teacher who coaches the rapid recall team at the high school, Lilly Kimbell, artist and photographer, Ivan Potter, a photographer and writer who serves on the Clinton City Council, Jeff Morrow, who also serves on the Clinton City Council, Charles Blair, a published author and historian,

Hickman County Arts Council, Inc.
Cultural District Certification Program

Performance Expectations – continued

3. Structure of cultural leadership team/steering committee - continued

Alma Blair, librarian and radio show host, Charles Berryhill, organic farmer and musician, Denise Berryhill, musician, jeweler and organic farmer, LaDonna Latham, director of the Hickman County Historical Society, Mary Potter, writer and website manager, Beverly Hopkins, community services director for Hickman County Schools, Joan Lacewell, Linda Jackson, Liz Jewell, author and artist, Bette Chandler, Susie Pittman, Nancy Davis, Melinda and Alan Paul, musicians and educators, Phyllis Jennings, and Dorothy Nell Harper, septuagenarian poet with five books published. Their anticipated roles will be to chair and/or work in committees in their areas of expertise.

4. Identify the entity that has ultimate responsibility and how it will work with partners

Members of the Hickman County Arts Council coordinate with other organizations to foster events that could not happen without cooperation. For example, last February, the Hickman County Library, through the efforts of Mrs. Blair, received funding for a speaker on the Civil War. The Library and Arts Council worked together to bring Professor Daryl Harris from Northern Kentucky University to speak on the activities of blacks during the conflict. Prior to the presentation, the Arts Council recruited singers from Green Valley Baptist Church to sing spirituals of the era.

The Hickman County Arts Council will have ultimate responsibility but will have the cooperation of the Museum and Historical Society Boards, Chamber of Commerce, the Rotary and Women's Clubs, area churches, the Development Authority and the Hickman County School District.

5. Describe any additional cultural enterprises/assets planned for the cultural district

Other events that are being planned include the first Saturday in December Christmas celebration. One of the first efforts of the Arts Council was the creation of the Arts and Book Fair. Now in its seventh year, the Fair attracts forty artists, craftspeople and artists to sell their work. The Fair has grown to include music selections and local foods. The event is held in the elementary school gymnasium and high school students volunteer to assist shoppers and vendors during the day.

This year, a tour of local churches sponsored by the Clinton Women's Club will follow the Fair. The tour of churches will be followed by a Christmas tree lighting and Christmas parade of lights. Starting with the Fair, visitors can spend the whole day in the little town enjoying the events and shopping for Christmas gifts.

Creating a space for artists and craftspeople is an ongoing activity based upon available funding. Local events are re-occurring. For example, each year, the Arts Council sponsors a student writing contest and several poetry meetings.

Hickman County Arts Council, Inc.
Cultural District Certification Program

2. Public Value and Community Support

A. Describe how cultural district certification will benefit the community and surrounding area

Hickman County is essentially invisible to the decision makers "upstate". Tourism materials seldom mention the county as a destination. This, despite the fact that Columbus – Belmont State Park was voted one of the most beautiful spots in the state and the Park hosting 17,000 people this year for Civil War Days the second weekend of October.

This tiny rural county lacks funding for a full time tourism or economic development director. It has two bed and breakfasts to accommodate visitors, a campground with two cottages. It has no fast food restaurant. The nearest movie theatre is twenty two miles away in Union City. The nearest live theatre is in Mayfield. The county is dry.

The county has three museums, Hickman County Museum, the Hickman County Historical Society and the Columbus Belmont State Park Museum. Artists are beginning to locate in the county. The most recent is a pianist husband and printmaker wife from Memphis who bought an old church and are remodeling it into a home. A musician moved back to Clinton from New York City where he had appeared on Broadway. Another Hickman County musician sang with the Mormon Tabernacle Choir last spring.

The spirit of Hickman County is one of friendliness and cooperation. Becoming a cultural district will raise the visibility of the county and assist in economic development efforts.

B. Describe efforts to gather support

Articles appeared in the two local newspapers, the Hickman County Gazette and the Hickman County Times, describing the certification process. Members of the Arts Council presented the idea to local organizations and solicited their support.

Local officials were consulted. Two Arts Council members are on the Clinton City Council and they shepherded through a resolution supporting the effort. Other council members approached the Chamber of Commerce, Historical Society, Rotary and Women's Club for support.

Word of mouth works best in a small county and discussions of the future benefits took place in local restaurants, at church meetings and club gatherings. The idea has been universally approved as a positive one for the county.

3. Cultural Assets

A. Describe in detail the boundaries of the cultural district

The boundary of the cultural district will be all of Hickman County. The city of Clinton has multiple locations, including the Hickman County Museum, located on Clay Street, Clinton Bank, Clay Street, with display space in the bank, Hickman County

3. Cultural Assets

Elementary School on 416 McMorris Street, Hickman County Courthouse with two display areas and a courtroom that can be used for plays and meetings on South Washington Street, First Community Bank on Jefferson Street with display space available, Hickman County Historical Society, East Clay Street, the First United Methodist Church and Young Center on South Washington Street, First Baptist Church on Mayfield Road, Assembly of God Church on US Highway 51, Columbus and Columbus Belmont State Park on the Mississippi River, Fulgham Park on Highway 58, Arts Council members' homes used for poetry meetings, judging writing and poetry contests and planning sessions.

B. Describe the cultural, arts, preservation and agricultural enterprises/assets in the district and affordable housing and/or studio space for artists.

There are three museums in Hickman County. The Hickman County Museum and Hickman County Historical Society in Clinton actively display artifacts of the county's past. In June 2011, the Museum sponsored a display of vintage bridal gowns. The Historical Society sponsored a display of early maps of the region and was the site of an "Antiques Roadshow" type of event that drew over 100 local bringing several hundred antiques for appraisal. The Museum at Columbus Belmont Park is a repository of Civil War era materials. Farmers in the area collect old tractors which were on display at the last Chicken Festival. Berryhill Farms and Cunningham Farms offer fresh produce, herbs and flowers in season.

C. Describe programming and special events and include a timeline

In spring, the Chicken Festival features chicken themed displays, contests and foods. During the summer months, music programs will be held on the court square. The second weekend each October, re-enactors and visitors converge on Columbus Belmont Park for Civil War Days. The annual Halloween Parade, on October 31st draws hundreds of children and adults in costume. The event is now so popular that school is cancelled on parade day. The first Saturday in December is Christmas in Clinton. The Arts, Crafts and Book Fair is in its seventh year and runs from 8:30-2:30. A tour of local churches follows the Fair and ends at 4. The day ends with lighting the large Christmas tree on the courthouse lawn and parade of lights after dark.

D. Transportation and walking routes:

The county is 244 square miles. Maps of the county are available at the county judge's office. A welcome map of downtown Clinton is distributed by the Chamber of Commerce. A walking map of Columbus Belmont Park is available at the Park.

E. Accessibility services/ wheelchair access

The venues used by the Arts Council are wheelchair accessible. Sidewalks in Clinton are in disrepair. A grant has been written for sidewalk repair in the city. Curbs

3. Cultural Assets

have been cut throughout the city. Columbus Belmont Park offers golf cart transportation and has appropriate signage.

4. Incentives and Collaborations

A. Describe incentives and/or collaborations that are currently available to cultural, arts, preservation and agricultural heritage enterprises

No formal incentives exist to encourage those who wish to relocate to Hickman County. However, the friendly people and welcoming spirit is a draw to all who come here. As a former Memphis resident said, "I love it here. I wish I had come sooner."

B. Describe incentives to be developed

The Hickman County Arts Council works closely with economic development agencies, government and banks to foster interest in the area. The informal effort toward attracting artists would be greatly enhanced by the creation of a county wide cultural district.

Real estate prices in the area are much lower in the area than in surrounding counties and far lower than in metropolitan areas. Rental property for businesses is available in the downtown area. Other buildings in the county are suitable for use as studios and display spaces.

5. Sustaining the Cultural District

A. Describe how the community will coordinate development initiatives

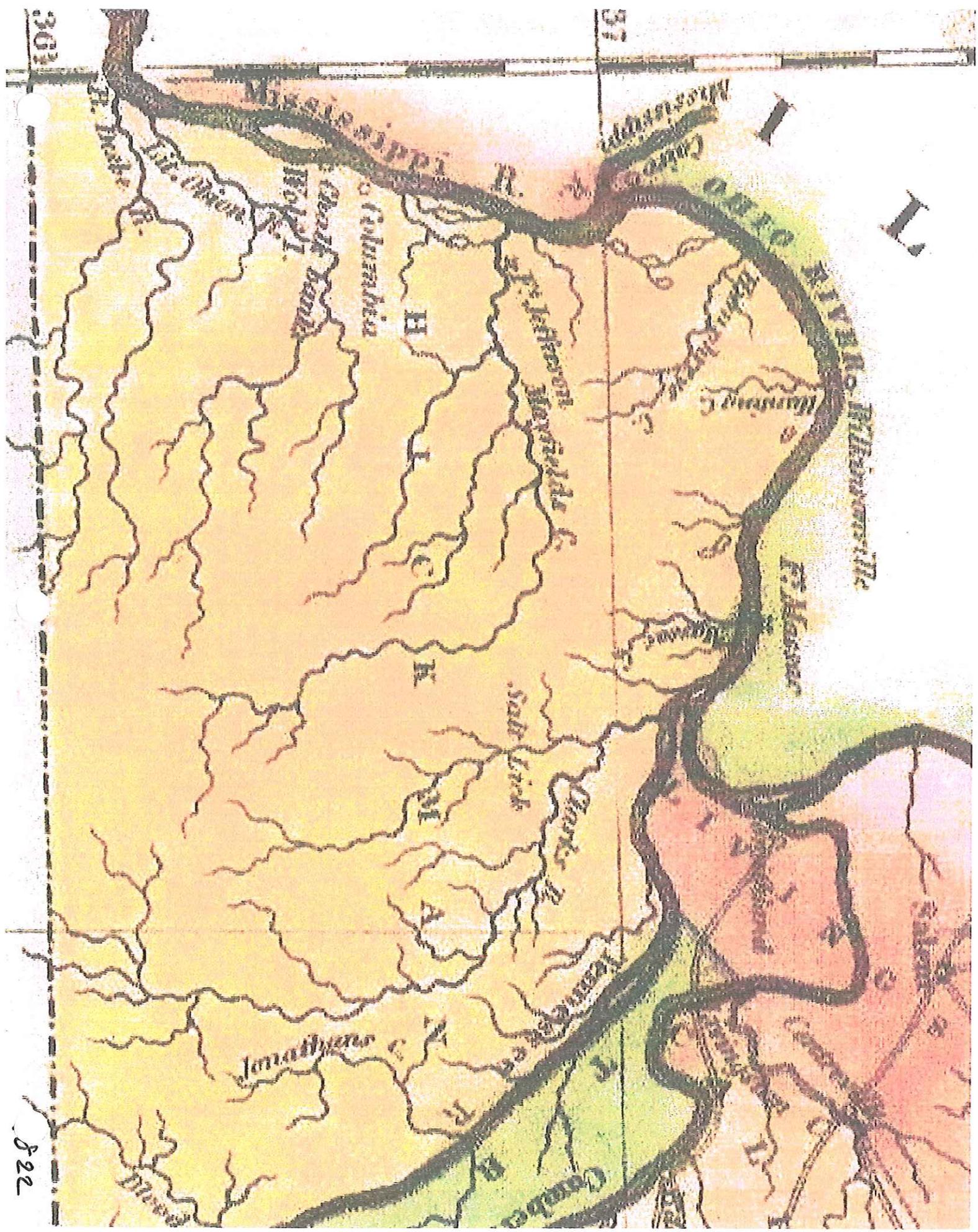
As stated above, Hickman County is a very small county. Many in the area belong to multiple organizations and lines of communication stay open because membership is shared.

The Arts Council works closely with those agencies that pursue funding for the county. The Hickman County School District and the Arts Council supported the Clinton City Council's grant application for sidewalk rehabilitation.

The Kentucky Great River Road Organization is supportive of the efforts to develop the area to bring in more tourism dollars and more artists. Funding sources are constantly being sought by local groups and government entities to fund programs that benefit the area.

B. Describe the budget for the cultural district, including actual and anticipated funding

The Hickman County Arts Council currently has \$6,000 in its treasury for arts and cultural activities. Those funds go toward television, print and online advertising and to assist in cultural events like the music jam group that meets monthly.



303

31

822

Historical, Cultural Heritage and Tourism Intelligence Briefing

Background: The Strategic Importance of Hickman County and Jackson Purchase within American History

- AD 1100 to 1350** **1. Major Native American civilization geographical located along Mississippi River. These were the Mound Builders. Large Mound Builders village reported to have existed 5 miles south of Columbus, Kentucky.**

- 1400 ?** **2. Northsmen (Vikings) were reported to have reach the Mississippi River in the St. Louis area. During the 1960's low water period of Mississippi River, the reminds of a Viking Longship became visible in shadow water and mud. There is some speculation that Viking explorers may have reached the Bluffs of Hickman County.**

- 1541** **3. Spanish explorer, Hernando de Soto, discovered and laid claim to the mouth of the Mississippi River.**

- 1500 ?** **4. Chickasaw Indian Nation laid claim to lands of far Western Kentucky Tennessee.**

- 1682** **5. French explorer, La Salle, travels down Mississippi River from Canada and claims the entire Mississippi River Basin as "La Louisiane" in honor of French King Louis XIV. LaSalle and his men traveled past the Iron Banks of Columbus on their journey to map the Mississippi river. They probably made camp at the base of the Bluffs.**

- 1682** **6. Words "Iron Banks" first used to name future Columbus town site.**

- 1730's to 1740's** **7. French trappers working Western Kentucky for their fur trade and making alliances with native American tribes.**

- 1756** **8. French and Indian Wars broke out in the Ohio River Valley. Britain and her colony allies fought against major Indian Tribes and the French and Spain for control of Mid-America continent. In Europe, this was called the Seven Years War.**

- 1763** **9. Treaty of Paris gave to Britain rights to all land east of the Mississippi River and Spain rights to land west of the Mississippi River.**

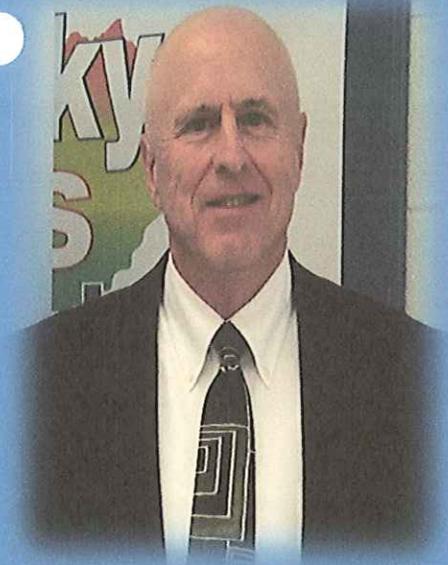
- 1776** **10. American Revolution with England.**

- 1777 11 . Fort Jefferson, at the mouth of Mayfield creek (border of Carlisle and Ballard counties) became a major flash point on the young frontier.
- 1781 12. Combined force of Indians defeat a force of 500 Americans at Ft. Jefferson.
- 1783 13. Article 8 of the Treaty of Paris 1783 states, "The navigation of the river Mississippi, from its source to the ocean, shall forever remain free and open to the subjects of Great Britain and the citizens of the United states." This treaty ended the American Revolutionary War.
- 1790's 14. Revolutionary War veterans and settlers move into far Western Kentucky
- 1790's 15. Kentucky existed as a county of Virginia except for far Western part of state. This land controlled and claimed by Indian nations.
- 1792 16. Kentucky became the 15th state to join the United States of America in 1792. The new state was taken out the western lands of Virginia.
- 1796 17. President Thomas Jefferson sent survey team to map future expansion plans into lands along Mississippi River. They mapped early description of Hickman County.
- 1801 18. Part of the rationale for bringing in Kentucky as a state was to create a strategic claim for the rights of the Mississippi River. The European powers of England, France and Spain were all maneuvering to take control of all the land within the watershed of the Mississippi river.
- The Mississippi River watershed consisted of most of the mid section of the north American continent 17 states
- 1801 19. Spain and France are at war with England and most of Europe.
- 1802 20. Spain transfer rights of claims of lands in Mid-America to France.
- 1803 21. Napoleon Bonaparte sells the Louisiana Purchase to America. The lands of far western Kentucky now become the geographical center the United States of America and its territories.
- 1805 22. Columbus and western Kentucky become a part of the Aaron Burr plot to form a new nation along the Mississippi River and allied with Spain.

- 1811 to 1812 23. Worst geological earthquake ever to strike America, struck New Madrid, Missouri in a series of three major upheavals. Mississippi river flowed backwards for three days. Reel Foot Lake was formed.
- 1812 24. First river Steamboat in America is caught in great earthquake as Mississippi River flows backward.
- 1812 25. War of 1812 breaks out between United States of America and Great Britain.
- 1812 26. Captain Hickman killed at Battle of River Raisin. County named for him. This was largest battle of war where many Kentuckians were massacred.
- 1812 27. Of all the soldiers killed in War of 1812, 64% were Kentuckians.
- 1814 28. After the war was ended and a treaty signed at Ghent, General Andrew Jackson defeated a British army at the battle of New Orleans. Jackson had a large force of Kentuckians and Tennesseans at this battle. Andrew Jackson would become future President of United States in 1829.
- 1818 29. Chickasaw Indian Nation sells all lands between Ohio River, Tennessee River, Mississippi River, and Mississippi State line with Tennessee. This became known as the Jackson Purchase with 8 counties in Kentucky and 24 counties in modern Tennessee.
- 1820 30. Jackson Purchase is the symbol of the closing of America's 1st frontier. After this date, all lands east of the Mississippi river were now owned the American government or the states of the new Union.
- 1822 31. First fort/ tavern built at Columbus Bluff Banks
- 1830's 32. Cherokee Nation Trail of Tears comes through Hickman County.
- 1830's 33. Davy Crockett hunts and kills bear in Hickman County.
- 1836 34. Battle of the Alamo involving 1/3 of defenders being from Kentucky.
- 1840's to 1860's 35. River Boat trade was at its glory. Columbus was active port of call.
- 1861 36. Before Abe Lincoln could take office the seven states of Virginia, South Carolina, North Carolina, Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, Tennessee formed a new nation in February to be apart from the United States of America.

- 1861 37. Civil War starts. Federal Ft. Summer, Charleston, South Carolina is attacked on April 12, 1861 by Confederate States forces.
- 1861 38. Lincoln called for each state to send troops to take back the federal lands lost at Ft. Summer. Four states, Virginia, Texas, Arkansas, and Louisiana joined the new Confederate States of America.
- 1861 39. Union forces set up Federal recruiting station in Louisville, Kentucky. The South sees this action as “an aggressive move into a neutral state.”
- 1861 40. September Union forces move toward Paducah. Confederate State of Kentucky is formed with capitol at Bowling Green, and includes 26 counties from Bowling Green (Warren County) to Columbus (Hickman County).
- 1861 41. November 7, 1861, Battle of Columbus-Belmont. US General U.S. Grant (and future President of America) moves 3,000 federal troops to Belmont, MO. Battle is seen as a draw. From this battle, Grant developed the concept Combined Operations where Army and Naval units work together.
- 1862 42. February 1862, Battle of Ft. Donnellson & Ft. Henry. Grant takes both forts. Secures control of the upper Tennessee River and cuts in half the Confederate defensive line running from Columbus to Bowling Green.
- 1862 43. April 6-7 1862, Battle of Shiloh is fought. Grant takes position on Tennessee River and secures control over Western Tennessee. Battle provided base to move toward Memphis and Vicksburg.
- 1865 44. Civil War ends
- 1880's 45. Columbus grows as major commerce center along river
- 1890's 46. Growth of colleges in Clinton
to Clinton College, Marvin College, Christian Girls Academy
1915
- 1880's 47. Golden Period of Clinton/ Hickman County. Population of Clinton 4,500. Population of Hickman Co. 11,000.
- 1890's 48. Large tornado destroys most of downtown Clinton.
- 1904 49. Albert Stubblefield invents wireless radio in Murray, KY.
- 1916 50. Model T's automobiles usher in new 20th Century commerce in Clinton

- 1916 51. Kentucky State Girls Normal College is offered to Clinton. City fathers turn down offer. School goes to Murray and is built 1922. Later is renamed to Murray State University.**
- 1927 52. Great Flood destroys city of Columbus**
- 1929 53. US Commerce Secretary (future US President) Herbert Hoover and Red Cross move Columbus to new location (existing spot on bluff).**
- 1944 54. TVA Dam and Kentucky Lake built.**
- 1949. 55. Senator Alben W. Barkley becomes oldest Vice President at age 71. He served under President Harry S. Truman.**
- 1950's 56. Mid Continent College established on site now occupied by Hickman County High School**
- 1960's 57. Industrial jobs in Clinton**



“Hickman County is excited about pursuing Work Ready Community certification. We are passionate about showcasing our workforce with our low unemployment rate, our schools and its Falcon Academy and our community spirit of working together to make Hickman County a better place.”

*Judge/Executive
Kenny Wilson*

We think Hickman County is one of Kentucky’s best counties to live, work and raise a family. The Work Ready Communities program has been an excellent way for us to showcase our ability to work together. Our county leaders, employers and citizens have joined together to demonstrate the many great things that are happening in Hickman County.

In the application appendix you will find the following letters of support and organizational resolutions supporting our application.

1. Economic Development
 - a. Hickman County Economic Development Authority Resolution
 - b. Economic Development Partnership – Fulton - Hickman County
2. Elected Officials
 - a. Letter of Support from Judge Executive Kenny Wilson
 - b. City of Columbus resolution
 - c. City of Clinton resolution
 - d. Hickman County Property Valuation Administrator
 - e. Hickman County Attorney
 - f. Hickman County Court Clerk
 - g. Hickman County Sheriff
3. Education
 - a. Hickman County Schools Letter of Support
 - b. Hickman County Board of Education Resolution
 - c. Hickman County Adult Education
 - d. Hickman County Community Education
 - e. Fulton County Area Technology Center
 - f. West Kentucky Community & Technical College
 - g. Murray State University
4. Workforce Development
 - a. West Kentucky Workforce Investment Board
 - b. Purchase Area Development District
5. Business & Industry
 - a. Hickman County Chamber of Commerce
 - b. Businesses
 - Hickman Fulton Counties RECC
 - Roberts Crop Insurance
 - Clinton Place
 - Hickman County Gazette
 - Hickman County Times
 - River Valley Ag Credit
 - Columbus Belmont State Park
 - C & S Construction
 - Hutson, Inc.
 - Ingram Barge Company
 - Harper’s Country Hams
 - Hickman County Cooperative Extension Service
 - Clinton Hickman County ICF
 - Crop Production Services
 - Security Seed
 - First Community Bank
 - Clinton Bank
 - Agri-Chem
6. Other Agencies
 - a. Hickman County Arts Council
 - b. Hickman County Historical & Genealogical Society



Kenny Wilson
County Judge Executive
HICKMAN COUNTY, KENTUCKY

116 S. Jefferson Street, Clinton, Ky. 42031
(270) 653-4369 Fax (270) 653-4360

May 20, 2015

Kentucky Work Ready Communities
c/o Kentucky Workforce Investment Board
Capital Plaza Tower, 3rd Floor
500 Mero Street
Frankfort, Ky. 40601

Dear Members of the Kentucky Work Ready Community Review Panel,

It is with great pleasure that I write this letter of support for Hickman County's Work Ready in Progress application. Members of our school, community and representatives from the region's workforce development organization have worked together so that you will see a true reflection of the people who live and work in Hickman County. Hickman County is progressive, competitive and an all-round great place to live and work.

I hope that you will appreciate the commitment of our award winning schools in building our future workforce in Hickman County. Hickman County Schools is the only school in the state with both a graduation rate of 100 and a college and career readiness rate of 100. Education Commissioner Terry Holiday has called the Falcon Academy the number one dual credit program in the state. The Falcon Academy is sponsored by 62 community donors that pay for every child's dual credit classes. All dual credit classes are free for Hickman County students. Students will graduate this year with 912 dual credit hours or 17 hours on average for each student in the senior class.

Hickman County ranks 18th out of 120 counties in Kentucky as having the lowest unemployment rate. That should tell prospective employers that our workforce is ready and willing to work. Employers in Hickman County are embracing the NCRC certificate as they expand their hiring process.

The Hickman County Fiscal Court supports and commends the efforts of the members of the Work Ready team. Please consider this letter of documentation as our commitment to participate and invite others to join our efforts in making Hickman County Work Ready. In addition to the above, we are willing to participate by;

- Sending a representative to an annual strategic Work Ready Community planning meeting.
- Attending periodic meetings to discuss the programs with others.
- Accepting the National Career Readiness Certificate as a valid work readiness credential in our hiring and/or promotion processes.

Many thanks,

Kenny Wilson
Judge Executive, Hickman County
Phone: (270) 653-4369
116 S. Jefferson Street
Clinton, KY. 42031

HCEDA, Inc.

Hickman County Economic Development Authority, Inc.
1171 U.S. Hwy. 51 South • P.O. Box 78 • Clinton, KY 42031

HCEDAinc@gmail.com

May 7, 2015

Judge Executive Kenny Wilson
116 South Jefferson St.
Clinton, KY 42031

Re: Hickman County Work Ready Application

Dear Judge Wilson;

Please find enclosed an executed copy of the Resolution passed by the board of directors of the Hickman County Economic Development Authority, Inc., endorsing and supporting the Hickman County Work Ready application and process. This resolution was passed unanimously in the board's meeting on April 29, 2015. Additionally, the board has agreed to spend up to \$2,500.00 toward the cost of testing necessary to assist in the county meeting the requirement in the work ready process. Just yesterday I went to the Purchase Area Development District and signed the contract regarding paying those testing costs. We look forward to working with you and Hickman County Adult Education in the process to get this testing completed and the work ready designation obtained.

Thank you for attending our board meeting. As you know, we hope you are able to attend in the future. We look forward to working hand in hand with you and other positive-thinking partners in the county to see renewed growth and improvement in our county.

Please feel free to call on me anytime our board can be of assistance to you.

Very truly yours,



Gregory D. Pruitt
Executive Director



Monday May 18, 2015

To: Judge Executive, Kenny Wilson
116 South Jefferson St.
Clinton, KY 42031

Re: Hickman County Communities Work Ready Program.

Dear Judge Wilson,

The Fulton County- Hickman County Economic Development Partnership fully supports your application to initiate the required process to obtain the Work Ready Program certification in Hickman County. By starting and completing this process Hickman County will not only show potential companies who are interested in locating to Hickman County that we have a skilled and dedicated workforce, we will be able to present certified documentation to them that our people are work ready for any position they may have available in their company.

Over the last eight years I have worked hard to recruit industry to the Hickman and Fulton County areas. Every time I meet with a prospective company the overwhelming question I hear is, do you have a skilled and readily available workforce. This certification will allow me to always answer to the affirmative.

We understand that the process is very detailed and the Fulton County- Hickman County Economic Development Partnership offers its full support and available resources to help obtain this accreditation for Hickman County.

If there is anything else that I can do for you please don't hesitate to give me a call.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Eddie Crittendon'.

Eddie Crittendon, Executive Director
Fulton County- Hickman County EDP

P. O. Box 1413
Fulton, KY 42041
1-270-472-2125
fultoneconomic@bellsouth.net

Hickman County Schools

BOARD MEMBERS

ALLEN KYLE, Chairman
SCOTT MITCHELL, Vice Chairman
TERRY MULLINS
JOE SAMUEL
MARTIE TEMPLETON

CASEY HENDERSON, Superintendent
416 Waterfield Drive North
Clinton, KY 42031

KIM WILSON
Finance Officer

SHANE BIZZLE
Director of Transportation

JUDY CANTY
Preschool
Director of Special Education

PERRY COLLINS
Director of Pupil
Personnel

JAN JOHNSON
Assessment/Instruction
Title I

Dear Work Ready Community Steering Committee:

Please accept this letter as documentation of our commitment to the Kentucky Work Ready Community Program for Hickman County. Hickman County Schools commits to participate in the program, support the program, and work to spread the word and to gain participation from others in our community.

As the superintendent of Hickman County Schools, I speak for the Board of Education and for myself as an individual when I say that what benefits this community, benefits this school district. Being designated as "Work Ready" would be something that our political leaders and economic development organizations could use to increase business and industry interest in our country. The potential for more jobs and more business and industry is worth every bit of effort that we can put into it.

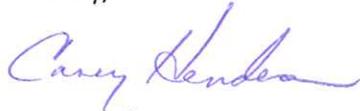
Not only will Hickman County Schools benefit from the Work Ready status, but our whole county and every individual living and working within it will benefit as well. We give this effort our full support.

In addition to the above, we are willing to participate by:

- Sending a representative to an annual strategic planning retreat for our Work Ready community effort,
- Attending periodic community meetings to discuss the program with others, and
- Accepting the National Career Readiness Certificate as a valid work readiness credential in our hiring and/or promotions processes.

Organization: Hickman County Schools
Key Contact Name: Casey Henderson
Key Contact Title/Role: Superintendent
Key Contact Phone Number: 270-653-2341
Key Contact E-mail: casey.henderson@hickman.kyschools.us
Address: 416 Waterfield Drive North
Clinton, KY 42031
City: Clinton
County: Hickman

Sincerely,



Casey Henderson

Superintendent

Office of the President

Dr. Barbara M. Veazey

4810 Alben Barkley Drive

P.O. Box 7380

Paducah, KY 42002-7380

Telephone: (270) 534-3082 Fax: (270) 554-6322

westkentucky.kctcs.edu

April 27, 2015

Judge Executive Kenny Wilson
Hickman County Fiscal Court
116 S. Jefferson Street
Clinton, KY 42031

Dear Judge Wilson:

West Kentucky Community & Technical College (WKCTC) is strongly committed to the economic wellbeing of western Kentucky and the entire region we serve.

We, as a community are very proud of our workforce and the excellent educational training programs available to existing and prospective businesses. WKCTC has a strong partnership with Hickman County. The college has participated in a dual credit high school program with Hickman County High School for many years. We also teach Introduction to College to high school seniors. The class covers those topics needed for a Work Ready Community such as time management, workplace ethics and responsibility to self and community. WKCTC also has a facility in close proximity to Hickman County, the Skilled Craft Training Center. We work closely with the area technology center to provide postsecondary education in skilled technical courses.

The Work Ready Certification will be an economic boost for Hickman County and show the commitment of this county to provide a trained and eager workforce. WKCTC commits to participate in the program, support the program and work to spread the word and to gain participation for others in the community.

If we may be of any assistance in moving forward with this initiative and process, please contact me.

Sincerely,



Barbara Veazey, Ph.D.
President

bgm





The Office of Regional Outreach
120 Heritage Hall
Murray, KY 42071
(270) 809-5088 Phone
(270) 809-3268 Fax
www.murraystate.edu/outreach

April 13, 2015

Dear Work Ready Community Steering Committee:

On behalf of Murray State University, I am pleased to write this letter of support for the Kentucky Work Ready Community Program for Hickman County. Murray State University is committed to participate in the program and supports the program by working to spread the word and gain support from others in our 18 county service region.

Murray State University serves as a nationally recognized comprehensive university, offering high quality baccalaureate and master's degree programs. Teaching, research and service are core values that promote economic development and well-being of the citizens in our region. Murray State places a high premium on academic excellence, community outreach, and collaborative partnerships to help improve educational attainment and quality of life.

Therefore, in addition to the above, we are willing to participate by sending a representative to any strategic planning meetings for your Work Ready Community effort, attend periodic community meetings to discuss the program with others, and accept the National Career Readiness Certificate as a valid work readiness credential in our hiring and/or promotions processes (for employers).

Again, please accept this letter of support on behalf of Murray State University. If you need additional information, please contact me at the number listed above.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Gina S. Winchester'.

Gina S. Winchester
Executive Director



April 29, 2015

Judge Executive Kenny Wilson
Hickman County Fiscal Court
110 East Clay Street
Clinton, KY 42031

Dear Judge Wilson,

We, the Hickman County Adult Education learning center staff, are committed to providing the best possible level of services to the adults of Hickman County. It is our goal that our students are well prepared to perform well in the workforce, the community and the home. Collaboration among our community partners is a must so that our students are better prepared to meet the current and future needs of our county.

This is why we are in full support of the effort by Hickman County leaders to participate in the Kentucky Work Ready Communities Program. We can offer the residents of Hickman County the educational skills they need to pass the GED, to prepare for post-secondary education, and to help them study and earn the National Career Readiness Certificate.

Please consider this letter of support for Hickman County Work Ready Communities Program documentation of our commitment to participate and support your effort to spread the word and gain participation from others.

Sincerely,

Susan Jackson
Director of Adult Education, Hickman County
West Kentucky Educational Cooperative
Susan.jackson@wkec.org

West Kentucky Educational Cooperative
201 General Services Bldg.
Murray State University
Murray, KY 42071

HICKMAN COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL



KEVIN ESTES
Principal

301 JAMES H. PHILLIPS DR. – CLINTON, KENTUCKY 42031
(270) 653-4044 – (270) 653-3200
kevin.estes@hickman.kyschools.us

AMY BOAZ
Counselor

SHANE BIZZLE
Assistant Principal

SUZETTE RIVES
Secretary

April 6, 2015

Kenny Wilson
Hickman County Judge Executive
Kentucky Work Ready Community Program
Clinton, KY 42031

Mr. Wilson:

This letter is intended to express that Hickman County Community Education, as a part of the Hickman County Board of Education, supports the Kentucky Work Ready Community Program for Hickman County. We commit to participate in the program, support the program and work to spread the word and to gain participation from others in our community. To be able to tell economic developers we have a skilled workforce and that our county is committed to keeping them skilled is a great asset.

During my nineteen years as community education director of Hickman County Schools we have had many successful cooperative efforts with our community and look forward to another opportunity of making Hickman County a Work Ready Community. I will help work toward achieving strategic goals that bring together education, workforce, economic development and leadership.

We believe this opportunity will provide both education opportunities and an effective team approach toward meeting the needs of our local workforce and the employers of them.

As stated, Hickman Co. Community Education is proud to offer its resources as a collaborative partner in this effort.

Sincerely,
Beverly Hopkins
Beverly Hopkins
Hickman Co. Community Education Director
Hickman Co. Schools
301 James H. Phillips Drive
Clinton, KY 42031
beverly.hopkins@hickman.kyschools.us



Fulton County Area Technology Center

2720 Moscow Ave Hickman, KY 42050
Phone: (270) 236-2517 Fax: (270) 236-9395

Terry Sullivan, Principal
terry.sullivan@fulton.kyschools.us

May 18, 2015

Kenny Wilson
Hickman County Judge Executive Office
116 S. Jefferson Street
Clinton, KY 42031

Dear Mr. Wilson,

The Fulton County Area Technology Center is pleased to be a part of the initiative to certify Hickman County as a Work Ready Community. This letter will give data on the success students have had in the last two years at our school.

The 2014-2015 school year has been very successful. Hickman County students earned 17 industry certifications, including the certified nurse aide, ASE, and IC3 certifications. Seven automotive technology students passed the KOSSA test and 24 out of 29 students passed the WorkKeys test or 83%. Finally, Hickman County students earned 53 hours of dual credit at the ATC. We are very proud that 18 of 29 (62%) preparatory students from Hickman County were career ready.

In 2013-2014, 68% or 22 out of 32 students passed the WorkKeys test. There were 19 students passing the KOSSA test and 20 students passing industry certifications. During this school year, Hickman County students earned 295 hours of dual credit. Overall 19 of 32 (59%) students were considered career ready.

We also have built into every course lessons on soft skills. If you look at the task lists found on the KDE website, you will see that every program places importance on the soft skills students need to be successful in the workplace. The ATC also works to bring in industries that will employ students upon graduation. One great example of this is our partnership with Ingram Barge in Columbus. Ingram has been gracious enough to send their veteran welders into our school to explain to students what its like to work in the world of welding. This partnership has been so successful this year we have decided to open a full welding program and Ingram has hired several of our students.

Please do not hesitate to contact me at 270-236-2517 or terry.sullivan@fulton.kyschools.us if you have any questions or I can be any further assistance.

Sincerely,

Terry Sullivan
Principal, Fulton County Area Technology Center

OFFICE OF CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION



Fulton County Area Technology Center

2720 Moscow Ave Hickman, KY 42050
Phone: (270) 236-2517 Fax: (270) 236-9395

Terry Sullivan, Principal
terry.sullivan@fulton.kyschools.us

May 18, 2015

Work Ready Community Committee
c/o Hickman County Judge Executive Office
116 S. Jefferson Street
Clinton, KY 42031

Dear Work Ready Committee Members,

The Fulton County Area Technology Center is pleased to announce its support of the Work Ready Community program for Hickman County. The ATC has been a partner with Hickman County and its school district for 42 years and during that time has had a strong partnership to train quality workers for the workforce. We are committed to help Hickman County in this process to help build a stronger workforce for the future.

The Fulton County Area Technology Center's mission is to produce students who are ready for the workforce. We have committed to helping every student find a career pathway that is right for their future. We strive to help these students pass the WorkKeys and KOSSA tests and work closely with West Kentucky Community and Technical College and Murray State University to offer our students college credit while attending high school. Finally, we collaborate with local industries to place students in meaningful work and constantly update our curriculum to produce quality workers.

We intend to support the WRC committee by participation in WorkKeys testing. We are a testing site with ACT and would love to support the committee by testing the students in Hickman County. We will also help in any other activities as the need develops.

Please do not hesitate to contact me at 270-236-2517 or terry.sullivan@fulton.kyschools.us if I can be any assistance.

Sincerely,

Terry Sullivan
Principal, Fulton County Area Technology Center

Amanda Ballantine
Hickman County Property Valuation Administrator



110 East Clay Street, Suite F
Clinton, KY 42031
270-653-5521

Wednesday, May 20, 2015

Dear Work Ready Community Committee,

I am asking that you consider our commitment to the Kentucky Work Ready Community Program for Hickman County. We are interested in working with organizations, groups, and offices that are like minded in order to benefit Hickman County.

Hickman County Property Valuation commits to participate, as well as, support this program. Our intentions are to support this committee by sending a representative to any developmental planning events, and by attending community meetings.

If our office can further assist you, please contact us at the above phone number.

Sincerely,

Amanda Ballantine



110 EAST CLAY STREET
SUITE D
CLINTON, KY 42031

HICKMAN COUNTY ATTORNEY
JASON BATTS

TELEPHONE (270)-653-6335
FAX: 844-579-7678

May 20, 2015

Work Ready Community Committee
c/o Hickman County Fiscal Court
116 S. Jefferson
Clinton, Kentucky 42031

Dear Work Ready Committee Members:

The Hickman County Attorney's Office is pleased to announce its support of the Work Ready Community Program for Hickman County.

We are interested in the Work Readiness Community Program due to the benefits it will bring to Hickman County and its employers. My office employs 1 full time and 2 part time employees. As an elected official working closely with the public on a daily basis, we are all very interested in attracting employees who will meet the challenges in working in an industry that requires the ability to interact with complex operating systems in a self-directed team environment.

Please do not hesitate to contact me at (270) 653-6335, should you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Jason Batts
as

Jason Batts

JB/als

James S. Berry

*Hickman County Clerk
110 East Clay St, Suite E
Clinton, KY 42031*

May 21, 2015

Dear Work Ready Community Committee Members,

The Hickman County Clerk's Office is pleased to announce our support of the Work Ready Community initiative for Hickman County.

We are excited about the opportunities that lay ahead for the residents of Hickman County as we become Work Ready. We know that we have a diverse, highly skilled workforce and we realize the importance of letting employers know that Hickman County is, in fact, Work Ready. We are excited about the possibility of bringing new business and industry to Hickman County.

We intend to support the Work Ready Community Committee by participating in strategic planning, community meetings, and other activities as the need develops.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be the initials 'JB' followed by a long, sweeping horizontal stroke.

James Berry



MARK A. GREEN, SHERIFF
HICKMAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Tuesday, June 9, 2015

Dear Work Ready Community Committee,

I am asking that you consider our commitment to the Kentucky Work Ready Community Program for Hickman County. We are interested in the Work Readiness Community program due to the benefits it will bring to Hickman County and its employers. We want to work with other organizations, groups and offices in order to benefit Hickman County.

The Hickman County Sheriffs Office commits to participate, as well as, support this program. Our intentions are to support this committee by sending a representative to any developmental planning events and by attending community meetings.

If this office can be of any further assistance please contact me at the phone number below.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mark A Green". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Mark A Green, Sheriff



**West Kentucky
Workforce**
Investment Board

300 Hammond Dr.
Hopkinsville, KY
42240-4929

Dear Work Ready Community Steering Committee:

Please consider this letter documentation of our commitment to the Kentucky Work Ready Community Program for Christian County. The West Kentucky Workforce Investment Board commits to participate in the program, support the program and work to spread the word and to gain participation from others in our community.

In addition to the above, we are willing to participate by:

- Sending a representative to an annual strategic planning retreat for our Work Ready Community effort,
- Attending periodic community meetings to discuss the program with others, and
- Accepting the National Career Readiness Certificate as a valid work readiness credential in our hiring and/or promotions processes (for employers).

Organization: West Kentucky Workforce Investment Board

Contact Name: Sheila A. Clark

Title/Role: Director

Phone: (270) 886-9484

Email: sheila.clark@ky.gov

Mailing Address: 300 Hammond Dr.

City, State and Zip: Hopkinsville, KY 42240

County: Hickman County

Sheila A. Clark
Signature

May 5, 2015
Date



1002 MEDICAL DRIVE
P.O. BOX 588
MAYFIELD, KY 42066-0588
Phone: 270-247-7171
Fax: 270-251-6110
purchase.add@purchaseadd.org

March 31, 2015

Judge Executive Kenny Wilson
Hickman County Fiscal Court
116 Jefferson Street
Clinton, KY 42031

Dear Judge Wilson,

The Purchase Area Development District (PADD) is a partnership organization that offers a diverse collection of services, touching every aspect of life in the eight-county area of West Kentucky including programs for human support, community infrastructure planning, economic development, and special projects. The blending of these offerings provides a well-rounded approach to meeting the current and future needs of our region.

The PADD provides opportunities for community leaders to gather, share common concerns, and create innovative approaches to local and regional challenges, including developing a skilled and quality workforce. The PADD administers the Workforce Investment Act (WIA) programs in the Purchase under the direction of the West Kentucky Workforce Investment Board (WKWIB) which serves the seventeen counties of the Purchase and Pennyriple Areas.

The PADD supports the effort by Hickman County leaders to participate the Kentucky Work Ready Communities Program. Please consider this letter of documentation of our commitment to participate and support your effort to spread the word and gain participation from others. In addition to the above, we are willing to participate by:

- *Sending a representative to an annual strategic Work Ready Communities planning retreat,*
- *Attending periodic community meetings to discuss the program with others, and*
- *Accepting the National Career Readiness Certificate as a valid work readiness credential in our hiring and/or promotions processes.*

Sincerely,

Jennifer Beck Walker, Executive Director
Phone: (270) 247-7171
Jennifer.beckwalker@purchaseadd.org
PO Box 588
Mayfield, KY 42066



Clinton-Hickman County
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

P.O. BOX 152 CLINTON, KENTUCKY 42031

April 14, 2015

Work Ready Community Committee
c/o Hickman County Judge Executive Office
116 S Jefferson St
Clinton, KY 42031

Dear Work Ready Committee Members,

The Clinton-Hickman County Chamber of Commerce is pleased to announce its support of the Work Ready Community program for Hickman County. The Chamber strives to promote and support business in Hickman County. The partnership with city, county, and state entities allow our business and educational community members to accomplish a mission of promoting and supporting businesses and recruiting new businesses to our area.

We are interested in the Work Readiness Community program because of its opportunities it brings to Hickman County and its employers. The Chamber will support any efforts to benefit the community with growth and work readiness. So therefore, we are ready, willing, and able to work in Hickman County.

Please consider this letter documentation of our commitment of the Kentucky Work Ready Community Program for Hickman County. The Clinton-Hickman County Chamber of Commerce commits to participate in the program, support the program and work to gain participation from others in our community.

We are willing to participate by sending a representative to annual strategic planning meetings and attend periodic community meetings. We look forward to this work readiness certification in Hickman County.

Organization:	Clinton-Hickman County Chamber of Commerce
Key Contact Name:	Deena Pittman
Key Contact Title/Role:	Chamber President
Key Contact Phone Number:	270-653-4301
Key Contact E-mail:	Deena.pittman@fcbheartland.com
Address:	114 E Jackson St, P.O. Box 138 Clinton, KY 42031 Hickman County

Sincerely,

Deena Pittman
Chamber President

P.O. BOX 152 CLINTON, KENTUCKY 42031



Hickman-Fulton Counties RECC

P.O. Box 190
Hickman, KY 42050-0190
www.hfrecc.com

Telephone: (270) 236-2521
Fax: (270) 236-3028
Toll Free: 1-800-633-1391

KY TTY-TTD (711)
E-mail: info@hfrecc.com

May 11, 2015

Work Ready Community Committee
C/o Kenny Wilson, County Judge Executive
Hickman County, Kentucky
116 S. Jefferson Street
Clinton, KY 42031

Dear Work Ready Committee Members,

Hickman-Fulton Counties Rural Electric Corporative Corporation is pleased to announce its support of the Work Ready Community Program for Hickman County.

HFRECC is a cooperative owned electric distribution utility serving consumers in Hickman County. Our main goal is to always provide the most reliable electric serve at the lowest rates possible. Therefore, we are very interested in attracting businesses and industries to our area so we may have a larger consumer base to distribute our fixed cost over.

HFRECC is interested in the Work Readiness Community program due to the benefits it will bring to Hickman County and its present and future employers. We realize that a skilled, capable, and competent workforce is attractive to businesses and industries interested in locating in Hickman County. HFRECC believes by having Hickman County designated as a Work Ready Community these businesses and industries will realize that if they locate in our community there will be enough skilled workers to fill their employment needs.

We intend to support the Hickman County Work Ready Community Committee by participating in strategic planning, community meetings and other activities as the need develops.

Please do not hesitate to contact me at 270-236-2521 if I can be of any assistance.

Sincerely,

Debbie Weatherford
Interim President/CEO
Hickman-Fulton Counties RECC

Roberts Crop Insurance Inc.

P.O. Box 285
Clinton, Ky. 42031
270-254-0254

Dear Work Ready Committee Members,

Roberts Crop Insurance Inc. is pleased to announce its support of the Work Ready Community program for Hickman County.

Our insurance company works with farmers, agriculture retail outlets and USDA offices in ten counties. Agriculture is one of the fastest growing industries in our area and the need to identify employees with the necessary skills is never ending. We are very interested in learning how Work Keys assessments can benefit potential employers in their hiring process.

We intend to support the Work Ready Community Committee by participating in all aspects of its development.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can be of any assistance.

Sincerely


Tommy Roberts, President



June 2, 2015

Dear Work Ready Committee Members,

Clinton Place, A Diversicare Transitional Care Community is pleased to announce the support of the Work Ready Community Program for Hickman County. Clinton Place is one of 52 nursing centers under the leadership of Diversicare Health Care Management. We opened in April, 2012 and our business with the support of the community has grown from caring for four patients to currently 71 today.

We are interested in the Work Readiness Community program due to the benefits it will bring Hickman County and its employers. We employ over 70 employees in a person centered home environment with our mission to "improve every life we touch by providing exceptional healthcare and exceeding expectations". We live by our service standards not only in our professional lives but in our personal lives as well. We strive to employ people with our service standards and who are team oriented with the same mission as ours. We employ RNs, LPNs, SRNAs, Social Workers, Activity Directors, Therapist, Business Office professionals to name a few. We currently work in partnership with the HCHS Leadership program and the mentor program as well a site for the Fulton County Technical School nursing assistant clinicals.

We intend to support the WRC committee by participation in Strategic planning, community meetings and other activities as the need develops.

Please do not hesitate to contact me at 270-653-5558 if I can be of any assistance.

Sincerely,



Trella Wilson, BSW, LNHA

Administrator

The Hickman County Gazette

308 S. Washington St. • Clinton, KY 42031 • Phone: 270-653-3381 • Fax: 270-653-3322
E-Mail: news@hickmancountygazette.com Web: hickmancountygazette.com

Date: April 8, 2015

Work Ready Community Committee
c/o Hickman County Judge Executive Office
116 S. Jefferson,
Clinton, KY 42031

Dear Work Ready Committee Members,

The Hickman County Gazette is pleased to announce its support of the Work ready Community program for Hickman County. The Hickman County Gazette, established in 1843, has a long history of producing a quality newspaper each week for our subscribers both in Hickman County and abroad. The Gazette currently employs three people and is part of Magic Valley Publishing Co., Inc., which controls eight community newspapers and four free shoppers in western Kentucky and West Tennessee.

As a large portion of our revenue is from advertising from local businesses, our bottom line directly benefits from economic development in Hickman County. More successful businesses in Hickman County means more advertising revenue for us. Another large portion of our revenue is from circulation, which is directly correlated to the local population. If the population in and around Hickman County were to increase due to industrial and economic development, our circulation would increase accordingly.

Thus, in many ways, the success of a community newspaper is directly dependent on the economic wellbeing of the market served, in this case, Hickman County.

To support the Work Ready Community program in Hickman County, we stand ready to provide positive public exposure to the program and its activities, as we have already featured two front page items in separate issues exclusively covering Hickman County's Work Ready Program. We intend to support the county's pursuing of the Work Ready Community designation in whatever way we can, whether it be in strategic planning, community meetings, or other needs as they may develop.

Please do not hesitate to contact me at 270-653-3381 or email news@hickmancountygazette.com if I can be of any assistance.

Sincerely,



Daniel Richardson

Editor, The Hickman County Gazette

The Hickman County Times

106 South Jefferson Street
Clinton, KY 42031
(270) 653-4040 Fax (270) 653-6896
www.thehctimes.com

Work Ready Community Committee
c/o Hickman County Judge/Executive's Office
116 S. Jefferson
Clinton, KY 42031

Dear Work Ready Committee Members,

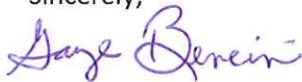
The Hickman County Times weekly newspaper is excited to announce our support of the Work Ready Community Program in Hickman County! The Work Keys certification will provide something extra for those seeking employment to have in-hand, which will be an added boost to their job application. It will also provide the employer an "at-a-glance" summary of the type of employee his or her company/business will be gaining. It will be a tremendous asset to those seeking employment, since Hickman County graduates and other adults can show new or existing employers a certificate with information in a nutshell showing their character in terms of attendance, grades, test scores, office referrals, etc. The employer has a better idea of the type of employee he or she would be gaining, if they hired that individual. As business owners, we feel this is an invaluable asset. This "up front" documentation cuts down on the application process, and we can more quickly find a good match for our company.

Hickman County has shown its devotion to moving in a positive direction - already having achieved a 100 percent graduation rate, and it is the only school in the state with over 100 in College and Career Readiness. That speaks volumes of the dedication of our school officials, past and present. I have no doubt that once a Work Ready Community designation is in place, our city and county officials will take it and run, working to soar to greater heights in terms of economic development, whether it be small business or large industry, in Hickman County. Judge Executive Wilson, during his time as Superintendent of Hickman County Schools, was instrumental in the Hickman County School System getting to the point it is today. He has already shown the same energetic, positive drive to do the same for the county.

The Hickman County Times has published articles about the Work Ready Community, attended the Community Kick-Off, featured a large, front page group photo of folks attending the Kick-off (while they held "Work Ready" signs) and will continue to publish articles, as this exciting journey continues.

My partner Tommy or I may be reached by calling 270-653-4040.
We are glad to be part of something so exciting for our county!

Sincerely,



Gaye Bencini
Co-Publisher



102 N. Washington • P.O. Box 220
Clinton, Kentucky 42031

Phone: 270-653-4307

Work Ready Community Committee
c/o Hickman County Judge Executive
Kenny Willson
116 S Jefferson Street
Clinton, KY 42031

Dear Work Ready Committee Members,

River Valley AgCredit is pleased to announce its support of the Work Ready Community program for Hickman County. River Valley AgCredit has been serving the financial needs of borrowers of the Hickman County community for over 40 years.

We support and are interested in the Work Readiness Community Program due the many benefits it will bring to Hickman County and its employers. When River Valley AgCredit hires new employees, we strive to hire from the County in which they will be working. This increases the likely hood that our borrowers will know and be comfortable with a new employee that resides in the same County as they do.

It is River Valley AgCredit's intention to fully support the Work Ready Community Committee by participating in strategic planning and community meetings as this program evolves.

Please contact me at 270-653-4307 if I can be any further assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Lori Burgess".

Lori Burgess, Service Center Coordinator
River Valley AgCredit



STEVEN L. BESHEAR
GOVERNOR

BOB STEWART
SECRETARY

TOURISM, ARTS AND HERITAGE CABINET
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS

COLUMBUS-BELMONT STATE PARK
P.O. BOX 9, 350 PARK ROAD
COLUMBUS, KENTUCKY 42032
PHONE 270-677-2327
FAX 270-677-4013
WWW.PARKS.KY.GOV

ELAINE N. WALKER
COMMISSIONER

CINDY LYNCH
PARK MANAGER

Kenny Wilson, County Judge Executive
Hickman County Kentucky
116 S. Jefferson Street
Clinton, KY 42031

Dear Kenny and Work Ready Committee,

Columbus-Belmont State Park would like to participate in the Work Ready Community program in Hickman County. Columbus-Belmont is a historic park that is as rich in Civil War history as it is in beauty.

Approximately 150,000 people visit this park each year and it is our goal for each one of our guests to have a memorable experience. We are interested in the Work Readiness Community program due to the benefits it will bring to our guests, Columbus-Belmont State Park and to Hickman County. We would like to know more about the Work Keys assessments and how to use the Work Keys in our applicant screening process to assist in finding employees who are well informed, confident, and have the ability to communicate with each other, their employer, and the many guests who visit the park and Hickman County each year.

We intend to support the WRC committee by participation in strategic planning, community meetings and other activities as the need develops.

Please let me know if I can be of assistance.

Sincerely,

Cindy Lynch, Manager
Columbus-Belmont State Park

April 19, 2015

Work Ready Community Committee
c/o Hickman County Judge Executive
116 South Jefferson Street
Clinton, KY 42031

Dear Work Ready Community Members,

C&S Construction is proud to announce its support of the Work Ready Community program in Hickman County. C&S Construction has been an established business in Clinton, KY since 1967 and has provided local farmers and community members with grain storage, crane rental, and millwright needs since then. An average of 19 employees is employed by C&S Construction yearly.

We look forward to being involved in the Work Ready Community and the benefits it can bring. As the need for grain storage increases, we are always looking for ways to grow our business and quality employees to hire to get the job done. In the years to come, we are excited to work with the Work Ready Community to share our mission and potentially increase the size of and area covered by our business. The Work Keys assessment would also benefit us when working through the hiring process. When hiring, we look for employees that are not only willing to learn the trade but come in with experience as well. In the construction business, it is absolutely essential that our employees not only have a good work ethic, but are also masters of their trade in order to prevent accidents and problems during construction. By utilizing the Work Keys assessment, this will help us to more accurately judge the skills and qualities of prospective employees.

We intend to support the Work Ready Community Committee by participation in strategic planning, community meetings, and other activities as needs develop. Please feel free to contact us at (270) 653-4102.

Sincerely,



Greg Kelly
Vice President
C&S Constuction



APRIL 15, 2015

WORK READY COMMUNITY COMMITTEE
C/O HICKMAN COUNTY JUDGE EXECUTIVE
116 S. JEFFERSON
CLINTON, KY 42031

DEAR WORK READY COMMUNITY COMMITTEE MEMBERS,

HUTSON, INC, A SUBSIDIARY OF GLOBAL AG SOURCE, INC. IS PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE OUR SUPPORT OF THE WORK READY COMMUNITY PROGRAM FOR HICKMAN COUNTY. THE JOHN DEERE DEALERSHIP COMMONLY KNOWN AS HUTSONS HAS A LONG HISTORY OF SELLING, BUYING AND REPAIRING AGRICULTURAL EQUIPMENT AND PARTS. WE STARTED AS A FAMILY OWNED AND OPERATED ENTITY. IN THE PAST 5 YEARS WE HAVE GROWN FROM 6 STORES IN THE WESTERN END OF KENTUCKY TO 13 STORES AND A CORPORATE SUPPORT CENTER IN 4 STATES.

WE ARE VERY INTERESTED IN THE WORK READY COMMUNITY PROGRAM NOT ONLY FOR HOW IT CAN POTENTIALLY HELP HUTSON BUT ALSO OUR STAKEHOLDERS. WE EMPLOY APPROXIMATELY 450 PEOPLE COMPANY WIDE. THE AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRY HAS PROGRESSED AS FAST IF NOT FASTER THAN OTHER INDUSTRIES. AGRICULTURAL EQUIPMENT HAS EVOLVED TO THE POINT THAT THE ON-BOARD ELECTRONICS ARE MORE SOPHISTICATED THAN MOST AUTOMOBILES. THIS MEANS WE NO LONGER RECRUIT AS MANY TECHNICIANS THAT ARE GOOD MECHANICS ONLY. WE NOW LOOK FOR TECHNICIANS THAT ARE ALSO COMPUTER SAVVY ENOUGH TO WORK ON THE ELECTRONIC PIECES.

WE ARE HOPING THAT THE WORK READY INITIATIVE WILL HELP US CREATE A POOL OF WELL TRAINED EMPLOYEES FOR ALL POSITIONS. WE UNDERSTAND THAT A WELL-TRAINED LABOR POOL DOES NOT HAPPEN ON ITS OWN NOR DOES IT HAPPEN OVERNIGHT. THIS IS WHY HUTSON WILL SUPPORT THE WORK READY COMMUNITY COMMITTEE BY PARTICIPATING IN ANY WAY WE CAN BE OF ASSISTANCE. WE INTEND TO BE ACTIVE FROM THE BEGINNING, THROUGHOUT THE CERTIFICATION PROCESS AND HELP SUSTAIN THE INITIATIVE INTO THE FUTURE.

PLEASE FEEL FREE TO CONTACT ME AT 270-210-2069 OR JGILLIAM@HUTSONINC.COM IF I CAN BE OF ANY ASSISTANCE.

SINCERELY,

SAFETY AND COMPLIANCE MANAGER

INGRAM BARGE COMPANY



TEL. 270-877-2161

78 RIVERSIDE DRIVE • P.O. BOX 98
COLUMBUS, KENTUCKY 42032

May 8, 2015

Work Ready Community Committee
Clinton-Hickman County Chamber of Commerce
Box 152
Clinton, KY 42031

Dear Work Ready Committee Members,

Ingram Barge Company, a subsidiary of Ingram Marine Group, is pleased to announce its support of the Work Ready Community program for Hickman County. Ingram Marine Group has been a quality marine transporter on America's inland waterways since 1946, starting out as a small, family-owned business and growing into what we are today: the largest dry cargo carrier and one of the top chemical carriers on the river.

We are interested in the Work Readiness Community program due to the benefits it will bring to Hickman County and its employers. Our Columbus, KY facility employs over 140 employees, with the majority being production (i.e., welders, laborers, mechanics) and vessel associates. Therefore, we are very interested in attracting employees who will meet the challenges of working in the river industry.

Please do not hesitate to contact me at (270) 441-1650 if I can be of any assistance.

Sincerely,

Tom Montgomery
Director, Human Resources



"The Best in Country Hams"

May 4, 2015

Work Ready Community Committee
c/o Hickman County Chamber of Commerce
Clinton, KY 42031

Dear Work Ready Committee Members:

Harper's Country Hams is pleased to announce its support of the Work Ready Community Program for Hickman County. Harper's Country Hams has a long tradition of producing and marketing award-winning country hams, smoked bacon and other delicious products. Harper's is a family-owned business that has been in production at the same location for over sixty-three years.

We at Harper's are very interested in the Work Ready Community Program because of its benefits in the selection process of hiring new employees. Harper's currently employs over seventy individuals in the curing, processing, maintenance and daily operations of its business. We are very interested in attracting and holding employees who will meet the challenges of working in our industry, an industry that requires the ability to interact, make decisions, take directions and become part of a team concept. To help identify these candidates could become an integral part of our application process.

Harper's Country Hams intends to support the Work Ready Community Committee by participation in planning, community meetings and other activities as needs develop. Please do not hesitate to contact us at 270-653-2081 if we can be of assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Dolores Harper".

Dolores Harper

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Brian Harper".

Brian Harper



May 5, 2015

Dear Work Ready Steering Committee,

This letter is to verify that the Hickman County Cooperative Extension Service is in full support and committed to the Work Ready Communities Initiative in Hickman County. We will continue to participate in the strategic planning and community meetings to support our county's Work Ready in Progress Application. We commit to participating in the program, supporting and marketing the program, as well as increasing participation from our community and clientele.

In addition to the above, we are willing to support this initiative through:

- Sending a Representative to strategic planning meetings for our Work Community efforts and attending Community Meetings to discuss the program with others.
- Offering and Conducting Soft Skills/ Workforce Preparation Education to Adults in our community resulting in a Soft Skills Certificate that will increase Employability and Job Retention.
- Accepting the National Career Readiness Certificate as a valid work readiness credential in our hiring process and/ or promotions processes.
- Marketing the Work Keys Test/ NCRC to our clients and community as a measure of employability.

The Cooperative Extension Service is the most comprehensive outreach and engagement program at the University of Kentucky. Our mission, simply stated, is to make a difference in the lives of Kentucky citizens through research-based education. Hickman County Cooperative Extension Service serves as an educational partner and community economic development partner within Hickman County. We proudly support Hickman County being a Work Ready Community.

Sincerely,



Melissa Goodman
County Extension Agent
for Family and Consumer Sciences

Paula McCuiston
County Extension Agent
for 4-H Youth Development

Mattea Mitchell
County Extension Agent
for Agriculture/Natural
Resources



Care Is Our Middle Name.™

May 12, 2015

Hickman County Judge Executive
116 S. Jefferson
Clinton, KY 42031

Dear Work Ready Community Committee,

Clinton-Hickman County ICF is a full service nonprofit nursing facility. We have a long history of providing exceptional quality care to the residents of Hickman County. Our mission is to enrich the lives of those we serve by providing an environment that embodies God's love for all. Through care and compassion, we foster a professional work atmosphere where employees are free to utilize their individual talents to meet the needs of our customers daily.

We are interested in the Work Readiness Community program for the benefits that it will bring to Hickman County and its employees. As a health care provider we want to draw qualified individuals who can meet our high standards in a complex health system environment. We intend to support the Work Readiness Community by participation in strategic planning, community meetings and other activities as the need develops.

If you have any questions or if I can be of further assistance please call contact me at (270) 653-2461.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rollie Bushor', written in a cursive style.

Rollie Bushor
Administrator



750 State Route 123 W
Clinton KY 42031
270-653-6226

April 21, 2015

Dear Work Ready Committee Members,

We are interested in the Work Readiness Community program due to the benefits it will bring to Hickman County and its employers. Crop Production Services employs 18 employees in the surrounding area with jobs pertaining to the agricultural field. Therefore, we are very interested in attracting employees who will meet the challenges of working in an industry that requires the ability to interact with complex operating systems in a self-directed team environment. To identify applicants who can meet these demands, currently we use a structured interview process combined with a series of tests to identify applicants who have the best opportunity to succeed. We are interested in learning more about Work Keys assessments to understand how we might use Work Keys in our applicant screening process.

We intend to support the WRC committee by participation in strategic planning, community meetings and other activities as the need develops.

Please do not hesitate to contact me at 270-653-6226 if I can be of any assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Jerry Lock'.

Operations Manager



Security Seed & Chemical, Inc.

4217 State Route 703 E
Clinton, Ky. 42031
Office # 270-653-6718
Fax # 270-653-6719

April 28, 2015

Work Ready Community Committee
c/o Hickman County Judge Executive
Kenny Wilson
116 S Jefferson Street
Clinton, Ky. 42031

Dear Work Ready Committee Members,

Security Seed & Chemical, Inc. is pleased to announce our support of the Work Ready Community Program for Hickman Co., Ky. SS&C is a seed, chemical, and fertilizer retailer headquartered in Clarksville, Tn. We have 14 store locations in Kentucky, Tennessee, and Indiana. The Hickman Co. location is one of our newest stores and was opened in December, 2012. We have approximately 125 employees, with the Hickman Co. location having 7 of them. Agriculture is very predominant in Hickman Co. and will require continued employment for years to come.

We are very interested and supportive in the Work Ready Community Program. It can and will help the agricultural industry in our rural community. Farming has become a very modernized business and it continues to become more sophisticated day by day. This program can greatly enhance the likelihood of making a workforce that can greatly contribute to the agriculture industry.

Please feel free to contact me at 270-653-6718 or mike@securityseed.com if I can be of any further assistance.

Sincerely,

Mike Allen
Sr. Credit Manager
Security Seed & Chemical, Inc.



May 27, 2015

Work Ready Community Committee
c/o Hickman County Judge Executive Office
116 S Jefferson St
Clinton, KY 42031

Dear Work Ready Committee Members,

First Community Bank is pleased to announce its support of the Work Ready Community program for Hickman County.

We are interested in the Work Readiness Community program because of the opportunities it brings to Hickman County and its employers. First Community Bank will support any efforts to benefit the community with growth and work readiness. So therefore, we are ready, willing, and able to work in Hickman County.

Please consider this letter documentation of our commitment of the Kentucky Work Ready Community Program for Hickman County. First Community Bank commits to participate in the program, support the program and work to gain participation from others in our community.

We are willing to participate by sending a representative to annual strategic planning meetings and attend periodic community meetings. We look forward to this work readiness certification in Hickman County.

Organization:	First Community Bank of the Heartland, Inc.
Key Contact Name:	Bruce Kimbell
Key Contact Title/Role:	President
Key Contact Phone Number:	270-653-4301
Key Contact E-mail:	Bruce.kimbell@fcbheartland.com
Address:	114 E Jackson St, P.O. Box 138 Clinton, KY 42031 Hickman County

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bruce Kimbell", is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Bruce Kimbell
President



CLINTON BANK

April 15, 2015

**Mr. Kenny Wilson
Hickman County Judge Executive
116 S. Jefferson Street
Clinton, KY 42031**

RE: Work Ready Community Committee

Kenny:

The Clinton Bank is pleased to announce its support of the Work Ready Community program for Hickman County. We have a long history of serving the community and providing financial services to the citizens of Hickman County. Our support of the community began in 1887 and has continued uninterrupted through recessions, depressions and the financial crisis of 2008. In today's environment, that support takes the form of the latest in internet and mobile banking products, as well as, our participation in the local organizations, including Senior Citizens, Chamber of Commerce and Rotary, that contribute so much to the fabric of our community.

We are interested in the Work Readiness Community program due to the benefits it will bring to Hickman County, its citizens and its employers. The Clinton Bank employs a staff of 14 in various positions. Therefore, we are interested in attracting employees who have a desire to work and will meet the challenges of working in a financial industry that requires advanced math and computer skills as well as the ability to communicate effectively. To identify applicants who can meet these demands, we currently use a detailed interview process to assist us in selecting those who have the best opportunity to succeed. We are interested in learning more about Work Keys assessments and understanding how we might use them in our applicant screening process and for internal position reassignments.

We intend to support the WRC Committee by participating in strategic planning, community meetings and other activities as those needs develop.

Please do not hesitate to contact me at 270-653-4001 if I can be of assistance.

Sincerely,

**Glenn Reid
President/CEO**



May 13, 2015

Work Ready Community Committee
c/o Hickman County Jude Executive
116 South Jefferson
Clinton, KY 42031

Dear Work Ready Committee Members,

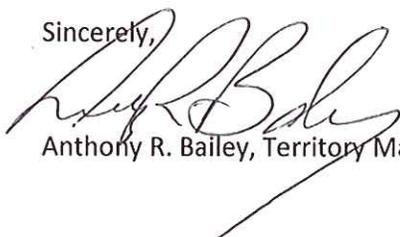
Agri-Chem, LLC (Clinton) a subsidiary of Hopkinsville Grain Elevator Company is thrilled to announce its support of the Work Ready Community program for Hickman County. Agri-Chem, LLC (Clinton) commonly known as "The Gin" has a long history of supplying agriculture products to support the families and community of Fulton, Hickman, Carlisle, and Graves counties since 1922.

We are interested in the Work Readiness Community program due to the endless benefits it will bring to Hickman County and its employers. Agri-Chem, LLC employs approximately 15 employees. Therefore, we are interested in appealing to prospective employees who will meet the challenges of working in an industry that demands the ability to interact with complex operating systems in a self-directed team environment. To recognize applicants who can meet these demands, we use an interview process along with an extensive safety and training program to determine applicants who would have the best opportunity to succeed in our company. We are very intrigued in learning more about NCRC or Work Keys assessments to better understand how we might implement Work Keys in our applicant screening process and possibly for internal promotions.

We intend to support the WRC committee by participation in strategic planning, community meetings and other activities as the needs develops.

Please do not hesitate to contact me at (270) 653-2731 if we can be of any assistance.

Sincerely,



Anthony R. Bailey, Territory Manager

**HICKMAN COUNTY ARTS COUNCIL, INC.
P.O. BOX 95
CLINTON, KY 42031**

April 16, 2015

Hickman County Judge Executive Office
116 S. Jefferson St.
Clinton KY 42031

Dear Judge Wilson:

On behalf of the Hickman County Arts Council and Friends of Hickman County Arts, I would like to express our support for the Work Ready Community program in Hickman County.

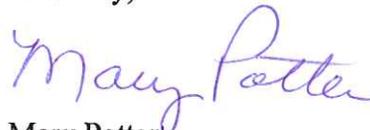
The Arts Council's overall goal is to improve the lives of Hickman Countians. Employment in good paying jobs is an integral part of such an improvement. Retaining and attracting a competent work force will benefit us all.

We are blessed with a large population of talented people: educators, writers, artists and musicians. We are also blessed with young people who love this area and want to remain in Hickman County. The Arts Council has assisted over 100 high school students in gaining leadership skills.

We have worked with all age groups to create one of the signature arts events in the region – the Arts, Crafts & Book Fair, now in its 11th year. In order for programs like these to continue, Hickman County will need to grow. To grow, we must have a trained work force.

If our organization can be of assistance, we stand ready to help. I am aware of several of our members who would be excellent committee members. We are ready to do our part to support a successful application for Work Ready status.

Sincerely,



Mary Potter
Chair, HC Arts Council
270-653-3312

**HICKMAN COUNTY HISTORICAL &
GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.
107 S. WASHINGTON ST.
CLINTON, KY 42031**

May 18, 2015

Hickman County Judge Executive Office
116 S. Jefferson St.
Clinton KY 42031

Dear Judge Wilson:

As President of the Hickman County Historical & Genealogical Society, I would like to express our support for the Work Ready Community program in Hickman County.

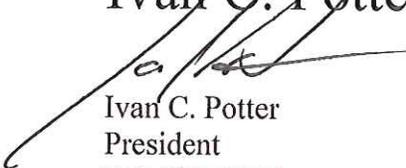
Hickman County's long, rich history is preserved in the books and records of the Historical Society. As the keepers of our heritage, the Society understands the importance of business, commerce and industry in our community. Past President LaDonna Latham's two books, "The Golden Age of Hickman County" demonstrates how commerce is an intricate part of the lives of our citizens. Work is the lifeblood of any community.

The effort by the whole community to be deemed "Work-Ready" is one that will demonstrate to future employers the willingness of Hickman Countians to be part of the of the 21st century. Success in recruitment of new businesses and creation of new jobs is a benefit to all who love this county.

If our organization can be of assistance, we stand ready to help. We are ready to do our part to support a successful application for Work Ready status.

Sincerely,

Ivan C. Potter



Ivan C. Potter
President
270-207-8744

Letter of Intent to Participate

As part of Kentucky's overall strategic plan to transform the workforce development system, the Kentucky Workforce Investment Board and its strategic partners created this certification in order for counties to validate the skill level of the workforce. Participating in this effort offers counties the opportunity to transform the local economy and gain a competitive advantage in attracting new businesses and jobs.

In order to qualify, communities must meet certain thresholds in criteria such as graduation rates, National Career Readiness Certificate holders and educational attainment rates. In addition, communities are required to bring various key agencies and employers together in the process. The process is designed to align education, workforce development and economic development strategies for the state and within communities by using for a collaborative approach.

Additional information about the program is available at: <http://kwib.ky.gov/workreadycommunity.htm>.

Participant Information

This Letter of Intent represents the first step in the process to achieving Work Ready Community status. It is a symbol of your community's commitment to validating and continuously improving the quality of your workforce and alerts state officials of this commitment so that technical assistance along with other resources (as available) can be targeted to such communities.

Please complete the following information and forward a signed copy of this document as instructed at the end of the letter.

NAME OF COUNTY Heckman County

DATE 3/26/2015

COUNTY TEAM LEADER

(This individual will serve as the primary contact for state officials with regard to opportunities, questions and program updates.)

Name Renny Hulson

Title Heckman County Judge Executive

Organization Heckman County Fiscal Court

Mailing Address 116 S. Jefferson St.

City Clinton Zip Code 42031

Daytime Phone 270-653-4369 My cell

Email heckmancountyjudgeexec@gmail.com

COUNTY TEAM MEMBERS

(Please list the names and organizations serving on your county committee or team. If an organization has agreed to participate but not yet named a representative, simply use TBD for the name. You may list more than one organization for each stakeholder category, but must have at least one entity listed for each category. Attach additional pages as necessary)

mailed 3/24/15

Economic Development

Greg Pruitt Executive Director
Name Title

Hickman County Economic Development Authority
Organization Name Title

Eddie Crittendon Executive Director
Organization Name Title

Hickman Fulton Co. Economic Development Authority

Elected Officials

Henry Nelson Judge Executive
Name Title

Jim Stroud Magistrate Hickman Co. Fiscal Court
Organization Name Title

Perry Naranjo Magistrate
Organization Name Title

Henry Cole Magistrate
Organization Name Title

Education

Casey Henderson Superintendent
Name Title

Hickman County
Kevin Estes Principal
Organization Name Title

Beverly Hopkin Community Education Director
Hickman Co. Schools
Organization Name Title

Business & Industry

Brian Harper President
Name Title

Harper's Homes
Debbie Weatherford CEO
Organization Name Title

Hickman Fulton Co. Electric Coop.
Organization Name Title

COLUMBUS-BELMONT STATE PARK

In 1860 Columbus, KY, was a busy Mississippi River port of 1000 people and the northern terminus of the Mobile & Ohio Railroad. Columbus sat on a plain in front of a semicircular chain of 180-foot tall bluffs. In September 1861 Confederate General Leonidas Polk ordered the occupation of Columbus because cannons placed on the bluffs could control the river. On November 7, 1861, a then unknown Union General Ulysses S. Grant fought his first Civil War battle when he raided a small CSA camp at Belmont, Missouri, across the river from Columbus. By early 1862 Polk had dug on the bluff a large earthwork named Fort DeRussy and two smaller forts surrounded by miles of infantry trenches. Cannons were mounted on three shelves cut into the side of the bluff. Two small earthwork forts and more infantry trenches protected the town itself. Polk had more than 17,000 soldiers, about 90 large cannon, 50 smaller field cannon, and dozens of electrically fired land mines buried around Columbus. River mines had been placed in front of a mile long chain of twenty-pound links, supported by barges that stretched across the river from Belmont to a six-ton sea anchor buried inside Fort DeRussy. The Confederates proudly called Columbus the "Gibraltar of the West."

But in February 1862 Grant went around Columbus by capturing the much weaker Forts Henry and Donelson on the Tennessee and Cumberland Rivers. Outflanked and now useless, Columbus was abandoned by Polk in March 1862. Columbus was immediately occupied by the Union Army & Navy and became a very important military river and railroad supply depot for the rest of the war. The occupying Union soldiers had to cope with hostile local civilians, large numbers of refugee former slaves, massive smuggling, endemic guerilla warfare, and raids by Confederate General Bedford Forrest. Fort DeRussy would be renamed Fort Halleck and be eventually garrisoned by 1000 former slaves of the 4th U. S. Colored Heavy Artillery Regiment. By 1865 at least 75% of the Union soldiers in western Kentucky were former slaves.

The Civil War left Columbus devastated. Many buildings had been ruined, the local people impoverished, and the Mobile & Ohio Railroad wrecked. Recovery came after the Mobile & Ohio Railroad was repaired and the Saint Louis & Iron Mountain Railroad came to Belmont, Missouri. A steamboat ferry at Columbus carried the railroad cars across the river. Swelling to about 2000 people, Columbus now became a busy and prosperous transfer point for passengers and freight.

The river and the railroads had given birth to Columbus. Both would now combine to destroy it. In 1881 the M & O bypassed Columbus. And in 1911 the Saint Louis & Iron Mountain discontinued service to Belmont. Columbus had lost all economic reason for existing. In 1918 the Mississippi River began to seriously eat away at Columbus. In 1927 the second of two record floods finally washed away 450 feet of the riverbank. The American Red Cross then moved 500 people and 166 buildings to a new Columbus City on top of the bluffs. Since then the river has continued to slowly move eastwards and has covered about half of the site of the old city.

Columbus-Belmont State Park was built on top of the bluff by the Civilian Conservation Corps during the 1930s. In addition to a wonderful view of the Mississippi River the park has a museum featuring 1864 photographs of Union soldiers stationed at Columbus, the largest Civil War cannon in Kentucky, Polk's six ton sea anchor with a chain of twenty pound links, and the remains of infantry trenches and Fort DeRussy/Halleck.

(Special event – 2nd. Weekend in Oct Civil War Days Reenactment)



Columbus-Belmont State Park is a Civil War site that played a fascinating role in the War Between the States. These fortifications were built by the Confederates and were later occupied by Union forces. The 1861 Battle of Belmont was fought to overtake the Confederate stronghold here and it marked the opening of the Union's Western Campaign. It was also Union General Ulysses S. Grant's first active engagement in the war. **Civil War artifacts and dramatic images** of the war are displayed in the museum. There is a hiking trail that runs through the massive earthworks that formed the Confederate trenches with interpretative signs along the way. Other artifacts are displayed on the grounds such as an anchor and chain and cannon.

The Civil War Days event is held annually on the second weekend of Oct.

Call park office for more information 270-677-2327

Hickman County High School

Mission-Vision Statement

Hickman County High School is committed to developing College and/or Career Ready students by instilling Pride, Motivation, and Ownership of academic and personal excellence.



April 24, 2015

Mrs. Susan Jackson
West Kentucky Educational Cooperative
Adult Education Consortium
420 Wells Hall
Murray, KY 42071

Dear Mrs. Jackson,

This letter serves as a formal agreement between the West Kentucky Workforce Investment Board and the West Kentucky Educational Cooperative's Adult Education Consortium whereby the Adult Education Centers located in Carlisle County, Fulton County, and Hickman County will administer Work Keys testing to individuals not currently enrolled in adult education services, for the purposes of allowing these individuals the opportunity to earn a National Career Readiness Certificate.

In exchange, the West Kentucky Workforce Board grants permission to the West Kentucky Adult Education Centers to use and secure the Workforce Boards' Realm ID number in order to log-into the Work Keys testing site. Adult Education staff will be responsible for maintaining documentation of each individual pursuing a National Career Readiness Certificate. Work Key testing must be administered between April 24, 2015 and May 29, 2015.

The West Kentucky Workforce Investment Board will accept responsibility to receive billing from the Kentucky Cabinet for Education and Workforce Development for testing fees while this Letter of Agreement is in effect. In turn, the West Kentucky Workforce Investment Board accepts responsibility to seek reimbursement of testing fees to partner agencies who have agreed to pay for fees in their specific county detailed below.

- Carlisle County Fiscal Court will assume costs of any Carlisle County resident or employee of a Carlisle County company, who seeks to earn a National Career Readiness Certificate – up to \$2060.86 (including any cost of project promotion).
- Economic Development Partnership of Fulton and Hickman Counties will assume the cost for dislocated workers (from any county) of Parkway Regional Hospital to earn a National Career Readiness Certificate.
- Hickman County Industrial Development Authority will assume costs of any Hickman County resident or employee of a Hickman County company, who seeks to earn a National Career Readiness Certificate.

The West Kentucky Workforce Investment Board is proud to partner with the West Kentucky Educational Cooperative's Adult Education Consortium to provide each of these counties the opportunity to increase the number of individuals 18 to 64 years of age, with a National Career Readiness Certificate, a component of the Kentucky Work Ready Communities program. We urge the West Kentucky Educational Cooperative to seek an additional Realm ID in order to continue the momentum of this effort.

Please sign both copies of this Agreement. Retain one for your file, and return one copy to the West Kentucky Workforce Investment Board.

SHEILA A. CLARK, Executive Director
West Kentucky Workforce Investment Board

Date

SUSAN JACKSON, Director
West Kentucky Educational Cooperative
Adult Education Consortium

Date

GREG TERRY, County Judge/Executive
Carlisle County Fiscal Court

Date

EDDIE CRITTENDON, Director
Economic Development Partnership
of Fulton and Hickman Counties

Date

GREG PRUITT, Director
Hickman County Industrial Development Authority

Date

Kenny Wilson

From: MaryAnne Medlock <MaryAnne.Medlock@purchaseadd.org>
Sent: Tuesday, April 28, 2015 4:18 PM
To: hcedainc@gmail.com
Cc: Kenny Wilson
Subject: Fwd: Letter of Agreement
Attachments: Letter of Agreement-West KY Ed Cooperative Adult Ed-WKWIB 4-24-2015.docx; ATT00001.htm

Dear Judge Pruitt,

Thank you for generously paying the testing fees for Hickman County residents to earn their National Career Readiness Certificates. Attached is the Letter of Agreement between the Workforce Board and the West KY Educational Cooperative. This Agreement must in place so that each of the local adult education centers can use our log-in credentials to administer the test for non-adult ed students. It also outlines billing responsibilities for each county.

Sheila Clark has approved funding for Judge Wilson to pay for advertising, in order to promote the NCRC. We would like to begin running ads as soon as possible. If you are going to be around your office on Thursday or Friday, I would like to visit and get your signature. If you have any questions, please feel free to call me.

Mary Anne

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Massie, Cindy" <Cindy.Massie@ky.gov<mailto:Cindy.Massie@ky.gov>>
Date: April 28, 2015 at 12:14:00 PM CDT
To: "Mary Ann Medlock (MaryAnne.Medlock@purchaseadd.org<mailto:MaryAnne.Medlock@purchaseadd.org>)" <MaryAnne.Medlock@purchaseadd.org<mailto:MaryAnne.Medlock@purchaseadd.org>>
Cc: "Clark, Sheila" <Sheila.Clark@ky.gov<mailto:Sheila.Clark@ky.gov>>
Subject: Letter of Agreement

Hi Mary Anne!

Attached is the Letter of Agreement which has been edited by Sheila. Let me know if you have any questions. Thank you!

Cindy

Cindy Massie
Executive Assistant
West Kentucky Workforce Board
300 Hammond Drive
Hopkinsville, KY 42240
(270) 886-9484
cindy.massie@ky.gov<mailto:cindy.massie@ky.gov>

HICKMAN COUNTY FISCAL COURT

RESOLUTION 2015-3

SUPPORTING HICKMAN COUNTY'S SUBMISSION OF AN APPLICATION FOR WORK READY COMMUNITITES IN THE KENTUCKY WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD'S WORK READY COMMUNITIES INITIATIVE;

WHEREAS, the Hickman County Fiscal Court would like to recognize an show support for Hickman County's submission of an application to participate in the Kentucky Work Ready Communities initiative, because this is an oppportunity to differentiate our community and help Kentucky compete and attract jobs now and in the future;

WHEREAS, the Hickman County Fiscal Court intends that this resolution be included as part of the documentation submitted with the Hickman County Work Ready Communities application; and,

WHEREAS, designation as an Work Ready Community would help Hickman County to be able to identify skill gaps in its workforce and quantify the level of skill within the workforce; and,

WHEREAS, the Hickman County Fiscal Court recognizes the importance of a skilled workforce within Hickman County for the economic life of Hickman County and its citizens;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY Hickman County Fiscal Court;

Section 1: That the findings set out in the preamble to this resolution are hereby in all things approved and adopted.

Section 2: That the Hickman County Fiscal Court hereby supports the submission of an application to participate in the Kentucky Work Ready Communities initiative and will:

- Provide a representative to an annual strategic planning meeting for the Work Ready Communities effort;
- Will attend periodic community meetings to discuss the program with other members of the Hickman County Work Ready Communities team;
- Recognize the National Career Readiness Certificate as a valuable credential for employment consideration;

Section 3: That this resolution shall be effective immediately from and after its passage.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 9 day of April, 2015.


Kenny Wilson, Judge Executive


James Berry, County Clerk

Hickman County Economic Development Authority, Inc.

RESOLUTION 2015 - 1

SUPPORTING HICKMAN COUNTY'S SUBMISSION OF AN APPLICATION FOR WORK READY COMMUNITITES IN THE KENTUCKY WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD'S WORK READY COMMUNITIES INITIATIVE;

WHEREAS, the Hickman County Economic Development Authority, Inc., would like to recognize and show support for Hickman County's submission of an application to participate in the Kentucky Work Ready Communities initiative, because this is an opportunity to differentiate our community and help Kentucky compete and attract jobs now and in the future;

WHEREAS, the Hickman County Economic Development Authority, Inc., intends that this resolution be included as part of the documentation submitted with the Hickman County Work Ready Communities application; and,

WHEREAS, designation as an Work Ready Community would help Hickman County to be able to identify skill gaps in its workforce and quantify the level of skill within the workforce; and,

WHEREAS, the Hickman County Economic Development Authority, Inc., recognizes the importance of a skilled workforce within Hickman County for the economic life of Hickman County and its citizens;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY Hickman County Economic Development Authority, Inc.,;

Section 1: That the findings set out in the preamble to this resolution are hereby in all things approved and adopted.

Section 2: That the Hickman County Economic Development Authority, Inc., hereby supports the submission of an application to participate in the Kentucky Work Ready Communities initiative and will:

- Provide a representative to an annual strategic planning meeting for the Work Ready Communities effort;
- Will attend periodic community meetings to discuss the program with other members of the Hickman County Work Ready Communities team;
- Recognize the National Career Readiness Certificate as a valuable credential for employment consideration;

Section 3: That this resolution shall be effective immediately from and after its passage.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 29th day of April, 2015.

Howard Dillard
Howard Dillard, Vice Chairman

Greg Pruitt
Greg Pruitt, Secretary

CITY OF CLINTON

RESOLUTION 2015 - 5-01

SUPPORTING HICKMAN COUNTY'S SUBMISSION OF AN APPLICATION FOR WORK READY COMMUNITITES IN THE KENTUCKY WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD'S WORK READY COMMUNITIES INITIATIVE;

WHEREAS, the Clinton City Council would like to recognize an show support for Hickman County's submission of an application to participate in the Kentucky Work Ready Communities initiative, because this is an oppportunity to differentiate our community and help Kentucky compete and attract jobs now and in the future;

WHEREAS, the Clinton City Council intends that this resolution be included as part of the documentation submitted with the Hickman County Work Ready Communities application; and,

WHEREAS, designation as an Work Ready Community would help Hickman County to be able to identify skill gaps in its workforce and quantify the level of skill within the workforce; and,

WHEREAS, the Clinton City Council recognizes the importance of a skilled workforce within Hickman County for the economic life of Hickman County and its citizens;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY Clinton City Council;

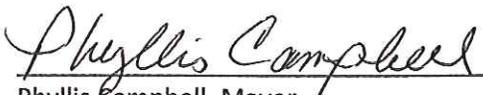
Section 1: That the findings set out in the preamble to this resolution are hereby in all things approved and adopted.

Section 2: That the Clinton City Council hereby supports the submission of an application to participate in the Kentucky Work Ready Communities initiative and will:

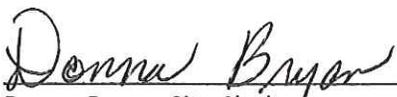
- Provide a representative to an annual strategic planning meeting for the Work Ready Communities effort;
- Will attend periodic community meetings to discuss the program with other members of the Hickman County Work Ready Communities team;
- Recognize the National Career Readiness Certificate as a valuable credential for employment consideration;

Section 3: That this resolution shall be effective immediately from and after its passage.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 4 day of May, 2015.



Phyllis Campbell, Mayor



Donna Bryan, City Clerk

CITY OF COLUMBUS

RESOLUTION 2015 - 1

SUPPORTING HICKMAN COUNTY'S SUBMISSION OF AN APPLICATION FOR WORK READY COMMUNITITES IN THE KENTUCKY WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD'S WORK READY COMMUNITIES INITIATIVE;

WHEREAS, the Columbus City Council would like to recognize and show support for Hickman County's submission of an application to participate in the Kentucky Work Ready Communities initiative, because this is an opportunity to differentiate our community and help Kentucky compete and attract jobs now and in the future;

WHEREAS, the Columbus City Council intends that this resolution be included as part of the documentation submitted with the Hickman County Work Ready Communities application; and,

WHEREAS, designation as an Work Ready Community would help Hickman County to be able to identify skill gaps in its workforce and quantify the level of skill within the workforce; and,

WHEREAS, the Columbus City Council recognizes the importance of a skilled workforce within Hickman County for the economic life of Hickman County and its citizens;

VOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY Columbus City Council;

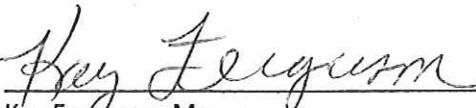
Section 1: That the findings set out in the preamble to this resolution are hereby in all things approved and adopted.

Section 2: That the Columbus City Council hereby supports the submission of an application to participate in the Kentucky Work Ready Communities initiative and will:

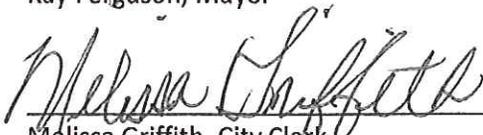
- Provide a representative to an annual strategic planning meeting for the Work Ready Communities effort;
- Will attend periodic community meetings to discuss the program with other members of the Hickman County Work Ready Communities team;
- Recognize the National Career Readiness Certificate as a valuable credential for employment consideration;

Section 3: That this resolution shall be effective immediately from and after its passage.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 4 day of May, 2015.



Kay Ferguson, Mayor



Melissa Griffith, City Clerk

A RESOLUTION OF THE HICKMAN COUNTY SCHOOLS

SUPPORTING HICKMAN COUNTY'S SUBMISSION OF AN APPLICATION FOR WORK READY COMMUNITIES IN THE KENTUCKY WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD'S WORK READY COMMUNITIES INITIATIVE;

WHEREAS, Hickman County Schools would like to recognize and show support for the submission of an application to participate in the Kentucky Work Ready Communities initiative, because this is an opportunity to differentiate our community and help Kentucky compete and attract jobs now and in the future;

WHEREAS, Hickman County Schools intends that this resolution be included as part of the documentation submitted with the Work Ready Communities application; and,

WHEREAS, designation as an Work Ready Community would help Hickman County to be able to identify skills gaps in its workforce and quantify the level of skill within the workforce; and,

WHEREAS, Hickman County Schools recognizes the importance of a skilled workforce within Hickman County for the economic life and its citizens;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE Hickman County Schools:

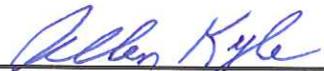
Section 1. That the findings set out in the preamble to this resolution are hereby in all things approved and adopted.

Section 2. That the members of the Hickman County Schools hereby support the agenda in the submission of an application to participate in the Kentucky Work Ready Communities initiative and will:

- provide a representative to an annual strategic planning meeting for the Work Ready Communities effort;
- will attend periodic community meetings to discuss the program with other members of the Hickman County Work Ready Communities team;
- recognize the National Career Readiness Certificate as a valuable credential for employment consideration;

Section 3. That this resolution shall be effective immediately from and after its passage and publication as required by law.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 23rd day of April, 2015.



ALLEN KYLE, Chairman

ATTEST:



CASEY HENDERSON, Superintendent

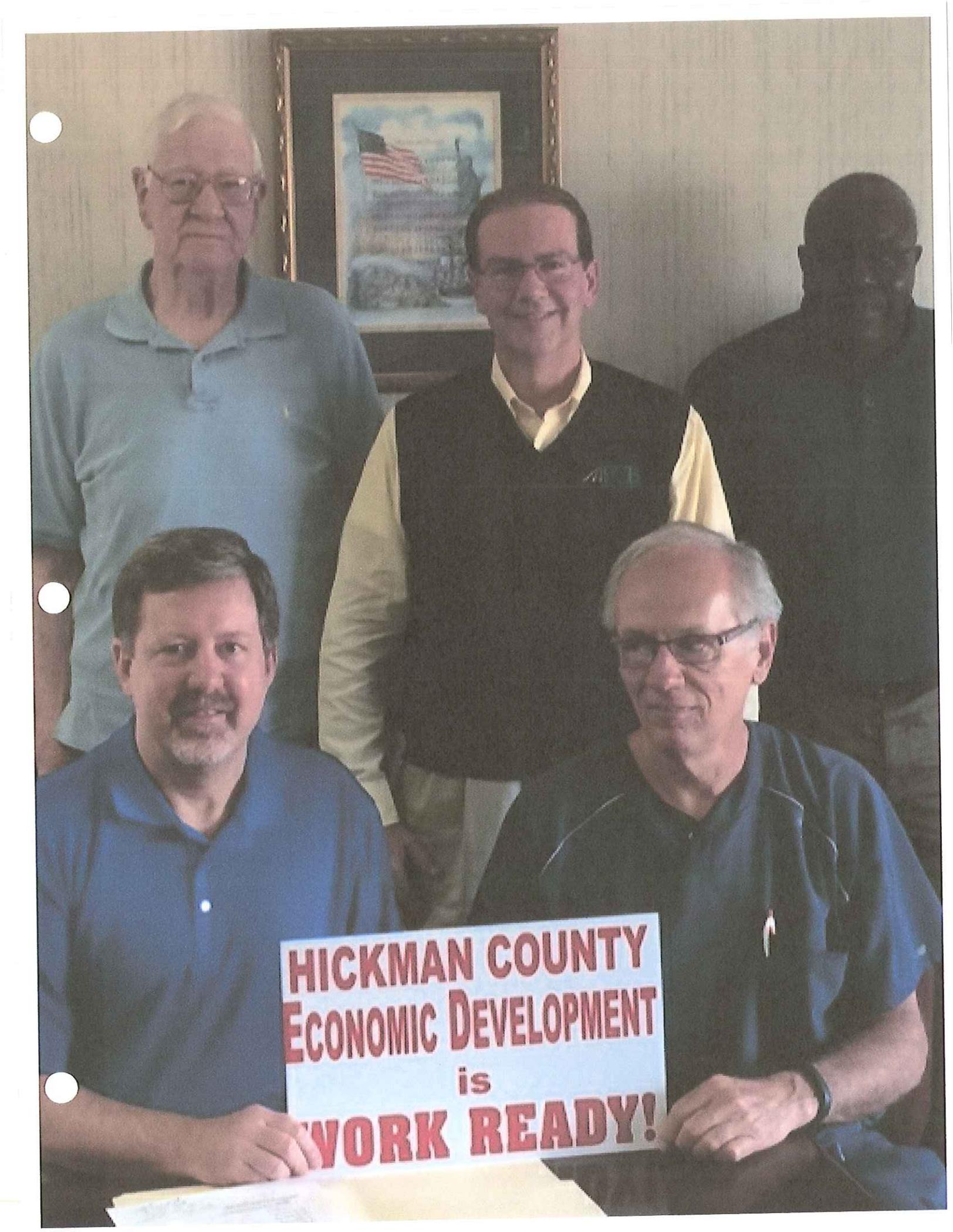










A photograph of four men in an indoor setting. Two men are seated at a table in the foreground, holding a white sign with red text. Two men stand behind them. The man on the left is wearing a light blue polo shirt and glasses. The man in the center is wearing a black vest over a yellow long-sleeved shirt and glasses. The man on the right is wearing a dark blue polo shirt and glasses. The man on the far right is wearing a dark blue polo shirt. In the background, there is a framed picture of an American flag and a building. The sign they are holding reads:

**HICKMAN COUNTY
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
is
WORK READY!**

COLUMBUS CITY HALL

CITY OF COLUMBUS
is
WORK READY!





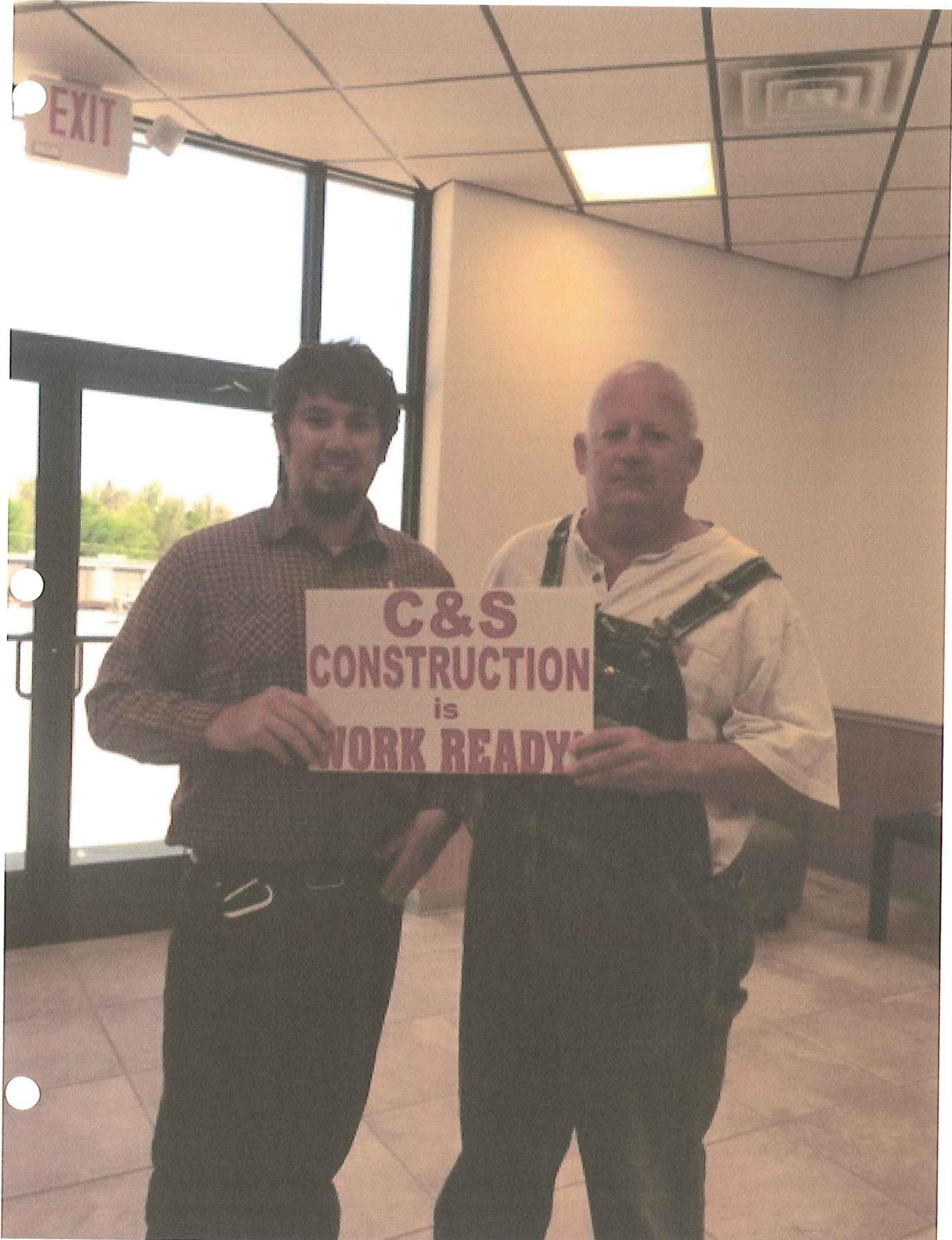




HICKMAN COUNTY
SCHOOLS
are
WORK READY!







C&S
CONSTRUCTION
is
WORK READY

CLINTON CITY COUNCIL MEETING

March 2, 2015

6:00 P.M.

AGENDA

CALL TO ORDER

PRAYER

ROLL CALL

CLOSED SESSION

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

TREASURERS REPORT

POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT

GAS REPORT

WASTE WATER REPORT

VISITORS: KENNY WILSON-WORK READY COMMUNITIES

OLD BUSINESS: PROPERTY TAX PROGRAM

NEW BUSINESS: PROJECT GRADUATION DONATION, TELECOM. AUDIT GROUP, CITY OCCUPATIONAL LICENSE, CITY TRASH CANS, LOT FOR RECYCLING TO HELP WITH COUNTY, EXCLUSIVE CONTRACT FOR WATER COLLECTIONS, EMERGENCY PLANNING MEETING

ADJOURN

HICKMAN COUNTY WORK READY
CLINTON CITY COUNCIL MEETING
March 2, 2015

NAME

BUSINESS OR TITLE

1. Ivan Potter Publisher - West Ky. Journal

2. Howard Dillard City Councilman Council member

3. Jerome Jenkins City Council Member

4. Betty Morrow City Council

5. Lance Poole City Council

6. Phyllis Campbell Mayor

7. _____

8. _____

9. _____

10. _____

11. _____

12. _____

13. _____

14. _____

15. _____

16. _____



AGENDA

HICKMAN COUNTY FISCAL COURT
HICKMAN COUNTY JUDGE'S OFFICE
Thursday, March 12, 2015

Call to Order and Invocation.....	Judge/Executive
Welcome and Introduction of Guests.....	Judge/Executive
Presentation of Minutes – February 12, 2015.....	County Clerk
Claims/Monthly Report.....	County Treasurer

ITEMS OF BUSINESS

1. Health Insurance
2. Work Ready Community

ITEMS OF DISCUSSION

1. Population Report / Detention Center
2. Judge's Report
3. Opportunities

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS OF DISCUSSION

NEXT MEETING: April 9, 2015 @ 6:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

COMMITTEE MEETING – FIRE PROTECTION / EMERGENCY SERVICES

HICKMAN COUNTY WORK READY
Hickman County Fiscal Court Meeting
March 12, 2015

	<u>NAME</u>	<u>BUSINESS OR TITLE</u>
1.	Kenny Wilson	Judge Executive Hickman
2.	Hy Cole	Magistrate Dis 1
3.	Gene Stroud	Magistrate Dis 3
4.	Tony Parsons	Magistrate Dist 2
5.	JB	Co. Clerk
6.	Jason Bates	H. C. Attorney
7.	Tommy Kember	
8.	Heather Elliott	Peel + Hilland
9.	Mary Anne Medlock	Purchase ADK
10.	Chal Barber	Jailor
11.	Tom Potter	CITY OF CLINTON
12.	DANIEL RICHARDSON	HC GAZETTE
13.	Stodd Byars	ROAD FOREMAN
14.	Wajifa DeLash	County Treasurer
15.	Lawn Mathis	Deputy Judge Exec
16.		



Kenny Wilson

County Judge Executive

HICKMAN COUNTY, KENTUCKY

116 S. Jefferson Street, Clinton, Ky. 42031

(270) 653-4369 Fax (270) 653-4360

**WORK READY COMMUNITY KICK OFF AND PLANNING MEETING
TUESDAY, MARCH 24, 2015
12:00 P.M.
YOUNG CENTER IN CLINTON, KENTUCKY**

The Fiscal Court and I would like to invite you to the Work Ready Community Kick Off and Planning Meeting on Tuesday, March 24, 2015 at 12:00 p.m. at the Young Center in Clinton. Work Ready is a designation our county needs to work toward and attain as it shows potential employers the capability of our county's workforce. Joyce Jewell will provide lunch for us that day. After lunch we will have a short discussion about "Work Ready" and are planning to finish up a little after 1:00 p.m.

We look forward to your attendance and participation at this event.

Many Thanks,


Kenny Wilson

WORK READY COMMUNITY KICK-OFF
AND PLANNING MEETING
-Young Center-
March 24, 2015

Meeting was called to order by Judge Executive Kenny Wilson at 12:00 p.m. on March 24, 2015. Lunch was served to all of the 33 participants who came to help our county begin the work ready process. Judge Wilson explained what Work Ready was and how it would help Hickman County. He then discussed the seven narratives that are key to being work ready.

- 1) Graduation Rate
- 2) National Career Readiness Certificate
- 3) Community Commitment
- 4) Educational Attainment
- 5) Soft Skills Measurement
- 6) Ability of Internet as an indicator
- 7) Supplemental Criteria

Mary Anne Medlock, Special Projects Coordinator from the Purchase Area Development District who is our Work Ready Advisor, spoke to the group about workforce development. She explained the importance of the lines of communication between school partners and business leaders as they all seek a more trained and efficient workforce.

Upon completion of all discussion, meeting was adjourned.

Hickman County Work Ready Communities
 Planning Meeting

Tuesday, March 24, 2015
 Young Center

Name	Company	Email Address
April Lushin	Clinton Bank	li
Debbie Workman	Clinton Bank	de
Judy Stephens	AT&T	ji
Debbie Weatherford	Hickman Fulton Counties	de

Hickman County Schools

BOARD MEMBERS

ALLEN KYLE, Chairman
SCOTT MITCHELL, Vice Chairman
TERRY MULLINS
JOE SAMUEL
MARTIE TEMPLETON

CASEY HENDERSON, Superintendent
416 Waterfield Drive North
Clinton, KY 42031

KIM WILSON
Finance Officer

SHANE BIZZLE
Director of Transportation

JUDY CANTY
Preschool
Director of Special Education

PERRY COLLINS
Director of Pupil
Personnel

JAN JOHNSON
Assessment/Instruction
Title I

HICKMAN COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING OF MARCH 24, 2015, 7:00 P.M.

A G E N D A

1. Approve agenda for meeting
2. Approve minutes of February 19, 2015 board meeting; and the treasurer's report
3. Approve Accounts Payable Warrant for payment
4. Receive visitors
5. Student recognition
6. Principals' reports
7. Approve interest payments on bond issues as follows:

October, 2008 Bond Issue	\$ 24,156.84
SFCC October, 2008 Bond Issue on behalf payment	\$ 3,608.11
2011 KISTA Bond Issue	\$ 4,879.64
8. Approve Amended 2014-15 School Calendar
9. Judge Executive Kenny Wilson – Work Ready Community
10. Approve overnight trip for FBLA state competition April 20-22, 2015
11. Approve resolution authorizing the District to participate in the intervention by KSBA to oppose utility cost increases
12. Approve ICF's request for use of school's cafeteria
13. Personnel report
14. Superintendent's report
15. Adjournment

Name	Company	Email Address
		
		
	Supt. Hickman County Board of Ed.	
		
Scott Butchell		
Kyini Wilson	Finance Officer, Hickman Co. Board of Ed.	

Hickman County Work Ready Communities
Chamber of Commerce Kick-Off

Thursday, April 16, 2015

Name	Company	Email Address
Ivan Potter	Clinton Bank	[Redacted]
Mary Potter	Burre Smith Inc	[Redacted]
Bruce Smith	Hickman Co. Schools	[Redacted]
Cory Anderson	A Shear Branch	[Redacted]
Cory Miller	Tri-State Gas	[Redacted]
Stacey Courtney	Purchase ADD	[Redacted]
Karl Buss	US. Post Office	[Redacted]
Daniel Richardson	HC Gazette	[Redacted]
Tonia Batts	Columbus Belmont State Park	[Redacted]
Cecil [unclear]	H.C. Extension	[Redacted]
Nathaniel [unclear]	FCB	[Redacted]
Dene Pittman	Clinton Bank	[Redacted]
Dionne Keene	Greg's Super Market	[Redacted]
Greg Godby	JCF	[Redacted]
Rolie Bustor	Harper's Country Farm	[Redacted]
Lauri Tuller	Co. Clerk	[Redacted]
APB	Lee's Boutique	[Redacted]
Walter Poling (son)		[Redacted]

Hickman County Work Ready Communities
Chamber of Commerce Kick-Off

Thursday, April 16, 2015

Name	Company	Email Address
Rev. Bee Linklater	First Assembly of God	[Redacted]
Tommy Kinbra	Hickman County Times	[Redacted]
STEPHEN GOODMAN	ALLCARE TREE	[Redacted]
Chad Barber	Hickman Co. Jail	[Redacted]
Bart Kinbrell		[Redacted]
Beverly Hopkins	Hickman Co. BOE	[Redacted]
Christy Kinbrell	E-Clips	[Redacted]

**WORK READY COMMITTEE MEETING
MAY 7, 2015 AT 9:00 A.M.
HICKMAN COUNTY JUDGE EXECUTIVE OFFICE**

MINUTES OF MEETING

Judge Executive Kenny Wilson called the meeting to order. Judge Wilson explained to the committee that the Work Ready in Progress application for Hickman County was about 60% complete. Eighteen letters of support and commitment from community members were in place. Expectation of fifteen more letters, along with Work Ready business pictures were expected. The narratives and their completion were then discussed.

Narrative 1 – Graduation Rate

Hickman County High School principal Kevin Estes discussed how Hickman County School was the only school in the state of Kentucky with a 100% graduation rate and a college and career readiness score of 100.6. Principal Estes discussed the importance of Falcon Academy, the number one dual credit program in the state according to Commissioner Terry Holiday and how it has strengthened the culture of education in Hickman County.

Narrative 2 – National Career Readiness Certificate

Mary Anne Medlock, Special Projects Coordinator for the Purchase Area Development District reported to the group how an agreement with WKEC Adult Education Consortium and the West Kentucky Workforce Investment Board to give vouchers to 100 residents to take the NCRC for free. Principal Estes reported that all teachers would take the NCRC test on May 19. He also reported that each year going forward Hickman County High School seniors would take the NCRC the second week of August when school starts back. On another exciting note, the Hickman County Economic Development Authority, Inc. voted to pay for the NCRC for residents as we move forward in the Work Ready process.

Narrative 3 – Educational Attainment

Hickman County's Educational Attainment is at 20%. With a plus or minus of 150 in the U.S. Census Bureau's survey that leaves a lot of room for doubt if those figures are correct. The Falcon Academy is addressing many of these concerns. Sabrina Tucker, Adult Ed Director for Hickman County submitted her plans for lowering the number of people who do not have a GED.

Narrative 4 – Soft Skills Program

Melissa Goodman of the Hickman County Cooperative Extension Office led off the discussion of how her office helps adults and teens prepare for the workforce. She discussed their curriculum: Tackling the Tough Skills. Principal Kevin Estes discussed the new grant; The Leader in Me that was being put in place in the middle school. The Entrepreneurial Day recently held for Hickman County High School seniors addressed soft skills like manners, being on time, work ethic and communication skills.

Narrative 5 – Broadband Availability

Narrative #5 has been completed by Michael Ramage and Debbie Weatherford, CEO of Hickman Fulton County RECC. Hickman County meets all requirements with fiber optic capabilities increasing.

Narrative 7 – Supplemental Criteria

Kevin O’Neill of WKCTC and Terry Sullivan of the Fulton County Area Technical Center are compelling the data of the industry recognized credentials earned and occupational certificates earned. Ivan Potter is doing two pieces to add here. One is the Chamber of Commerce Leadership Program and tourism in the future for our county.

Community Support and Commitment

Beverly Hopkins, Community Service Director for Hickman County Schools took over the task of attaining the letters, resolutions and pictures of community. We look forward to getting over thirty letters of support, five resolutions and multiple pictures of entities supporting our Work Ready in Progress application.

The meeting was then adjourned.

Hickman County Work Ready Communities
 Planning Meeting

Thursday, May 7, 2015
 Judge Executive Office

Name	Company	Email Address
Suzette Hopkins	Hickman Co Schools	[Redacted]
Joan Keshner	Clinton Bank	[Redacted]
Debbie Workman	Clinton Bank	[Redacted]
Mary Ann Medlock	Purchase ADD / WKWIB	[Redacted]
Heidi Eats	Hickman Co High School	[Redacted]
Deena Pittman	First Community Bank / Chamber of Commerce	[Redacted]
Sabrina Tucker	Adult Education	[Redacted]
Ivan Potter	PROFESSIONAL FEELING	[Redacted]
Melissa Goodnow	University of Kentucky Cooperative Extension Serv.	[Redacted]
Remy Wilson	Hickman Co. Judge Executive	[Redacted]

Welcome Visitor. Today is Wednesday, April 8, 2015. [Sign-on](#)



Home	Member Options	News	Login	Search	Archives	Contact Us	About Us
----------------------	--------------------------------	----------------------	-----------------------	------------------------	--------------------------	----------------------------	--------------------------

- New This Week**
[Heritage Week Celebration Planned](#)
 Liz Jewell
[Columbus Belmont Park named No. 2 Civil War site](#)
 Cindy Lynch, CBPark Director
[College education faces online competition](#)
 Mary Potter, West Kentucky Journal
[New Murray President to be officially installed Friday](#)
 Sherry McClain, MSU Information Office
[And so he begins - Paul announces presidential bid](#)
 Mary Potter, West Kentucky Journal - transcript submitted by campaign
[WKCTC wins \\$100,000 Aspen Award](#)
 Janett M. Blythe, WKCTC
[West KY popcorn goes out to the ballgame this summer](#)
 Ted Sloan, Ky Ag
[Civil War Editorials in KY to be discussed](#)
 Dr. Bob Lochte
[President's Remarks in Louisville - transcript](#)
 White House Press Release
[The Kentucky Transportation Cabinet plans to close KY 58 in Hickman County for about four days starting on Monday, April 6, 2015.](#)
 Keith Todd, KYDOT

Hickman County's First Work Ready Community Meeting held in Clinton

By: Mary Potter, West Kentucky Journal
 Posted: Thursday, April 2, 2015 9:37 am.



Work Ready luncheon kick off brought range of local business, government, education leaders together.

Hickman County Judge Kenny Wilson is wholeheartedly committed to getting Hickman County named a Work Ready Community. To begin the process, Judge Wilson invited local leaders to a luncheon to get them committed too.



Wilson went through the requirements of the program and assured participants that the goal was reachable with some cooperation and work.

Hickman County Schools, the system he once led as superintendent, has already begun the process of helping students obtain National Work Ready

Certificates. The Certificates are one of the six criteria used as an evaluation tool. Wilson said that he anticipates that students will be able to use their certifications when competing for jobs. He explained that attendance and good behavior are key to students obtaining the certificate. Such a seemingly simple thing like faithful attendance is important to employers.

Mary Anne Medlock of the Purchase Area Development District discussed applications she has assisted with preparing. Marshall County used photographs of signs held by a wide range of community members to emphasize their commitment. The evaluating committee liked the signs so much the idea was incorporated into a list of best practices.

Medlock urged patience in going through the process. Her example was Ballard County was sure it had met all the criteria in record time. But the school had not quite finished putting finishing touches on its portion of the

[Tweet to @marybpotter](#)

- Sites of Interest**
[CN2 Politics](#)
[Honor the Fallen](#)
[WKMS 91.3 Public Broadcasting](#)
[Daily Yonder](#)
[Federal Farm Subsidies](#)
[GovTrack](#)
[Bluegrass Politics](#)
[Fulton KY News](#)
[Governor's Blog](#)
[The Hickman County Times](#)
[Hickman County Chamber of Commerce](#)
[HillbillyReport](#)
[Law Reader News](#)
[Page One](#)
[Hickman County Quilt Trail](#)
[Inside Louisville](#)
[Open Secrets](#)
[OpenCongress.org](#)
[Kentucky Roll Call](#)
[Rural Journalism](#)
[KY Dept. of Agriculture](#)
[The Kentucky Gazette](#)
[Snopes.com](#)
[West Kentucky Star](#)
[WPSD Channel 6](#)
- Entertainment**
[Visit Grand Rivers](#)
[Paducah Events](#)
[Maiden Alley Cinema](#)

application. The designation was not awarded at first application. Medlock is convinced that Ballard will soon be named a "Work Ready Community."

Participants at the kick off luncheon will be asked to volunteer to serve on committees.

Wilson sent the crowd out with a warning. "If you don't call me, I'll be calling you."

Editor's Note: The state is offering help to interested communities at a Best Practices Summit on April 29th. See "More" below.

[More...](#)

[Printer-friendly format](#)

[Login and voice your opinion!](#)

Do you know someone else who would like to see this?

Your Email:

Their Email:

Comment:

(Will be included with e-mail)

Secret Code



In the box below, enter the Secret Code exactly as it appears above *

Mary B. Potter, Editor

Email editor@westkyjournal.com

To post a comment, log-in and become a member.

Our promise to members: we respect your privacy.

We absolutely do not share your information with advertisers, aggravators, solicitors of any kind.

Copyright © and Trademark ™ 2015 All Rights Reserved
[Copyright Statement](#) | [Privacy Statement](#) | [Terms of Service](#)

Powered by Bondware
News Publishing Software

THE HICKMAN COUNTY TIMES

Small County...BIG Community!

653-4040 www.thehctimes.com



The Work Ready Community Kick-Off and Planning Meeting was held Tuesday, March 24, at the Young Center in Clinton. Front row, L-R: Larry Farlee, Judy Stephens, Jerome Jenkins, Ivan Potter, Ciodly Lynch, Amy Boaz and Beverly Hopkins. Row Two: Debbie Workman, Norma Pruitt, Lisa Adams and Terry Sullivan. Row Three: Melissa Goodman, Lisa Rushing, Greg Pruitt, Tommy Roberts, Kory Naranjo, Kevin Estes, and Kenny Wilson. Row Four: Debbie Weatherford, Susan Jackson, Sabrina Tucker, Casey Henderson, Brian Harper, Lee Jackson, Bruce Kimbell, Eddie Crittendon, and Irvin Strood. Not pictured were Wynita Dillard, Mary Ann Medlock, Mary Potter, Daniel Richardson and Gaye Benciel.

Work Ready- What does it mean and what happens next?

By Gaye Benciel
Work Ready Communities. What are they and how can Hickman County benefit from this certification?

Work Ready Communities in Kentucky have met seven criteria: knowing graduation rate, National Career Readiness Certification, Community Commitment, Educational Attainment, Soft Skills Measurement, Availability of Internet (as an indicator of digital literacy and supplemental criteria), and Supplemental Criteria.

Once these areas have been met and the applica-

tion approved by the state, then potential new business owners will have something they can review, at a glance, to see what type of work-force is available if they locate here. Also, it benefits Hickman County graduates, and other adults, who can show new or existing employers a certificate with information in a nutshell showing their character in terms of attendance, grades, test scores, office referrals, etc. The employer has a better idea of the type of employee he or she would be getting if they hired that individual.

The Kick-Off meeting was held at the Young Center Tuesday, March 24. "The Work Ready designation costs us basically nothing, except getting together and working together," Hickman County Judge/Executive Kenny Wilson said.

"It's a very important designation because not only will it have an effect on our lives but our children's, because it's going to pave the way for them," Wilson said.

"When employers look at our county, they will be able to look at the steps and see where we are, what is here,

and possibly decide they want to locate a business here," he said.

What happens next:

Judge Wilson said after the kick-off meeting, he will work with Mary Ann Medlock, work-force repre-

sentative with the Purchase Area Development District, to work on the letter of in-

Continued on page 5



Sharon and Lloyd Callison will be moving their hardware store from its present location, into the building next to them. Plans are for the current hardware store to be bulldozed and made into a parking lot and loading dock.

By Gaye Benciel
Blessed. That's how Lloyd and Sharon Callison feel about the opportunities that have come their way.

With the closing of Good-year Tire & Rubber a few years ago, Lloyd was facing a job loss. With changes that came with Obama-

a job loss with her work at a clinic. The couple faced an uncertain future and briefly thought that they and their two children, Trent and Hannah, were looking at a move outside of the county in order to find new jobs. They prayed about the situation, and things started falling into place.

In addition to his work at

Goodyear, Lloyd, who has been a plumber by trade, had wanted to own and operate a hardware store for a number of years, but it never quite worked out. Then, in the fall of 2013, Charles and Junette Witherspoon offered to sell the business to the Callisons. The offer

Continued on page 3

Byassee faces drug, theft charges



Salvador G. Byassee, 31, of Clinton was arraigned in Hickman County District Court Monday on a charge of Theft By Unlawful Taking. Byassee pleaded not guilty and a pretrial conference has been set for April 6. Byassee also faces additional theft and drug-related charges, which are felonies. He was indicted by a Hickman County Grand Jury on Thursday, March

19 and is on the docket in Circuit Court for Thursday, April 2.

After receiving a theft complaint, on Tuesday, March 17, the Clinton Police Department executed a search warrant at a residence on Taylor Road in Hickman County. According to a police report, officers found numerous items of drug paraphernalia, methamphetamine, marijuana, cash

and stolen firearms. A shot gun and 11 other firearms were seized, along with drug paraphernalia, and \$1,900 in cash. Numerous pieces of property were recorded and photographs taken for further investigation with surrounding agencies.

Byassee was charged with Receiving Stolen Property

Continued on page 2

Fiscal Court to have special called meeting to discuss Sheriff's Audit

Hickman County Fiscal Court will have a special called meeting on Monday, March 30, 2015 at 6 p.m. to discuss the Hickman County Sheriff's Audit. The audit and recommendations are on page 7.

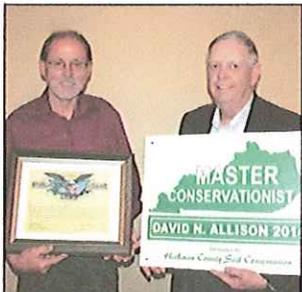


Darian Irvan was the recipient of the Honor Award at the Soil Conservation District Monday night. Bobbi Crumble the 2nd place winner of the writing award.

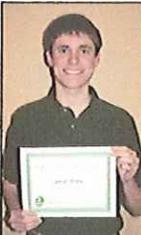


Davie Stephens was the recipient of the Outstanding Cooperator Award at the Soil Conservation Banquet Monday night. He was presented the award by Tommy Webb.

Bro Kevin Clark, pastor of First Baptist Church, Clinton, serves soup to Johnnie McDonald in the bowl she selected at the Soup Bowls for Missions fund-raiser held Friday night at First Baptist. A local potter donated bowls for the event. The funds benefit the Mission House. The event was sponsored by the Hickman County Ministerial Alliance. Kay Wiley is also pictured. Photo: Gaye Benciel



David Allison, left, was the recipient of the Master Conservationist Award, presented by Jerry Peery Monday night at the Hickman County Conservation District Annual Awards Banquet for year 2014. The event was held at the Hickman County Extension Office in Clinton. Photos: Gaye Benciel



Jakob Stahr was the winner of the Soil Conservation Writing Contest Award. He is the son of Paul and Kristi Stahr.



Rhett Dalton, son of Cliff and Kelli Dalton, was the first place winner in the Hickman County Soil Conservation Art Contest. Second place went to Cora Clark, daughter of John and Nicole Clark. The awards were presented by James Long



The Hickman County Soil Conservation District Supervisors are: Kirk Dixon, Tommy Webb, David Allison, James Long, Jim Stephens and Jerry Peery. Not pictured is Todd Harper. Office personnel are Regina Dowdy, Dist. Administrative Secretary; Charlie McIntire, NRCS District Conservationist, Alan House, NRCS Soil Conservation Technician, and Scott Wildharber, NRCS Resource Conservationist.



St. Denis News by Denise McWhorter

We are fortunate to have two men from our county that have gone above and beyond "the call of duty" so to speak in order to help raise money for charity this past weekend. I know Danny Whitlock did not want any recognition for the fund raising event Friday night at the First Baptist Church in Clifton, but I can't let go without thanking him for giving of himself to help the mission house. It was a huge success with all the 200 bowls being sold along with others coming out to the event as well to support the event by buying the food too. Thanks so much Danny, for giving your time and talent to our county's mission house. Then there is Cleus Murphy who represented Hickman County well by dancing in a fund raising event Saturday night at Paduch for the American Cancer Society. Over \$261,000.00 dollars was raised! Thank you, Cleus, like Danny for giving of your time and talent to help the fight against cancer. I had the privilege of being able to attend both of the events. It was so ironic and inspiring.

As Sunday morning Father Clipp's sermon was on about how you die to yourself when you give of your time and talents. How fitting to have both of the fund raisers during the Lenten season to prove just that point! If you're either one of these guys let them know just how proud you are of them!!!

Please keep Sandy McGrath's husband in prayer who is gravely ill as well as all of the sick of the parish. Mama had company this past week-end, Patty and David Hagen from St. Louis who came in for a short visit. I got to visit them for a few hours while they were here. Mama loves to have company come visit. Mama wasn't feeling well Monday evening so please keep her in prayer too. Hopefully by the time this is printed she

will be much stronger! Carolyn Morgan still has that's for sure. Her husband James is becoming a Deacon in the church. He is very proud of him and I know that Carolyn is as well. Just a reminder that First United Methodist Church will be hosting their annual "Holy Week Services" where they have a different minister each morning at 7 a.m. to do short service. It is a wonderful way to start off your morning and keep you going for the rest of the day. The services will be in the Young Center. Hope to see you there.

St. Denis and St. Charles will be holding their joint "Holy Week" services with St. Denis having Holy Thursday, St. Charles will have Good Friday, St. Denis Holy Saturday and both churches will have their Easter Sunday services at regular time. Will have times in next week's column.

Here's a good thought for the week:

PLANT FOUR ROWS

- Plant four rows of peas.
- Prayer
- Patience
- Preparation
- Plant four rows of squash.
- Squash gossip
- Squash indifference
- Squash criticism
- Squash negative thinking
- Plant four rows of turnips.
- Turn up for Church
- Turn up whenever needed
- Turn up with a friendly smile
- Turn up with determination to be a better person
- Plant four rows of lettuce.
- Let us soar to new heights
- Let us come together in harmony
- Let us share God's love, and let us practice forgiveness
- Enjoy the harvest!
- Author Unknown

Work Ready Community,

Continued from front

tent, which will be sent to the state to get the process started. Hildlock, who spoke at the meeting, said the timeline is as follows:

1. This spring and summer the application process continues.
2. It is edited.
3. The application is filed in August for the Sept. 15 deadline.
4. In October, the community team comes together and Skypes (a meeting via Internet) with the Kentucky Work Ready Review Panel to discuss the application.
5. Once approved, the Governor makes an official announcement, and the county may then obtain signage designating it as Work Ready.

Where we are now:

Hickman County is way ahead of the game in some of the areas of criteria needed for the designation Hickman County High School has a 100% graduation rate and is the only school in the state with a College and Career Readiness score of over 100. "The Career Readiness, I see as the hidden jewel in this whole deal," Wilson said. Currently, 91% of the students from Hickman and Fulton Counties at the Fulton County Area Technology Center are passing the WorkKeys test now.

"This test shows not only how well a person or student can read, it shows how well they can do applied math and how well they can go to find information," Wilson said.

Kevin Estes, high school principal, will start implementing the test for every high school senior when the next school year begins in August. The Hickman County Economic Development Board will assist in paying for the tests, which cost \$22 each.

When those students fill out an application for work, they can also present the certificate with their Work

Ready status. To attain Work Ready status, 25% of the population age 25-64 has to have a two-year college degree or more. Hickman County is currently at 20%. Nineteen percent of the Hickman County population does not have a GED. Instruction for GED attainment is available at the Hickman County Business Park building on Hwy. 51S. While these two areas need addressing, Judge Wilson is optimistic the goals can be reached.

Areas that need work:

"I'm very excited about this for Hickman County," he said. "This is something we need to do to make our community better."

Senior Chatter by Rhonda Parham-Grick

Hallelujah... Spring is officially here! The birds are singing, the sun is shining bright. I love seeing the beautiful Daffodils & Forsythia bushes. God's way of waking everything up! What a perfect opportunity to start getting out of your home and coming to the Center. Join us daily, we would love to see you.

This Thursday the 26th is our "Potato Day." We would like to encourage everyone to come and get a steaming hot baked potato or grilled chicken salad. If you would like to call in your order our number is 653-4314 or you can fax your order to 653-2124. Your support is greatly appreciated!

The E-learning Center is printer ready now! If you need to print or make copies, let us help. The cost is 5 cents per page. The Center will be "CLOSED" Monday March 30 2015 for Staff Training

Menu
Monday, March 23 - Country fried beef steak, mashed potatoes, brown gravy, lima beans, wheat bread, frozen fruit salad.

Tuesday, March 24 - Roast beef sandwich, mashed potatoes, brown gravy, broccoli, strawberries with bananas, skim milk.

Wednesday, March 25 - Pork roast, plinto beans, turnip greens, baked apples, corn muffin, skim milk.

Thursday March 26 - Taco Salad, corn, cornbread, chocolate water, tropical fruit, skim milk.

Friday March 27 - Meatloaf, oven browned potatoes, coleslaw, wheat bread, fruit cup, skim milk.

Activities
Monday - Friday 10:30 a.m. Walking Program.

Tuesday, March 24 - 10:00 Morning Exercise 12:00 Lucky Bingo.

Wednesday, March 25 - 10:00 Carlisle County Kitchen Band 11:30 Music by the Janitors

Thursday, March 26 - Blood Pressure Clinic - 10:00 Lana Livigni Lifeline Home Care.

Friday, March 27 - 10:00 Price Is Right - 12:00 Shop Around the Town.

Have a Blessed week! Ecclesiastes 4:9 - Two people are better off than one, for they can help each other succeed.

Second Baptist Church News by Teresa Pearson

On March 22, Brent Dublin gave the Sunday School devotion from Matthew 18:15-16. "Moreover if thy brother shall trespass against thee, go and tell him his fault between thee and him alone: if he shall hear thee, thou hast gained thy brother. 16) But if he will not hear thee, then take with thee one or two more, that in the mouth of two or three witnesses every word may be established."

Brent said most people who claim to be atheist, are people who have been hurt in some way by a church member. He said we need to try to work out our differences, also church members are not perfect and will let you down, you should have your faith in Jesus, he is the one who will not let you down.

Alan Cox sang "It is finished" and Brandon Hannon signed "Angels among us"

Bro. Dustin's message was from Exodus 10:21 - 29 "Leave nothing behind." You can't be a Christian half of the time, you should serve the Lord every day, all day long. You can't be a witness to someone else if you are living like the world half of the time. Pharaoh tried to get Moses to wait one more day, not go too far and leave some behind, but Moses said, "No, we will all go and not leave one hoof behind." We need to be like Moses and step out for the Lord with all we have and don't go back.

Sunday night we had guest speaker Jack Henshaw from the Family Foundation. The Family Foundation is an organization that goes to Frankfurt to deal with political issues in a Christian manner and fight for our Christian values. He used Romans 12:2 "Be not conformed to this world but be transformed by God."

Check out the Family Foundation online or on facebook and sign up for their newsletters to get updates on what they are doing in Frankfurt and find out how you can help. Please pray for: Teen Garrison, Thomas Dublin, Bro. Rocky James, Larry Cagle, Jim Schooley, Deloris Spurlin, Megan Grubbs, Debbie Kilpatrick, Nancy Puckett, Joseph Aldinson, Steven Turner II, Cheyenne Lomax, Jim Connell, Richard Puckett.

Second Baptist will have an Easter Egg Hunt on March 28 at 2 p.m. Easter Sunrise Service on Easter at 6 a.m., and we will have Homecoming on April 26.

We have a new website: www.elintonsecondbaptist.com At Second Baptist we believe that "everybody is employed and Jesus is everything"

Visitors are always welcome at Second Baptist Church. Sunday School starts at 10 a.m. Worship service is at 11 a.m. Sunday night worship service is at 6 p.m. Wednesday night 7 p.m. Pastor Bro. Dustin Cunningham

Area Obituaries

Richard Joseph Nigro

Richard Joseph Nigro, 80, of Arlington, passed away at 1:06 p.m. Tuesday March 17, 2015 at Countryside Center in Bardwell. Richard was born March 10 1935 in Blue Island, Ill. He was a carpenter and of the Christian faith. Survivors include one daughter, Gail Nigro of Crown Point, Indiana; two sons, Michael Nigro of Phoenix, Ariz., and Vince Nigro of Galveston, Texas; and one sister, Mary Powell of Walkertown, N.C. Preceding him in death is his wife, Mary Doris Nigro; parents, Victor Nigro and Estell Livenessky Nigro; and son, Richard Nigro Jr. A private family service will be held at a Later Date. Milner & Orr Funeral Home of Arlington is in charge of Arrangements.

Wilks Bodkin

Wilks Bodkin, age 76 of Bardwell, passed away at 8:56 a.m. on March 21, 2015 at his home. Mr. Bodkin was born on December 31, 1938 in rural Bardwell, Ky. He was the youngest son of Prentice and Mary Jane Wamsley Bodkin. He was a U.S. Army veteran and an operating engineer. He travelled overseas on assignments to Central America and Saudi Arabia. He worked many years in Chicago. His biggest career accomplishment was running the equipment to help lay the Trans-Alaska Pipeline. He was a member of Local #150 Operating Engineers. Even though he worked his entire career in big cities and foreign lands far from western Kentucky, his heart stayed in his "ole Kentucky home." He enjoyed the country life whenever he retired. His family loved his BBQing skills, particularly mutton. He enjoyed hanging out with friends and family. Wilks' passion was flying airplanes. He was a licensed commercial pilot. He had been an instrument instructor with multi-engine ratings. He owned several planes throughout his lifetime. He enjoyed many hours hangin out at the Cairo Airport.

He is survived by his sister, Barbara Ann Bodkin Edwards and husband Charles of Villa Ridge, Ill.; brother, Byron Thomas Bodkin of Bardwell, Ky.; twin niece, Joni Edwards Copeland and husband Bell of Garland, Texas; Julie Edwards Glascock and husband Dennis of Houston, Texas; nephews, Andy Bodkin and wife Lannetta of Clinton, Ky.; Daniel Bodkin of Fancy Farm, Ky.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Prentice and Mary Jane Wamsley Bodkin; brother, Dan Bodkin.

A funeral service will be held at the Milner & Orr Funeral Home of Bardwell Thursday, March 26, 2015 at 12 noon. A visitation will be held at the Milner & Orr Funeral Home Thursday, March 26, 2015 from 11 am until time of service. There will be no burial.

Expressions of sympathy may be made to RoseLawn Cemetery in Bardwell, P.O. Box 72, Bardwell, KY 42023. You may leave a message, light a candle or share a song tribute with the family at www.milnerandorr.com

Ray Englert

Mr. Charles Raymond "Ray" Englert, age 83 of Fancy Farm, Ky, passed away on Saturday, March 14, 2015 at 8:43 a.m. at the Mills Health & Rehab Facility.

He was a member of the St. Jerome Catholic Church, a U.S. Air Force Veteran of the Korean War, he was a retired technician from Motorola and was a carpenter.

Mr. Englert is survived by his six nieces & one nephew - Marita Englert Clapp of Mayfield, Nancy Singleton of Sharpe, Norma (Glen) Perkins of LaVerkin, Ud, Carol (Tony) Yates of S. Fulton, Tenn, Lisa (Keith) Thomas of Fancy Farm, Teresa (David) Lane of Fort St. Louis, Fla., and Sam (Courtney) Englert of Mayfield.

He was preceded in death by his parents - Thomas Paul Englert, Sr & Mary Eunice Carrico Englert; four brothers - Joseph William Englert, Thomas Lamar Englert, Joseph "Bobby" Englert, and Thomas Paul Englert, Jr; one sister - Mary Catherine Englert; two nephews - Scotty Englert and Alan Englert.

Gravestone Memorial Services were held Saturday, March 21, 2015 at the St. Jerome Cemetery with Fr. Darrell Venters officiating.

Brown Funeral Home of Mayfield, Ky was in charge of arrangements.

James Pillow

James Pillow, 64, of Bardwell, Ky, passed away at 2:02 a.m. Friday, March 20, 2015 at Heartland Regional Medical Center in Marion, Ill. Mr. Pillow was a member of Truth Baptist Church in Athens, Ala.

He is survived by his wife, Judy Faye Pillow; two sons, James Pillow of Pensacola, Fla., and Blair Roid of Cunningham; and one grandchild. He was preceded in death by his parents, George and Doris Ingebrinsen Pillow, and one sister.

Gravestone services for James Pillow were held at 2 p.m. Tuesday, March 24, at Cunningham Memorial Gardens in Cunningham, Ky, with Rev. Kenneth Ballinger officiating. Milner & Orr Funeral Home in Bardwell was in charge of arrangements.

Donald G Hollingsworth

Mr. Don Hollingsworth, 82, of Martin, Tenn., formerly of Hickman, Ky., died on Friday, March 20, 2015 at the Union City Manor Nursing Home in Union City, Tenn.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Carl and Mozelle Hollingsworth and sister, Sue Raney.

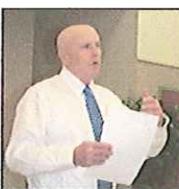
Survivors include his wife, Barbara (Johnson) Hollingsworth of Martin, Tenn., sons, Ronnie Hollingsworth of Dyer, Tenn., Terry Hollingsworth and Chris Hollingsworth, both of South Fulton, Tenn., and Jimmy Hollingsworth of Fulton, Ky.; daughters, Pam Allen of Water Valley, Ky., Penny Fleming of Hickman, Ky., and Kandy Coats of Brentwood, Tenn.; 16 grandchildren and several great grandchildren.

Prior to his retirement, Mr. Hollingsworth had owned and operated City Electronics in Hickman, Ky. He was a member of the Assembly of God Church.

Funeral services were held Sunday, March 22, 2015 at Strong Funeral Home with the Revs. Joe Mercer, a family friend, and Michael Crandall officiating. Burial followed in the Obion County Memorial Gardens in Union City, Tenn., with Strong Funeral Home of Hickman in charge of arrangements.

Wilmer Ray "Joe" Rogers

Wilmer Ray "Joe" Rogers, age 89 of Arlington, passed away 12:15 am on Tuesday, March 24, 2015 at Mills Health & Rehab in Mayfield. Arrangements are incomplete at the Milner & Orr Funeral Home of Arlington.



Hickman County Judge/Executive Kenny Wilson

The Wilderness Voice

By Pastor Tom Hoskins

BAPTISM SAVES. "You must be born again" (John 3:3). Let us take a critical look. The word "again," another in the Greek, means from above, or upward. The apostle John speaks of his origin as being earthly and Jesus' origin from above, heavenly (3:31). Being born from above gives a man a new beginning, a spiritual beginning, eternal life. It is the work of the Holy Spirit. Being earth born, man is a sinner (other than Jesus), being Heaven born (born from above, salvation) he is a saint.

The Holy Spirit sovereignly convicts man of sin (because he is lost), of righteousness because Jesus is the righteous one, and of judgement to come, a severe judgement without Jesus Christ (John 16: 7-11). This is the pre-conversion work of the Holy Spirit. Then, at the will of the Father and the word of the Father, the Holy Spirit through the word of God draws the chosen one to Christ (John 6:44). "No man can come to me (Jesus), except the Father which sent me draw him."

When in faith (which is a gift of God) a man is drawn to Jesus, the Holy Spirit baptizes him into the body of Christ (1 Cor. 12: 13). He is born again, born from above, experiencing the new birth. "That which is born of the spirit is spirit" (John 3: 6).

Yes, baptism saves, the baptism of the Spirit which places one in the body of Jesus Christ, the church of the first born written in Heaven, united in Christ by the baptism of the Holy Spirit. Water baptism pictures identification, spirit baptism gives one justification. Water baptism is a picture of death; Spirit baptism a reality of life. Yes, baptism saves.



Hickman County Judge/Executive Kenny Wilson talks to community representatives at the Work Ready Community Kick-Off meeting held Tuesday at the Young Center in Clifton. Photo: Gay Rescini

FINANCE

Work Ready Community kick off and planning meeting scheduled for March 24

The Hickman County Fiscal court and Judge/Executive Kenny Wilson will host a "Work Ready Community Kick Off and Planning Meeting" on Tuesday, March 24, at the Young Center at the First United Methodist Church in Clinton.

"Work Ready is a designation our county needs to work toward and attain as

it shows potential employers the capability of our county's workforce," Wilson said in an invitation.

Lunch will be catered by Joyce Jewell and after lunch, Wilson will lead a short discussion about "Work Ready" and what it means for Hickman County. Plans are to finish up around 1 p.m.

After the kick off and planning meeting, Wilson

plans to send a letter of intent to show that Hickman County is actively pursuing the "Work Ready" designation.

Wilson hopes that soon after, an application will be sent in and that by fall, Hickman County will be designated as "Work Ready in Progress."

Pay for grades?

Dear Dave,
What's your opinion on rewarding kids with money for getting good grades in school?

Joe

DAVE SAYS



DAVE RAMSEY

Dear Joe,
Honestly, I don't have a strong opinion about it one way or the other. We didn't pay our kids for good grades, but I can't really think of a strong argument not to pay them for success in school. You could say you shouldn't pay them because it's something they're expected to do

anyway, and that's somewhat valid. But you could also make the same point where chores around the house are concerned, too.

We paid our kids to do some chores, but really the point is not about the economic value. It's the fact that you want your kids to associate work with money. I still meet people my age and older who haven't made that connection. Work creates money, and that's an important thing to teach your kids. Once they've created some money by working, then you want to use those moments to teach them to save, spend and give wisely.

You can do this around the subject of grades if you want. There's probably a valid

paying off credit cards and unpaid taxes from previous years. He thinks it's okay to take trips and save up for other fun things while we're doing this, but I disagree. I want to cut out all extra spending and pay off our debt as fast as possible. What's your opinion?

Laura

Dear Laura,

It's okay to do those things in the general philosophy of life. Unfortunately, that's not what I teach when it comes to getting out of debt and gaining control of your finances. The reason people are successful following my plan is because I teach common sense combined with an unbridled, scorched-earth kind of intensity.

Let's take a closer look at this. You have unpaid taxes, not to mention credit card debt hanging over your heads, and he's talking about going on a trip and saving up for toys? I'm sorry, but that's completely irresponsible. Remember when we were kids, and Mommy and Daddy wouldn't let us go outside and play until we had cleaned up our mess? That's the kind of thing I teach.

There's a process here. There's an idea and a concept behind what I teach, and when you plug into it, you're going to start moving in a positive direction. In short, behaviors have to change, Laura. The more dramatically they change, the better results you get and the faster you fix things. But if you don't

THE Hickman County GAZETTE

www.MagicValleyPublishing.com

Since 1843

www.CountyGazette.com



A Division of Magic Valley Publishing Company, Inc.

Nothing Brighter Than Five

Vol. 172, No. 11 | MARCH 17, 2015

75c

Fiscal Court discusses 'Work Ready' designation at monthly meeting

Daniel Richardson

The Hickman County Fiscal Court met in regular session on Thursday, March 12 at the County Judge/Executive's office.

After conducting routine business such as the approval of minutes from the previous meeting and the

financial report, the fiscal court heard a presentation from Heather Elliot, an account representative for Peel and Holland. The fiscal court voted to name Peel and Holland the Agent of Record for the county's employee insurance policy. Previously, Fred Biggs of Biggs Insurance in Mayfield was the county's Agent of Record.

Judge/Executive Kenny Wilson gave the magistrates a report on "Work Ready Community."

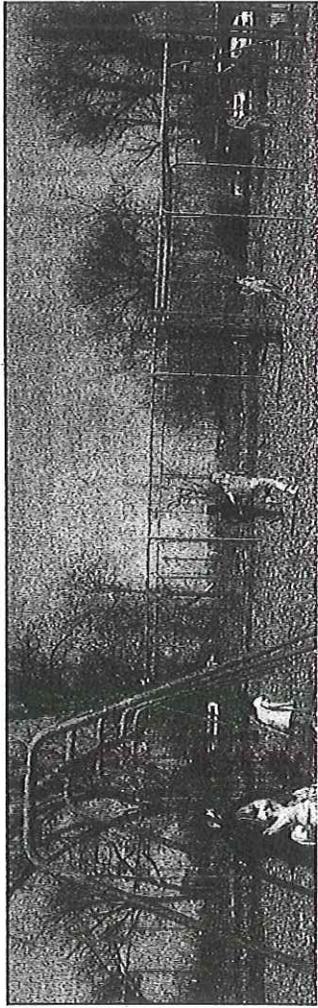
"It's a designation our county needs to attain," he said. "I think our county is embracing it."

He briefly explained that the "Work Ready" designation is a tool created by the Kentucky Workforce Investment

Board and the Kentucky Education and Workforce Development Cabinet to help prospective employers determine what areas will be the best fit for their enterprise. He said that there are several different criteria for the designation, some of which Hickman County meets and some it does not.

The designation requires certain levels of high school graduation rates, college and career readiness, and broadband accessibility. Hickman County meets these three standards, having the highest level of College and Career Readiness in the state,

SEE FISCAL COURT, PAGE 7



Columbus to hire city attorney

Daniel Richardson

The Columbus City Council voted Monday night to hire local attorney Mary Potter as their city attorney for a retainer fee of \$75 per month.

voted unanimously and chose the retainer route, to pay \$75 per month.

The council then discussed an upcoming webinar with the Kentucky League of Cities designed to update and train the councilmembers on laws and regulations regarding open meetings

Fiscal Court From Pg. 1

according to documents Wilson circulated at the meeting.

One area where Hickman County falls short, he explained, is a category called Educational Attainment. Wilson said that Educational Attainment is a measure of the percentage of the county's population between the ages of 25 and 64 that have a two-year degree or higher.

"We have 20 percent," he said, "and we need to have 25 percent." Wilson also noted that 18 percent of Hickman County adults do not have a General Educational Development (GED) certificate of high school diploma. This percentage, he said, needs to go down.

Wilson said that he believes Hickman County's Educational Attainment will increase rapidly in the years to come, as students who participated in Falcon Academy reach adulthood.

Falcon Academy is a dual-credit program at Hickman County High School created in 2011 to provide students the opportunity to take college classes and earn credit for them while still in high school and at no cost to the students or their parents. Funding for Falcon Academy is provided through private donations from businesses and individuals in the Hickman County community and surrounding area.

Wilson also believes that the percentage of adults without a high school diploma or equivalent certificate will also decrease in the coming years due to the fact that Hickman County High School has not had a drop out within the last three years.

Mary Anne Medlock of Purchase Area Development District (PADD) attended the

meeting and spoke briefly about the "Work Ready" designation. She commended Wilson for his enthusiasm and said that she will be available for any assistance she can offer.

Wilson said that he is planning a Work Ready Community Kick Off and Planning Meeting for Tuesday, March 24, at noon at the Young Center in Clinton.

Hickman County Jailer Chad Barber gave a report on the Hickman County Detention Center during which he informed the fiscal court that there were currently 40 state inmates at the jail, three Carlisle County inmates, and three Hickman County inmates. He said that he had just lost 10 state inmates the week prior, and that he will be going to pick up nine more this week.

Wilson gave a report and said that he had attended the annual meeting of the Hickman County Ambulance Board. He reported that 452 households in the county had paid their voluntary dues, and that run revenue was increasing. He said that the fiscal court's contribution to the ambulance service will decrease next year from \$8,000 to \$7,000. The current contribution level is a decrease from \$10,000 last year.

Wilson informed the magistrates that County Attorney Jason Batts had drafted an interlocal agreement between Hickman County and the cities of Clinton and Columbus. He said that the agreement, once signed by all parties, would enable the cities to request road assistance from the county when no emergency has been declared. It was discussed that any assistance would only come at the request of either

city's governing body and that financial reimbursement for the assistance would be paid to the county from the city receiving the assistance. The reimbursement would be set up in an hourly payment schedule for labor and equipment use that would be agreed upon by all parties. Batts said that he is still making final adjustments to the agreement and will present it to the magistrates at their next meeting.

This is different from the recent assistance provided by the county road department during the declared state of emergency. The recent emergency status allowed the county road department to provide assistance without an interlocal agreement in place, and the county will not be reimbursed by either city for the assistance they provided when clearing snow off city streets. Any reimbursement available will come from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

In the "opportunities" segment of the meeting, Wilson said that he'd like to see the county look into the possibility for leasing a new road grader. The fiscal court voted to lease a grader from Erb Equipment for \$1,640 per month for four years. More information about the grader can be found in the article on page 1 of this newspaper.

The meeting then adjourned and was immediately followed by a committee meeting to discuss fire protection and emergency services. The Fire and Emergency Services Committee consists of Magistrate Henry Cole and Magistrate Kory Naranjo. Wilson and Hickman County Road Foreman Shadd Byassee sat in on the meeting.

Blood drive is Monday

in developing a show about

THE BLOOD DRIVE IS MONDAY

THE BLOOD DRIVE IS MONDAY

THE HICKMAN COUNTY TIMES

Small County...BIG Community!

653-4040 www.thehctimes.com

STILL SEEKING ANSWERS

Reward of \$1000 offered for information that leads to indictment or return of dogs missing in Hickman, Carlisle Counties



Copper

Butter

Grace

Zeus

By Gaye Benicini

Next month, the McGary's family pet, Zeus, a blood Shar-Pei, will turn five-years-old. On January 23 between 4:30 a.m. and 2 p.m., he was taken from their home, and despite flyers, facebook pleas, and other public cries for help, his location remains unknown. CJ (Black) McGary isn't giving up hope though.

On Jan. 30, Copper, age six, a neutered male Treeing Walker Coonhound family pet of the Lawrence family, was let out of the house at around 10 a.m.

"I arrived home at 12:00 p.m., there was no sign of him. If he could not be seen then he was heard doing his coonhound bark. There was no sound. We have all been

on a bazzard watch since, and there is nothing," Holly Jackson Lawrence said. On Jan. 21, Grace, family pet of Elisha Wooten Hall and family, went missing between 2 and 4:30 p.m. Grace is a spayed beagle/Rottweiler mix. She would be five in June.

Butters, about eight-years-old, is a German Shepherd/Retriever mix, also a pet of the Halls. Butters went missing the afternoon of Feb. 1. Both dogs were outside dogs but were always home at dark," Hall said.

"Butters was home on the carport the night Grace was gone, and that never happens."

McGary said the same was true of Zeus. It was not his habit to leave home. "He

was always on the porch at night.

Hall said, "My dogs would bark at coyotes in our yard but never go out to fight them."

The three families all live in close proximity to one another. Their residences are located on CR 1209, CR 1211 in Carlisle County and on Moss Road in Hickman County.

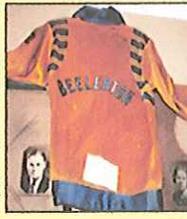
The three attended a meeting held Monday night, March 10 at the McCracken County Courthouse to address concerns from people in the area who were dealing with the same situation.

Hall said almost everyone there who had a dog missing said that dog rarely left their yard.

Continued on page 4



The Hickman County Museum has reopened for the season! Regular hours are Wednesdays from 1-4. Special appointments can be made for private tours. Laura Peole, volunteer, is shown next to the FFA jacket of JT Workman Jr. As featured in the FFA Special in the Feb. 25 edition of The Hickman County Times, Workman, who was with the Central High School Chapter of FFA, was among the first ever to receive the American Farmer Degree. He received the award in 1955. Also, shown top right and right, are class photos and a jacket among the memorabilia in the Beeler General Store room of the museum. The old time General Store remains a favorite with tourists too. Stop in for a look at the Hickman County Museum- always changing- always interesting!



Arbor Place has new name, same great patient care

By Tommy Kimbro

Arbor Place, located on Padgett Drive in Clinton, has recently acquired a new name, Clinton Place, A Diverseicare Transitional Care Community.

Trella Wilson, administrator of Clinton Place, said in a news release that the name change officially took place on February 1, 2015.

In the news release, Wilson says, "First, I would like to assure you that this

is a name change only. Patients, and families, will not experience any changes or disruptions as a result of this transition. Diverseicare Healthcare Services, Inc. and local staff members will continue to provide the best of care for our patients and residents."

"The name change reflects the facility's continued commitment to deliver high quality health-care and unrivaled level of service to their patients,

residents and the health-care community," Wilson added. She went on to say that the name change better aligns the facility with the community and the parent company, Diverseicare.

Wilson said that if anyone has any questions to please contact her at Clinton Place at 270-653-5558 or 1-888-508-9774. You may also visit their website, www.clintonplace.com.



Soup Bowls for Missions set for this Friday

This Friday evening from 5-7 p.m., the Hickman County Ministerial Alliance will sponsor a fund raiser for the MISSION HOUSE at the Family Life Center of Clinton First Baptist Church. Soup and Chili will be available for purchase for a donation for everyone who attends. Because of the

generous donation of a local potter, pottery bowls are also available for a minimum donation of \$15. Only 200 pottery bowls are available for sale. One must purchase a ticket to receive a pottery bowl.

If you haven't already purchased a ticket, you may purchase a ticket this week

at First United Methodist Church. All proceeds will go to the Mission House. Chili, soup and desserts will be available for everyone who attends.

Come out and help support a ministry that supports individuals in Hickman County.

'Work Ready Community' outlined at fiscal court meeting

By Tommy Kimbro

The Hickman County Fiscal Court met on Thursday evening, March 12, at 6:00 pm. Present for the meeting were Judge/Executive Kenay Wilson; Magistrates Henry Cole, Irvin Stroud and Kory Naragay; County Court Clerk Jimbo Berry; County Attorney Jason Batts; Road Foreman Shad Byasser; Deputy Judge/Executive Dawn Mathis; County Treasurer Wynita Dillard; Jailer Chad Barber; City Council Member Ivan Potter; Heather Elliott from Peel & Holland Insurance Agency; Mary Ann Medlock from the PADD office; Daniel Richardson; Tommy Kimbro.

Judge/Executive Kenay Wilson presented a look at a new program that will be starting in Hickman County to gain "Work Ready Community" status for the county. The effort gets underway with a planning meeting to be held at the Young Center on Tuesday, March 24, at 12:00 Noon with a luncheon and then a short kick-off meeting to explain the program and set the wheels in motion to begin the work to achieve



Mary Ann Medlock, representing the Purchase Area Development District, addresses the fiscal court regarding Work Ready Community program. Photo/Tommy Kimbro

this ranking for the county. Details, including the time frame for obtaining the designation, will be outlined during this meeting.

Mary Ann Medlock, representing PADD, was at the meeting to explain PADD assistance to the county

through the Workforce Investment Board. Medlock was also filling in for PADD member Stacy Courtney who attends the court meetings.

Continued on page 3

Columbus council hears report from county on Inter-local agreement

By Tommy Kimbro

The Columbus City Council met in regular session on Monday evening, March 16th at 6:00 pm. Present for the meeting were Mayor Kay Ferguson; City Clerk Melissa Griffith; Council Members Sherry Holder, Amanda Niche, Kim Ferguson, and Sue Jones; Magistrate Henry Cole; Lewis Pecker; Daniel Richardson; and Tommy Kimbro.

The Columbus City Council heard a report from Hickman County Magistrate Henry Cole in reference to a proposed inter-local agreement between the city and Hickman County for the next year.

Cole told the council members that a draft of the proposed agreement was brought to the fiscal court by County Attorney Jason Batts, last week, and that the agreement would be finalized prior to the next city council meeting. It will then be delivered to the city for the members to study prior to their scheduled April meeting.

The completed document will include the schedule

of charges per hour for the various pieces of county owned equipment, labor cost per hour and all other charges that the city might incur when assistance is requested from the county.

Cole went on to say that without an inter-local agreement between the respective governments, the county can not use any county equipment, materials or personnel on city streets or property. To do so would be in violation of state law.

Magistrate Cole assured the city council that the county would not perform any work within the city limits without a request from the city. He also stated that with the proposed agreement in place that the city would know exactly what it was going to cost them before any work was started using county equipment or labor. The council will consider passage next month.

The council discussed the need for services of an attorney for the city. Mayor Ferguson told the council that there were times that

the city needs legal advice, legal documents prepared, etc. and letters written by an attorney. Clinton attorney Mary Potter advised the city that she would serve as legal counsel to Columbus on a retainer basis or fee for service basis. Her monthly retainer would be \$75.00 for routine work for the city which includes attending city council meetings if needed. If the city elected to go the fee for service route Potter's fee would be at the rate of \$175.00 per hour. The council voted to employ Potter on the retainer basis for the stated monthly amount.

City Clerk Griffith informed the council that the Kentucky League of Cities is offering an on-line training program for city officials on March 31st from 2:00 pm

Continued on page 3





Learn more about St. Patrick at the Hickman County Library!

Library Lately?

Our Library has some exciting things coming up for the Spring and Summer. We are adding new books every day and our DVD collection continues to grow. We have a large portion of our DVDs out and more that are patiently waiting to make their Shelf Life Debut! Make sure that you keep checking

the shelves for NEW things. We will soon be asking the community for specific donations as well. So stay tuned for that! The Hickman County Library is open Tuesday - Friday, 2 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. Saturday 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

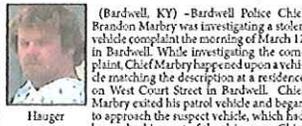
What you may not have known about St. Patrick!

Culture Corner was designed as a Trip Around the World, bringing many cultures right to our local library! All you have to do is come in and have a seat; the computer does the rest. A small show will play continuously giving you facts and interesting tidbits about our own culture as well as cultures from the other side of the world. You will find books about that culture on the table.

This month the library celebrates St. Patrick. He is, of course, the Patron Saint of Ireland, and everyone wears green to avoid that nasty pinch! Some places turn the river green, and some people attend church as part of the celebration. But what do you actually know about the man they call St. Patrick? Here are a few facts: He was the son of a wealthy family from Britain. Irish raiders managed to capture him and hold him prisoner for six years. During captivity he worked as a Shepherd and a missionary. At this time, the people of the Irish Isles were predominately pagan, but his mission work was accepted by the Irish people because he incorporated many of the native Irish rituals and traditions in his teachings. He accepted baptisms at Easter as part of a dual Christian/Pagan celebration. He died around 463AD.

Want to know more about the man or the Holiday... come to the Hickman County Memorial Library!

KSP investigate officer involved shooting in Carlisle County



(Bardwell, KY) - Bardwell Police Chief Brandon Marbury was investigating a stolen vehicle complaint the morning of March 12 in Bardwell. While investigating the complaint, Chief Marbury happened upon a vehicle matching the description at a residence on West Court Street in Bardwell. Chief Marbury exited his patrol vehicle and began to approach the suspect vehicle, which had begun backing out of the driveway. Chief Marbury ordered Daniel E. Hauger, 29 of Cunningham, to exit the vehicle. Hauger ignored the verbal commands and drove his vehicle in the path of Chief Marbury. Chief Marbury fired his service weapon at the vehicle striking Hauger in the leg. Hauger continued to flee from the scene and Chief Marbury initiated a vehicle pursuit. Hauger was detained a few miles from the initial incident.

Kentucky State Police charged Hauger with Attempted Murder of a Police Officer and Fleeing and Evading Police 1st Degree. Hauger was released from the hospital after treatment and was lodged in the Ballard County Jail. The investigation continues by Kentucky State Police Detective Sergeant Dean Patterson. KSP was assisted on the scene by the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife, Carlisle County Sheriff's Department, Bardwell Police Department, Carlisle Fire Department, and Carlisle County EMS.



See the many class photos like this one in the Fulgham School section of The Hickman County Museum, open on Wednesdays from 1-4 p.m.

THE ONE BAPTISM THAT EVERYONE NEEDS

By Daniel Hamm
"Baptism" will be the subject of my articles for the next three weeks. Article # 1 - "The One Baptism That Everyone Needs." Article # 2 - "The One Baptism You Cannot Have." Article # 3 - "The One Baptism You Do Not Want."



Ephesians 4:5 reads, "One Lord, one faith, ONE BAPTISM." This inspired declaration was made in about 64 A.D. and is still true today. Revelation 22:18-19 tells us not to add to or take from the scriptures given to us by inspiration during the first century. This one baptism should not be confused with the baptism of the Holy Spirit that was promised to the first century apostles (Matthew 3:11, John 14:26, Mark 16:7, Acts 1:4-5, Acts 2:1-4). This will be discussed in more detail next week. Then, what is the one baptism that everyone needs?

Webster's Dictionary (a human and secular source) might define baptism as "sprinkling, pouring or immersion" which is according to man's modern day usage. Webster, though, is not our source of divine authority; the bible is! And, the bible nowhere states or hints to sprinkling and pouring as being true baptism or the "one baptism." The word baptism comes from the Greek BAPTIZO which means "to dip, plunge, immerse or to completely overwhelm." Scripture defines baptism, "BURIED with him in baptism, wherein also we are risen with him through the faith of the operation of God, who hath raised him from the dead" (Colossians 2:12).

Romans 6:3-6 links baptism unto the death, burial and resurrection of Christ. That is, one dies to his sin through repentance (separates from sin), is buried in the water of baptism and is raised from the water to walk with Jesus in newness of life. This is symbolic to Christ's death, burial and resurrection which comprises the facts of the gospel (1 Corinthians 15:1-4). There has never been one soul saved through man's substitute for bible baptism. Only in true New Testament baptism is one saved (Mark 16:16, 1 Peter 3:21). In baptism, "Jesus came up immediately from the water" (Matthew 3:16) and the man from Africa, "went down into the water" and "came up out of the water" (Acts 8:38-39).

The one baptism of the bible "saves" (Mark 16:16), puts one into Christ (Galatians 3:27), into the body of Christ (1 Corinthians 12:13), which is the church of Christ (Acts 2:47, Romans 16:16). This one, true, New Testament baptism is done by the authority of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit (Matthew 28:18-20). You and all accountable humans need this one baptism!

Daniel Hamm is the evangelist of the Church of Christ which meets each Sunday afternoon at 3:00 at 413 West Clay St. and you are invited to attend. For bible studies, you may email at hammddnk@aol.com or call at 731-795-7822.

PAID ADVERTISEMENT

Columbus Council continued from front

to 400 p.m. The training will include laws, rules and regulations for cities and will include proper procedure for conducting city council meetings. The cost to the city will be a \$15.00 registration fee. Council members will participate

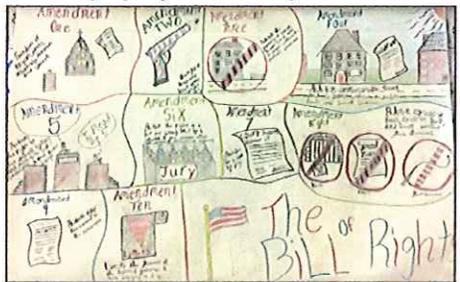
in the training at a central location. Columbus resident Lewis Peeler asked the council for an update on the city's proposed housing program that was initiated by obtaining the assistance of a grant administrator and ap-

plying for a \$1,000,000.00 grant. Peeler said he was under the impression that the city should have heard the results of their request by January 2015. City Clerk Griffith said she had recently talked to the grant administrator who had not

heard anything but that it was unusual for a decision not to have been made before now and that an in-

quiry will be made and the city will be made aware of the grant status as soon as possible.

The next regular meeting of the Columbus City will be April 6 at 6:00 p.m.



The Bill of Rights Brought to Life. Teachers strive daily to help students understand how classroom content affects them personally. Recently, students in Karen Dean's civics class at HCHS were given the task of illustrating the Bill of Rights to demonstrate their understanding. As a result, eighth grader Sam Gallimore created this award winning poster.

Fiscal Court, continued from front page

The Fiscal Court approved the minutes of the previous meeting, the claims for payment and the monthly Treasurer's report.

Heather Elliott, a representative of Peol & Holland Insurance, addressed the court and requested designation as Agent of Record for the county regarding the county's health care insurance. This will allow Peol & Holland to begin exploring different carriers, coverage and cost options when the county begins a new coverage cycle. The court approved the appointment of Peol & Holland as Agent of Record.

County Attorney Jason Batts presented a draft of an inter-local agreement to be considered by the county and the City of Clinton and the City of Columbus regarding road maintenance assistance from the county to the cities due to adverse conditions such as the recent heavy snow. The document will be completed, including the payment schedule for various pieces of equipment utilized during such needed assistance and schedules of required billing, by the county, and

required payment schedules for the city's remittance.

The agreement will be for 365 days and will contain an automatic clause unless terminated in accordance with stated terms in the agreement. The documents will then be forwarded to both cities for consideration at their next respective meetings and, if approved, brought back to the Fiscal Court for passage at their next meeting on April 9th.

At the request of the county, ERB Equipment Company submitted a lease proposal for the county to lease a new 4-wheel drive road grader to replace the older county-owned grader which is not feasible to repair and maintain. The county voted to enter into the 48 month lease agreement at the rate of \$1,800 a month for 48 months. Under the terms of the agreement of the regular meeting, a committee meeting was held regarding fire protection and emergency services in the county.

After adjournment of the regular meeting, a committee meeting was held regarding fire protection and emergency services in the county. The next meeting of the Fiscal Court is scheduled for April 9th at 6:00 p.m.

detention center had lost 10 state inmates recently but he is scheduled to receive 9 additional state inmates in the next week or so.

Judge/Executive Wilson advised the court that he had recently attended the meeting of the Clinton-Hickman County Ambulance Service board and that the service currently has 452 household subscribers. He also said that, along with an increased number of ambulance runs, could possibly lower the county's contribution needed to subsidize the service.

Wilson announced that Entrepreneur Day is scheduled for April 23 and that the Business and Industry Awards Banquet is scheduled for May 6, at 6:00 p.m. at the Activities Building at Columbus-Belmont State Park.

After adjournment of the regular meeting, a committee meeting was held regarding fire protection and emergency services in the county.

The next meeting of the Fiscal Court is scheduled for April 9th at 6:00 p.m.

STIHL
You can't beat STIHL on quality, local service.
BROOKE WOBENMEYER
HOMELANDER

REAL PEOPLE. STIHL PEOPLE.

BG 65 HANDHELD BLOWER \$149.95
★★★★★
"This blower is very reliable, has good power and is pretty darn tough."
-user kendall33

MS 170 CHAINSAW \$179.95
★★★★★
"I'm glad I went with the 170- the price and reliability are outstanding."
-user prismsmbros93

Check out these real reviews on the product page at STIHLdealers.com

USA Indicates products that are built in the United States from domestic and foreign parts and components.

JOIN US. #RealSTIHL

Availability of participating retailers is a limited supply item. The actual listed price for length can vary from the effective ending length based on when purchased. © 2015 STIHL, BE115-142-02282-1

Hutson, Inc.
188 Highway 51 South | Clinton
270-653-4311
HutsonIncOnline.com
www.hutsoninc.com

STIHLdealers.com

County pursuing 'Work Ready' status

Daniel Richardson

Hickman County will hopefully soon join the ranks of the 49 counties in Kentucky that are designated either as "Work Ready Communities" or "Work Ready Communities in Progress." This designation, sponsored by the Kentucky Workforce Investment Board and the Kentucky Education and Workforce Development Cabinet, is expected to make a county or region more desirable to industry and prospective employers by showing that a community has a willing and able workforce.

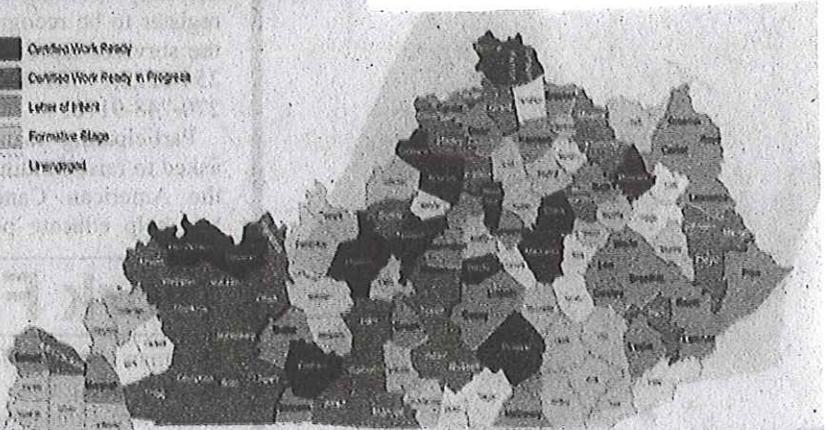
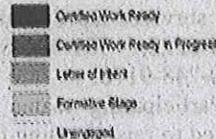
Hickman County Judge/Executive Kenny Wilson is in the process of meeting with community and business leaders throughout the county and is planning a Workforce Ready Luncheon on March 20 at noon at the Young Center. Wilson plans to send a letter of intent to the Work Ready Community program soon, declaring local commitment to developing the workforce.

Currently, only 16 of Kentucky's 120 counties have achieved the status of a "Work Ready Community," while 33 are designated as "Work Ready in Progress," meaning they do not currently meet all criteria required for the Work Ready designation, but have a written plan to fulfill that criteria and show progress year after year. Twenty-seven counties have submitted letters of intent, while 29 counties, including Hickman County, are in the formative stage. Only 15 counties, including Fulton County, remain completely unengaged in the economic development program. Within the Purchase Area, McCracken County is certified as "Work Ready in Progress," Ballard and Marshall Counties have submitted letters of intent, Carlisle,

Hickman, Graves, and Calloway County are all in the formative stage, and Fulton County is unengaged.

"This is about coming together as a community to develop our workforce," Wilson said in an interview on Friday. Wilson, who has spoken about the designation to the Clinton-Hickman County Chamber of Commerce board of directors and to the Rotary Club of Clinton, spoke to members of the Clinton City Council during their Monday night meeting on March 2. He said that there are several aspects of the criteria that Hickman County already meets, like the high school graduation rate (Hickman County's is 100 percent), and Career Readiness (Hickman County's Career Readiness score is more than 100). He said Hickman County also meets the broadband Internet capabilities that the designation requires. One area that

SEE **WORK FORCE**, PAGE 2



STATUS MAP - This map shows which counties have received designation under the Work Ready Community Program. As shown, 16 counties have been designated as "Work Ready Communities," 33 are "Work Ready in Progress," 27 have submitted letters of intent, 29 are in the formative stage, and 15 are unengaged.

Work Force

continued from page 1

Hickman County falls behind in, he said, was educational attainment. Education attainment is measured by the percentage of residents age 24-65 who hold a 2-year degree or higher. Hickman County's educational attainment level is 20 percent, whereas the "Work Ready Community" designation requires an educational attainment level of 25 percent.

"Our first Falcon Academy students are 22, and still too young to be included in the educational attainment statistics," he said. "In a couple of years, this will raise our percentage." Falcon Academy is a dual credit program offered to Hickman County High School students. Through the program, students can earn college credits while still in high school at no cost to the students or their parents. Falcon Academy is funded through donations from area individuals and businesses and was first offered in 2011.

Wilson is working to get several community organizations involved, generating interest in and support for the county's pursuit of the designation.

"Some of the criteria are difficult for a county like ours," Hickman County Economic Development Authority Executive Director Greg Pruitt said Friday, "but HCEDA and others involved are going to work hard to achieve them."

An abundance of information about the designation is available at workready.ky.gov. The "frequently asked questions" page claims that a willing and able workforce is sometimes the biggest key to industry recruitment.

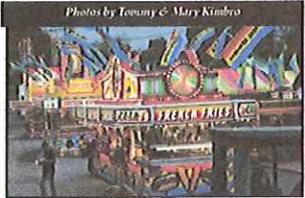
"When we look at the role workforce plays in decision-making by corporate executives regarding where to locate or expand a company's operations,

we see a common theme — a well-trained workforce is critical to successful economic development and a state or community's ability to compete for jobs and investment," the website says. "A Kentucky Work Ready Community certification is a measure of a county's workforce quality. It is an assurance to business and industry that the community is committed to providing the highly-skilled workforce required in today's competitive global economy."

While Hickman County does not yet meet all minimum criteria for the "Work Ready Community" designation, Wilson believes that Hickman County can be ready to submit an application to be designated as a "Work Ready Community in Progress" and be approved later this year.

The program's website explains that a county not meeting such requirements, but that have a detailed plan to meet criteria in the future, it can apply for the "In Progress" designation. "A Kentucky Work Ready Community in Progress certification is an indication to employers that your county is on the move and that you are motivated to improve your workforce. If this status can be achieved, it becomes a framework to get your workforce to the next level," the site says.

Once the "In Progress" designation application is submitted and approved, the county will have three years to meet the criteria. If all criteria are not met at the end of the three-year period, a selection committee may extend the deadline if continuous improvement is demonstrated. If the committee decides not to extend the deadline, the county must wait one year before submitting another application.



Chicken Fest 2015 huge success!

Great Job Chicken Fest Committee 2015 Debra Pittman, Ken Jewell, Andrea Willford, Cindy Kimbrell, Leveya Hopkins, Bonnie Keyser, Jimbo Berry, Melissa Goodman, Marilee Mitchell. Congratulations to committee member Melissa Goodman on running her 5K & 10K and to Jimbo Berry on becoming a grandpa again this weekend! Danny Carr, Youth Pastor at FBC and School Resource Officer, featured the band and speakers for faith and family night too!! See additional photos by Tommy & Mary Kimbro inside. Be sure and watch our video from the day at www.thehctimes.com



School Board hears proposed revision of cell phone policy

By Tommy Kimbro

The Hickman County Board of Education held their regular monthly meeting on April 23, 2015, with the following in attendance: Superintendent Casey Henderson; Board Members Allen Kyle, Chairman, Martie Templeton, Scott Mitchell, Terry Mullins and Joe Samuel, Finance Officer Kim Wilson; Judy Canty, Director of Special Education; Perry Collins, Director of Pupil Personnel; HCES Principal Richard Todd; HCHS Principal Kevin Estes; Cindy Graves, Director of Murray Head Start Program; Dana Covington; Murray Head Start, Kay Lynn Jackson, Hickman County Student; Robert Martin; David Richardson; Tommy Kimbro.

Cindy Graves, director of Murray Head Start, spoke to the board of education Thursday night about Head Start's 50th year anniversary. Murray Head Start oversees the operation of the Hickman County Head Start. Graves presented certificates of recognition Thursday night. She is shown left, with Scott Mitchell, Martie Templeton, Judy Canty, Allen Kyle, Joe Samuel, Terry Mullins Casey Henderson and Richard Todd. Photo/Tommy Kimbro

High school seniors "Entrepreneurial Day" held April 23



Hickman County Judge/Executive Kenny Wilson held the first ever "Entrepreneurial Day" for HCHS seniors last Thursday at the Young Center in Clinton. Photo/Tommy Kimbro

By Tommy Kimbro

Hickman County High Seniors were the honored guest at the Young Center in Clinton on Thursday, April, 23rd, for "Entrepreneurial Day" at which they had the opportunity to hear from speakers from both the educational realm and the non-educational realm.

The day's activities began with a 8:00 a.m. light breakfast, for the students, and then it was right down to a learning experience as local business owners addressed the group with their experience regarding the start-up and operation of their business. The speakers scheduled on the program included Irvin Stroed, Taylor Ray and Danielle Thornsbrough, J. T. Workman IV, Tommy Roberts and Jason Batts.

Murray, Kentucky businessman Robbie Rudolph addressed the group with a history of his business enterprises and the need for the students to take advantage of the educational opportunity being offered by the 4 Rivers Scholarship program for high school students to be able to obtain college-hour credit prior to high school graduation and continuing their education at the college level. He also talked to the students about work ethics and the desire to help other people as be-



Dr. Tim Todd, Dean of the Business College at Murray State, talks with HCHS students.

Murray businessman and 4 Rivers Scholarship supporter Robbie Rudolph talks to the students.

ing very important in the operation of a business.

Dr. Tim Todd, Dean of the Business College at Murray State University was the featured speaker of the day with a great deal of infor-

Bobby Kelly selected as Fred Award Finalist

Superintendent Casey Henderson reported that system employee Bobby Kelly has been selected by the Kentucky Association of School Administrators as a finalist, along with two others state-wide, for their prestigious "Fred Award" which is given to a classified employee who demonstrates pride in their schools and going above and beyond the call of duty simply because it is 'the right thing to do' for the kids. Kelly will join the two other finalists in a special banquet and recognition at the closing session of the KASA conference in July.

The Hickman County Business & Industry Banquet is on Tuesday, May 6, at the activities building at the park. Please have tickets purchased by this Friday, May 1.

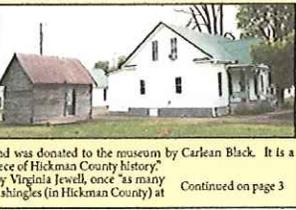
Magistrate Cole suffers minor injuries in accident

Hickman County Magistrate Henry Cole is made of tough stuff, thank goodness. On Friday, Cole, who drives a semi for Chip Wright Saw Mill, was driving when a trailer tire went off the shoulder of the road. The roadway was wet and ground soft from all the rain and he couldn't get it back on the road and corrected. The semi turned over near Bardwell. Cole said he suffered a broken nose and fractured a small bone in his neck, but he's thankful to still be here! Photo courtesy Curtis Jenkins.



Hickman County Museum launches restoration project

There's a new doctor's office in town. The office of horse-and-buggy doctor Thomas Lenard Lamkin (1872-1945) is being permanently relocated to a lot adjacent to the Hickman County Museum. Jetty Pyle, chairman of the restoration project said, "this building was originally in Spring Hill, and was donated to the museum by Carlean Black. It is a treasure, an irreplaceable piece of Hickman County history." According to Lick Skillet by Virginia Jewell, once "as many as 28 doctors hung out their shingles (in Hickman County) at



Continued on page 3

Clinton Council votes to give \$6,898.34 back pay to Cpl. Clark

By Gabe Bendini

The Clinton City Council met in special session on Tuesday night, April 21 to discuss personnel. Present were Mayor Phyllis Campbell, Council members Jerome Jenkins, Betty Morrison, Laura Poole, Yvette Thomas, Ivan Potter and Howard Dillard; Clerk Dorena Bryan; Clinton City Police Chief Snapper Seaton and Gabe Bendini.

The Clinton City Council voted Tuesday night to

give Clinton Police Corporal Jamie Clark \$6,898.34 back pay, based on original policy that an officer begins at entry level pay, Classification 1 of the pay scale, and upon graduation from the Academy, the officer advances to Classification 2, with an increase in pay. During the term of former Mayor Tommy Kimbro, a revised pay scale was followed, in which entry-level officers did not get an increase in pay, even after

Dr. Lamkin: a skeleton in the attic

By Liz Jewell

In Spring Hill's heyday the crossroads had a grocery, an ice cream parlor, a casket shop, two blacksmiths, and both a Methodist and a Baptist church. There was a courthouse in Spring Hill, according to James "Bub" Lamkin, "where we voted for years and years."

In the early 20th century there was also a doctor's office in Spring Hill, and it belonged to James' grandfather, Dr. Thomas Lenard Lamkin.

Dr. Lamkin died when James was 11, but family stories about this horse-and-buggy doctor are alive and well. Both James and his cousin Jerry Bradberry remember Dr. Lamkin's one-room office with an operating table, cabinets, and a wooden sign out front. But what they both recall most vividly is the human skeleton that hung in plain view. "This was a real skeleton," James said, "not the plastic kind."

Dr. Lamkin recycled before it was cool. "My grandfather would get a lot of

Continued on page 5



Clinton Council votes back pay

Continued from front page
did not receive an increase in pay.
Council member Ivan Potter asked about pay increases for other city positions, like for the clerks, after completing certain types of training. Mayor Campbell said budget time was coming up and that might be something the council wanted to consider, and if after a certain amount of training hours, they wanted to provide a pay increase, they could.
"I think the better we make it for the people who are invested with us, they will stay with us," Potter said.
Council member Laura Poole asked if in fairness they should also back pay for Dustin Awbery and Tom Dickson, who also serve on the Clinton Police Department.
Seaton said none of the of-

ficers, including himself, received additional pay because the revised pay scale method was used instead of the original policy, but they were not complaining nor seeking back pay. He said Clark's situation is different because he was specifically told he would receive an increase after completing academy training and receiving certification and he did not, and he wanted to keep his word to Clark.
"This has been bothering me because it's something I told Jamie before I went to Afghanistan," Seaton said.
"The policy backs me, and Jamie deserves it. You've got to take care of what you've got."
Seaton said that from this point forward, the pay scale and policy match, so it will not be a future issue.

Relay For Life moving location

Continued from page 2

places such as the University of Kentucky, Vanderbilt University and St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. Funds also help provide information and services to cancer patients and caregivers at any time, day or night.
Teams can still form to help support Relay For Life. Registration is free at www.relayforlife.org/hickmanky. For more information, contact Stuzette Rives, event chair, at (270) 254-6222.



Dr. Thomas Lenard Lamkin (left center) and his wife Kate Moss Lamkin (right). Sons Hazel Padgett Lamkin (top left), Thomas Lenard Lamkin, Jr. and his wife Thelma Jane Ussery Lamkin. In front, Thomas and Thelma's children—Joe Hazel Lamkin, James Lamkin, and Thelma Lynn Lamkin.

Dr. Lamkin, continued from front

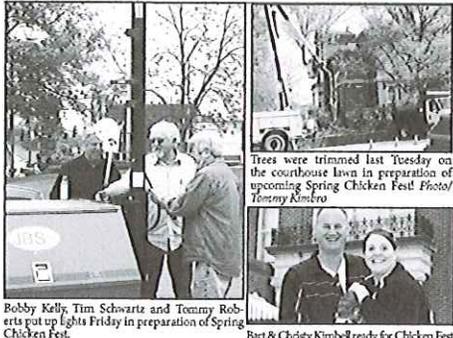
of confusion.
"One of the loafers outside saw the full whiskey bottle on the shelf," James said. "He made a run for it, took the bottle (of castor oil), and on the way out of the office grabbed a package of crackers that was on the desk."
Dr. Lamkin, whose ancestors came to the Spring Hill area in 1833, was the only one of eight children who graduated from high school. According to James, his grandfather "went to college, medical school and later read the law and passed the bar exam."
These studies took Dr. Lamkin to schools in Tennessee, St. Louis, and New Orleans but he returned to West Kentucky after receiving his medical license. In the early days of his career he practiced in Millsum, Lone Oak, and Burdwell. In 1918 Dr. Lamkin brought his practice back to Springhill. "The doctor was 45 then

but with America on the cusp of World War I he was afraid he might be drafted. With a wife and two sons depending on him, he wanted his family to be near their relatives.
Dr. Lamkin was not one to slack off. After practicing medicine and getting a law degree, he ran for Hickman County Attorney and won. He was also a fine tenor who sang in a family quartet that included grandchildren James Lamkin and James' sister Thelma Lynn. "We never got to go to Sunday School because we were always going to a singing somewhere."
When the family wasn't performing, James recalls that Dr. and Mrs. Lamkin always joined them for dinner after church. But some of his most cherished memories are of family breakfasts. "We bought fish from Bencini's market on Saturday or Sunday morning, and then fried fish for

Sunday breakfast."
After Dr. Lamkin's death in 1945 the office next to his home in Spring Hill stood empty. When the Lamkin residence on Hwy. 51 burned in 1982, the Lamkin family realized that among the items lost was the human skeleton that, for years, had presided over the doctor's office.
Friends and neighbors were aghast when they heard the Lamkin children's lament: "Papa's skeleton was in the attic when the house burned!"
Many thanks to Jerry Thomas Bradberry and Steve Bradberry, cousins of Dr. Lamkin, for help gathering factual material for this story. Among other memories, Mr. Jerry Bradberry once saw Dr. Lamkin's famous skeleton riding the school bus. "It was being taken to school by Thelma Lynn Lamkin," he recalls, "for show-and-tell."



The doctor's office, shown left, is a nice addition to the Hickman County Museum, which also features a "General Store," various rooms with material from the different schools in Hickman County, a War Room and so much more! Check it out Wednesdays 1-4 pm.



Trees were trimmed last Tuesday on the courthouse lawn in preparation of upcoming Spring Chicken Fest. Photo/Tommy Kimbro
Burt & Christy Kimbro ready for Chicken Fest!

School board, continued from front page

The board proceeded with the meeting by approving the following items: minutes of the March 24th meeting and this month's treasurer report. Danny Carr asked the board for permission to use the Elementary Gym for the Friday evening scheduled Chicken Festival activities due to inclement weather forecasted for that night. The board approved the request. Other items receiving approval were: accounts payable warrant, Mayfield Airport for "Flight" summer program for students, pending review and recommendation by the board's attorney, a resolution in support of Hickman County's application for Work Ready Community status, Certified Evaluation Plan as submitted by Jan Johnson-Instructional Supervisor and a shortened school day for a special education elementary school student.
Cindy Graves, Director of the Murray Head Start Program addressed the board regarding the 50th anniversary of the Head Start Program. The Murray agency operates the Hickman County Head Start program by contract with the local board. Graves presented the superintendent and each of the board members with a certificate of recognition and appreciation from the Murray agency.
Kay Lynn Jackson recognized Hickman County Elementary student Kay Lynn Jackson was introduced to the board by Principal Richard Todd. Todd told the board that Kay Lynn was being recognized for outstanding achievement on STAR testing for reading and math. Kay Lynn has a 93% increase in reading skills this school year, the most progress in the 5th

and 6th grades.
Cell Phone Policy Proposal
Hickman County High School principal Kevin Estes presented the board with a proposed cell phone and electronic device policy revision as recommended by the site-based decision making council and himself. The proposal was presented for review by the board and to be included on next month's meeting agenda. The document states that student use of cell phones and electronic devices, including car phones, ear buds, iPods and MP3 players (excluding calculators) are prohibited during school hours in any location in the building. Cell phones are not to be used in class. It states that violation of the policy will result in the student's cell phone, including SIM card, being confiscated during school hours and the student subject to the following penalties: 1st Offense- Phone confiscated five (5) consecutive school days and after-school detention. Students must turn the phone in each day to the office when entering the building and may pick it up after the last bell each day. 2nd Offense- Phone confiscated ten (10) consecutive days and Saturday school detention along with the same stipulations. 3rd Offense- Phone confiscated 30 consecutive school days and three (3) days of Alternative School along with the same stipulations. 4th Offense- Cell Phone no longer allowed in school and five (5) days of Alternative School. Refusal to give up phone, including SIM card, when in violation and requested by a staff member will result in additional punishment for defiance. The proposed policy revision further addresses prohibiting social

networking, etc. any time during school hours. The full context of the policy will be printed upon adoption by the board.
Principal Todd's Report
In Principal Todd's report to the board, he announced that K-PREP evaluation will take place May 13-20. There will be a pop rally on May 12 to kick K-PREP off. Other items in the report included: Preschool promotion-May 14, Awards Day-May 21, Field Day-May 22, Sixth grade promotion-May 27 and Spring Fling (last day of school)-May 28.
Principal Estes Recognizes Students
High School Principal Estes, in his report, recognized Sarah Harpole, Savannah Sublett, Marisha Simmons, Noah Cunningham and Hope Harper for being chosen Governors Scholars. He congratulated Christina Harper, Baylee Estes and Aliya Richards for being chosen to the HOBY. Also receiving recognition were the Junior Class for their 21.5 average on March ACT, the highest in school history, and congratulated two FBIA students for winning state competition and now proceeding to national competition. High school K-PREP testing will be May 12 through May 22. Senior Awards Night will be held May 28 at 7:00 pm and Graduation will be May 29 at 7:00 pm.
Other
In other business, the school board approved the requirement of a four (4) year bachelor's degree from a college or university as a prerequisite for employment as School Nurse or Board of Education Payroll Office with the measure passing by a 2-vote approved KISTA participation for leasing and financing of school buses; approved

Entrepreneurial Day, Continued from front

world. Chris Woodruff, Director of the Small Business Development Center, at Murray State University, was also in attendance at the program.
Darren Grogan, a local farmer, spoke to the group with a view of the importance of agriculture's role in the future of the community but the world as well.
The coordinator of the day's activities, Judge/Executive Kenny Wilson, expressed his sincere appreciation to Murray State University for providing the funding to make this event possible.

Notice Of Inspection Period For The Property Tax Assessment Roll

The Hickman County real property tax roll will be opened for inspection from May 4th through May 18th, 2015. On Saturday, May 9th and 16th the office will open BY APPOINTMENT ONLY. Under the supervision of the Property Valuation Administrator or one of the deputies, any person may inspect the tax roll.

This is the January 1, 2015 assessment, on which state, county, and school taxes for 2015 will be due about September 15, 2015.

The tax roll is located in the Office of the Property Valuation Administrator in the county courthouse and may be inspected between the hours of 8:00 am and 4:00 pm.

Any taxpayer desiring to appeal an assessment on real property made by the PVA must first request a conference with the PVA or a designated deputy. The conference may be held prior to or during the inspection period.

After the conference with the PVA or designated deputy, any taxpayer still aggrieved by an assessment on real property may appeal to the county board of assessment appeals.

The taxpayer can appeal their assessment by filing in person or sending a letter or other written petition stating the reasons for appeal, identifying the property and stating the taxpayer's opinion of the fair cash value of the property.

The appeal must be received in the county clerk's office no later than one work day following the conclusion of the inspection period.

A taxpayer failing to appeal to the county board of assessment appeals, or failing to appear before the board, either in person or by designated representative, will not be eligible to appeal directly to the Kentucky Board of Tax Appeals.

Appeals of personal property assessments shall not be made to the county board of assessment appeals. Personal property taxpayers shall be served notice under the provisions of KRS 132.450(6) and shall have the protest and appeals rights granted under the provisions of KRS 131.110.

The following steps should be taken when a taxpayer does not agree with the assessed value of personal property as determined by the Property Valuation Administrator:

- (1) He or she must list under protest (for certification) what they believe to be the fair cash value of their property.
- (2) He or she must file a written protest directly with the Department of Revenue, Office of Property Valuation within 30 days from the date of the notice of assessment.
- (3) This protest must be in accordance with KRS 131.110.
- (4) The final decision of the Department of Revenue may be appealed to the Kentucky Board of Tax Appeals.

Ann Ballentine
Property Valuation Administrator
Hickman County

HCEDA, Inc. to contribute to 'Work Ready' program

Naranjo appointed as newest board member

Daniel Richardson

The Hickman County Economic Development Authority (HCEDA), Inc. board of directors held their quarterly meeting on Wednesday, April 29, and voted to contribute \$2,500 toward WorkKeys testing, which is used to assess both an individual's skills and skills of the overall workforce.

As a result of this support, Hickman Countians can visit Judge/Executive Kenny Wilson's office between now and May 29, to pick up a testing voucher, which will allow the individual to take the Work Keys test at the Hickman County Adult Education Center at the industrial park on Highway 51 South. Without the voucher, the cost to take the test is about \$22.

Participants who take the test will receive a National Career Readiness Certificate (NCRC) that will confirm their scores for their current or future employers. The NCRC utilizes the three WorkKeys assessments to measure "real world" skills that employers believe are critical to job success. The three assessments include an individual's ability to look up information, apply mathematics, and read for information.

Hickman County Judge Executive Kenny Wilson was present at the meeting and informed the board that the county is about 50 to 60 percent through the Work Ready designation process. He said about 20 community businesses and organizations have submitted letters of support for the Work Ready program.

The purpose of the Work Ready designation is to show prospective industries that the county has met several criteria that the Kentucky Workforce Investment Board has

economic growth and demonstrate a workforce capable of staffing industrial employers.

The criteria include high school graduation rates, National Career Readiness Certificate holders, community commitment, educational attainment, soft skills development and Internet availability.

Hickman County currently meets most of the criteria, such as graduation rate and Internet availability. Other criteria such as NCR Certificate holders and educational attainment are well on their way to being met in the near future.

Along with the \$2,500 for NCRC testing, the board also approved a resolution in support of the Work Ready program.

During the meeting, Director Greg Pruitt reminded the board that with the absence of Tommy Roberts, who resigned from the board earlier this year, the board has a vacant seat. Pruitt said the board is set up to have representation from the City of Clinton, the Hickman County Fiscal Court, both local banks, and business owners in the community. Roberts was both a business owner and magistrate until this year, and Pruitt said that he would like to see the fiscal court represented on the board again, although it is not a requirement.

He said he had spoken with Magistrate Kory Naranjo about potentially serving on the board, and that Naranjo had expressed willingness to serve on the board.

Rick Cauty said that his main concern was that the board needed a younger person to provide a fresh perspective on issues, and that Naranjo met that requirement. The



Jennifer Humphreys
es, Anna Crider,
ice York, and Evan

ments



lar, ...az, Baylee
in their favor with
lture.

program and
esent on at the
y. Jobs, youth
re were among

board voted unanimously to appoint Naranjo to the board's vacant seat.

During the meeting, Pruitt also announced to the board that the Purchase Regional Industrial Parks Board is paying \$30,000 to be one of the primary sponsors of an event in June for German manufacturers who are planning to locate somewhere in the United States. He said that Hickman-Fulton Counties Economic Development Partnership (HCFCEDP) Director Eddie Crittendon will attend the event in Germany to speak with manufacturers about locating in the Fulton-Hickman County area. Pruitt and Crittendon are both on the Purchase Regional Industrial Parks board.

Norma Pruitt, executive director of Kentucky Great River Region Organization (YGRRO) spoke about some programs she was working on. She said she is working to have two exhibit panels placed at Columbus-Belmont State Park to identify the land and water routes for the Trail of Tears, and note the significance of Columbus being one of only three sites in the country where a land route and the water route cross.

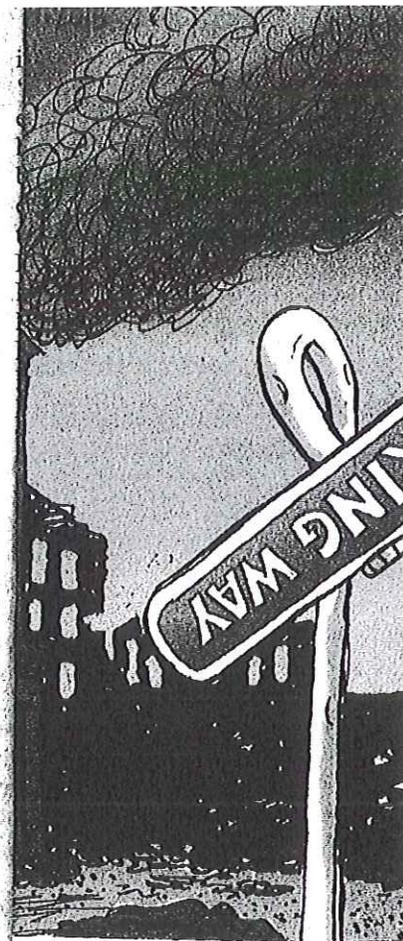
She also announced that she is working with National Geographic to have local businesses and restaurants placed on their tourism website, and working with the Kentucky Department of Transportation to have signs along the four corridors from I-24 to bring traffic to our region.

Previously, Pruitt had given the board members a questionnaire asking them to rank their priorities in regards to local economic development. The board ranked facilitating entrepreneurship as their top priority, with industrial site research and development and marketing the former Damar College building to prospective employers coming in a close second and third.

The next meeting of the



WORK READY - The Hickman County Economic Development Authority, Inc. board of directors held their quarterly meeting on Wednesday, April 29, and showed their support for Hickman County's Work Ready program by posing with this sign, which reads "Hickman County Economic Development is Work Ready!" Shown seated are HCEDA, Inc. Director Greg Pruitt, left, and boardmember Rick Canty. Standing from left are boardmembers Bob Williams, Steve Bradberry, and Howard Dillard.



“Appe

Columbus approves interlocal agreement

Cherry Pyron

The city council of Columbus joined Clinton and many county civic organizations at their May meeting on Monday night by unanimously passing the Work Ready Communities Initiative resolution.

A copy of Columbus Resolution 2015-1 will join a sheaf of other documents to be submitted to the Kentucky Workforce Development Board. Judge-executive Kenny Wilson said on Monday night that he hopes to submit the gathered

documents by the end of May and would expect to hear about its approval within another month's time.

"This (designation) makes Hickman County more attractive to potential employers than without it," Columbus city attorney Mary Potter told the council members. The Work Ready designation identifies the skill sets of potential employees and helps to quantify those skills within the county.

The council also approved without exception the interlocal agreement

presented by Wilson on behalf of the fiscal court. "Your approval of this (agreement)," Wilson told the council, "gives us the legal capability of doing it (providing help to the city at its request) the right way."

Before the vote, council woman Sue Jones asked Wilson, "If a county worker in Columbus gets hurt, who's responsible?"

"You said it," Wilson replied, "he's a county worker, so the county's responsible. And (with this agreement) we won't be in your business, bothering you in

any way unless you ask." Wilson told the council that road work and emergency services, such as those provided during the past winter, would be the primary areas where the county would come to the aid of Columbus.

The third item on the evening's agenda was allocating funds for repairs to be made in the city hall building. Mayor Kay Ferguson said there has been a \$100 donation toward the cost of materials, and added, "And I think we'll be able to get more donations."

She told the council that John Lemons has a person with 300 hours of community service whom he recommended to help with the city hall work, and Dwayne Grimmitt, repair coordinator with Ingram Barge Company, said, "And the other help's on me."

Grimmitt also volunteered to provide studs for the walls, saying, "The whole building needs to be gutted because there's not much holding up the paneling right now."

SEE COLUMBUS, PAGE 3

We want to hear from you!

If you have a question, comment, or complaint about something you saw in *The Hickman County Gazette*, or a suggestion, we'd love to hear from you!

270.653.3381

gazette3322@bellsouth.net



Obituaries, pg 4

Lacey Henderson
Donnavon Pirtle
Zane Teeters
Virginia Teeters

See full obituaries on page 4.

Inside

Continued, News.....Page 2
Obituaries.....Page 4
Community.....Page 5
Classifieds.....Page 6
News.....Page 7
News.....Page 8

doctor during the late 19th and early 20th century.



include Hickman County Judge Executive, Hickman County Clerk, PVA, Jailor, Attorney, Fulton-Hickman County District Court Judge

decide a winner based on each group's presentation, audibility, and research, which was given as a report prior to

the presentation, though she was not able to be at the ceremony. This group came up with the idea of hosting a spring and winter

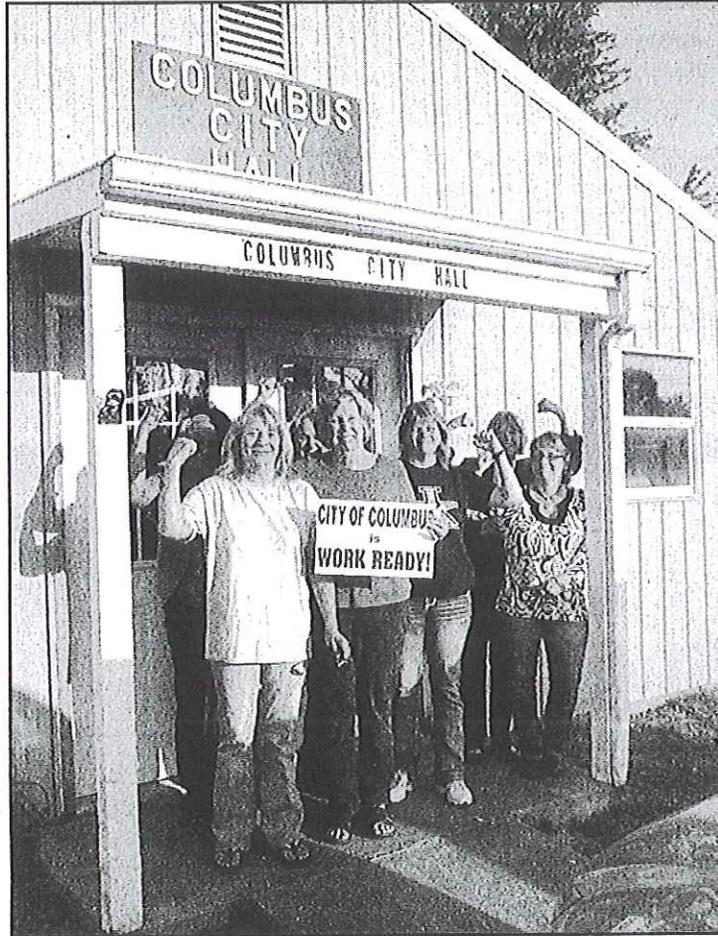
City clerk Melissa Griffin was asked to get bids for termite treatment and materials to present at the June 1 council meeting, with Mayor Ferguson saying, "And I think we can decide about all this then."

In response to a question about delinquent property owners, attorney Mary Potter suggested that the council enforce Ordinance 2012-2 to allow her to send letters to those owners identified by the council, giving a period of time in which to comply, and turning non-compliant owners over to the county attorney after that time.

"I have found that citing someone to criminal court, and not complying with this ordinance is breaking the law," Potter said, "gets their attention. It's a start."

Some of the conditions cited in the ordinance are accumulated rubbish, weeds and grass over one-foot tall, scrap metal and vehicles at the point of being a nuisance and a danger. Potter will use city letterhead to address those property owners named by the council.

Potter also extended an invitation to the council to attend a May 12 dinner at the Cooperative Extension office at which the 8th-grade history club, sponsored by the Hickman County Historical Society, will present their research papers, saying that about half of the papers deal with Columbus and its history.



WORK READY - City of Columbus joins the Work Ready effort of Hickman County at its May meeting on Monday night with a unanimous vote of the council members. Judge-executive Kenny Wilson attended the meeting and anticipates submitting the entire packet of documentation by the end of the month.

Mayor Ferguson asked about interest in accepting for display at the city hall a 4x4-foot map of old Columbus from Columbus-Belmont State Park manager Cindy Lynch. Grimmitt will work with Lynch to see about preparing a display case for the map, which belonged

to the late John S. Adams, long-time park manager. The display will be hung after interior work at city hall is complete.

With no further business to conduct, the meeting was adjourned until June 1. Councilmember Ricky Vaughn was the only absent member.

matching grant to take care of the sidewalks around town that were falling apart.

"We got the matching grant, but we didn't have the funds to match, so it fell through," she said.

The annexation discussion concluded with Campbell briefing residents on how to oppose a proposed annexation. She said that once an ordinance for annexation is drafted, approved by the council, and published, the annexation would go into effect in 60 days unless 51 percent of those affected by the proposed annexation signed a petition against the annexation. It would then go to a ballot vote of all those affected.

The city council has not yet made specific plans about what areas will be proposed to be annexed, but Campbell mentioned in last month's meeting that a 1.5 mile extension of the city's current limits would be a reasonable idea to start with.

Prior to the annexation discussion, Clinton Police Chief Snapper Seaton gave a report that included a potential "5th Officer" grant that would pay 75 percent of a fifth police officer's salary for the first three years of their employment. Seaton asked the council to approve a motion supporting his pursuing of the grant so that he could move forward on the grant process with the confidence that the council supported the hiring of a fifth officer.

The Hickman County Gazette

PO Box 200, Clinton KY 42031-0200
USPS 243-160
270-653-3381

Established in 1843 as a merger of newspapers published in Hickman County. The first of which, Columbus Enterprise, was established at Columbus, KY., in 1843. The Hickman County Gazette (USPS 243-160) is published every

Tuesday except the last week in December by Magic Valley Publishing Co, 308 S. Washington St., Clinton, KY 42031. Periodicals Postage Paid at Clinton, KY 42031-0200.

POSTMASTER: Send address change to: The Hickman County Gazette, PO Box 200, Clinton, KY 42031-0200.

Rates: Per Year

\$23 - Fulton, Hickman, Carlisle and Graves Counties.

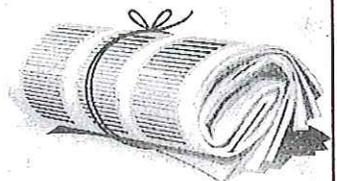
\$32 - all others & out of state

All inserts are supplements to The Hickman County Gazette.

gazette3322@bellsouth.net

Subscribe Today!

270.653.3381



*****CAR-KT LDT**C 002
 12/11/2015
 HICKMAN CO. JUDGE'S OFFICE
 116 S JEFFERSON ST
 CLINTON, KY 42031-1318

THE Hickman
GAZETTE

Since 1843

www.MagicValleyPublishing.com www.HickmanCountyGazette.com

KPA
 A Division of Magic Valley Publishing Company, Inc.

Shining Brighter Than Ever

Vol. 172, No. 18 | MAY 5, 2015

75c

Annexation discussion continues

Interlocal agreement approved by Clinton

Daniel Richardson

The Clinton City Council had a lot on their agenda Monday night but it didn't take long to get on the subject of annexation with the city hall packed to capacity with concerned county residents. Residents at the meeting questioned the economic viability of

an annexation with such a high cost of extending city infrastructure such as gas, water, and sewage. Mayor Phyllis Campbell responded by stating that city utilities would not necessarily be extended immediately upon annexation, but actions will be taken upon request of residents to extend utilities.

It was mentioned that many residents that live outside the Clinton city limits already have access to city utilities without

paying city taxes. It was also mentioned by Rodney Eason that the Clinton Police Department also patrols subdivisions outside the city limits, so the residents don't see that as a benefit of annexation, since they are already getting police coverage.

"I didn't want to bring this up," Campbell said, "but that doesn't have to be the case."

She assured that she was not threatening to restrict the police department to the city limits, but

said the additional coverage does incur cost to the taxpayers of the City of Clinton.

"The police could drive to the edge of the city limits, then turn around," she said.

Campbell and members of the council argued that while outlying residents may not live within the city limits of Clinton, they are still part of the community, and additional tax revenue would improve the city for everyone.

Campbell discussed several ways

the city could be improved by the additional tax revenue that would come with annexation. Specific projects cited included a city park, reconstructed sidewalks, a better funded and equipped police department, and more action to attend to dilapidated structures throughout the community.

"These things take money," she said. She mentioned that two years ago, the city was approved for a

SEE ANNEXATION, PAGE 3

matching grant to take care of the sidewalks around town that were falling apart.

"We got the matching grant, but we didn't have the funds to match, so it fell through," she said.

The annexation discussion concluded with Campbell briefing residents on how to oppose a proposed annexation. She said that once an ordinance for annexation is drafted, approved by the council, and published, the annexation would go into effect in 60 days unless 51 percent of those affected by the proposed annexation signed a petition against the annexation. It would then go to a ballot vote of all those affected.

The city council has not yet made specific plans about what areas will be proposed to be annexed, but Campbell mentioned in last month's meeting that a 1.5 mile extension of the city's current limits would be a reasonable idea to start with.

Prior to the annexation discussion, Clinton Police Chief Snapper Seaton gave a report that included a potential "5th Officer" grant that would pay 75 percent of a fifth police officer's salary for the first three years of their employment. Seaton asked the council to approve a motion supporting his pursuing of the grant so that he could move forward on the grant process with the confidence that the council supported the hiring of a fifth officer.

Campbell stated that currently, with four officers, there are gaps in police coverage throughout the week.

"It takes five officers to provide 24-7 protection without paying overtime," Seaton said.

The council approved a motion for Seaton to pursue the grant.

Seaton also said that the Elizabethtown Police Department had donated about \$3,500 worth of equipment to the Clinton Police Department. He also told the council about his Project ChildSafe project, in which the Clinton Police Department is offering free gun locks and firearm safety information to those interested. He said he is also visiting Hickman County Elementary School this week to discuss firearm safety with the students.

The council approved a resolution in support of the county's Work Ready Program, and also approved an interlocal agreement with the Hickman County Fiscal Court. According to the agreement, the city can ask the county for road assistance during severe winter weather to assist with snow removal. This past winter, the county road department was able to assist with snow removal and road treatment as a result of the State of Emergency that was declared by Judge Executive Kenny Wilson. This agreement allows the city to ask for assistance

without a State of Emergency being in effect.

The council also approved a request by Pamela Knox to forgive mowing liens on two properties in Clinton that she plans to purchase and renovate. The council voted to forgive the liens, which amounted to about \$1,800. Council members Yvette Thomas and Laura Poolé abstained from the vote. Knox will still pay the property tax liens on the properties that the city has in place.

Campbell opened several bids from waste management companies in regards to a city-wide contract for solid waste pick-up. Due to the complexity of the bids, the council decided to take some time to examine and compare the bids before making a decision.

Campbell reminded the council members that the City of Clinton has a Relay for Life team, and asked them to come to the annual Relay event on the court square on Friday, June 5 to represent the city. She informed the council that she is having shirts made for the council members that want to participate.

The council voted to have a budget workshop on Thursday, May 14, at 5 p.m. to establish a budget for the next fiscal year.

The next meeting of the Clinton City Council is scheduled for Monday, June 1 at 6 p.m. at the Clinton City Hall.

Relay for Life is June 5

The annual Hickman County Relay for Life event is scheduled for Friday, June 5, from 6 p.m. until midnight.

The Relay for Life committee also hosted a Princess Tea Party on Saturday, May 2, from 10 a.m. to 12 noon at the Young Center. See photos and story on page 7.

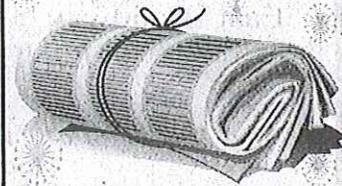
Relay for Life committee

still needs teams, and chairwoman Suzette Reeves says it's not too late for teams to sign up. The committee is also in need of cakes from volunteers or survivors for the cake auction at the Relay event.

For more information, or to volunteer, call Suzette Reeves at 270-254-6222.

Subscribe Today!

270.653.3381



THE HICKMAN JOURNAL GAZETTE

www.MagicValleyPublishing.com

Since 1843

www.HickmanCountyGazette.co



A Division of Magic Valley Publishing Company, Inc.

Shining Brighter Than Ever

Vol. 172, No. 16 | APRIL 21, 2015



Photo by Daniel Richardson

WORK READY - At their annual meeting last Thursday morning, April 16, the Clinton-Hickman County Chamber of Commerce showed their support for Hickman County's Work Ready program by gathering for a photo with a sign that read "Chamber of Commerce is Work Ready." Among those pictured are Beverly Hopkins, Dr. Bruce Smith, Hickman County Jailor Chad Barber, Sue Doering, of Sue's Boutique; Walter Doering; Christy Kimbell, owner of E-Clips; Clinton Bank President Glenn Reid; Dionne Keene, loan officer at Clinton Bank; Hickman County Schools Superintendent Casey Henderson; First Community Bank loan officer and immediate past Chamber president Deena Pittman; County Attorney Jason Batts; Hickman County Cooperative Extension Agent Melissa Goodman; Hickman County Judge Executive Kenny Wilson; Hickman County Cooperative Extension Agent Mattea Mitchell; Irvin Stroud, Hickman County magistrate and owner of A Shear Blend; and Clinton City Councilman Ivan Potter.



Spring Chick Fest is th weeken

It's finally here. After almost a year of waiting, the Clinton-Hickman County Spring Chicken Festival is this weekend! The festival will include great food, carnival rides, a corn-hole tourna-

from the event
Children's Resca
The Slingin' F
ment will begin
for the tourname

Have You Ever Wondered if Your Skills are Work Ready?

Document Your Job Skills with a National Career Readiness Certificate!

The National Career Readiness Certificate (NCRC) utilizes three WorkKeys assessments to measure “real world” skills that employers believe are critical to job success:

- looking for information,
- applied mathematics,
- reading for information.

Until May 29th, the Hickman County Economic & Industrial Development Board will cover the cost for testing for any Hickman County resident at the Hickman County Adult Education Center. Pick up your free testing voucher at the County Judge/Executive's office located at 116 Jefferson Street in Clinton.

For more information call Judge/Executive Kenny Wilson at 270-653-4369.



We compete against communities
all over the world for jobs.

Our greatest asset to any potential
employer is the quality of our workforce.
During May, prove your skills earning a
National Career Readiness Certificate.



Prove Your Skills

*There has never been a
better time to prove our
workforce is as great as
we say you are.*

Until May 29th, the Hickman County Economic & Industrial Development Board will cover the cost for testing for any Hickman County resident at the Hickman County Adult Education Center.

Pick up your free testing voucher at the County Judge/Executive's office located at 116 Jefferson Street in Clinton. For more information call Judge/Executive Kenny Wilson at 270-653-4369.

Do you want to hire the
best individuals available?



**Encourage job applicants to document their skills
with a National Career Readiness Certificate!**

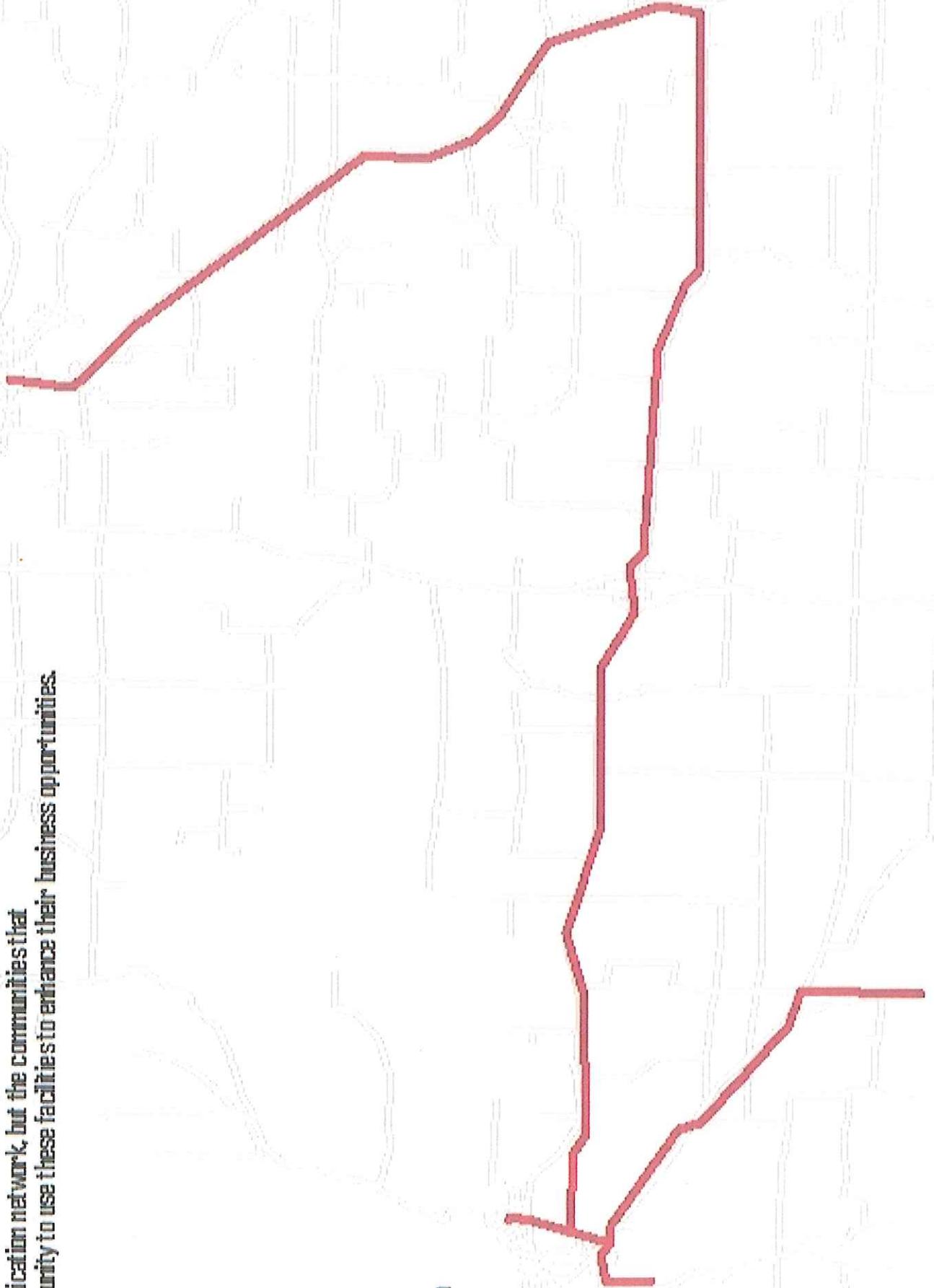
Sometimes, its difficult to know if job applicants have what your business needs. The National Career Readiness Certificate (NCRC) utilizes three WorkKeys assessments to measure “real world” skills that are critical to job success and productivity: looking for information, applied mathmatics, and reading for information.

Until May 29th, the Hickman County Economic & Industrial Development Board will cover the cost for testing for any Hickman County resident at the Hickman County Adult Education Center. Pick up your free testing voucher at the County Judge/Executive’s office located at 116 Jefferson Street in Clinton. For more information call Judge/Executive Kenny Wilson at 270-653-4369.

in red HFRECC's current fiber optic infrastructure has 44 miles of fiber optic. This infrastructure is a key ECC communication network, but the communities that in the opportunity to use these facilities to enhance their business opportunities.

Clinton

Hickman



Number of Internet Providers

Wireline Wireless

Population Percent Nationwide

Rank	Percent	Population
0	3.0%	16.1%
1	8.8%	6.2%
2	32.4%	48.3%
3	36.9%	29.4%
4	13.7%	0.0%
5	3.6%	0.0%
6	1.3%	0.0%
7	0.4%	0.0%
8+	0.1%	0.0%

Map »
Map my community

Rank »
Rank my community

Provider »
View statistics about providers

Broadband Classroom »
Learn more about broadband

Engage »
Build a better map for my community

Blog »
National Broadband Map has Helped Chart
Broadband Evolution
posted by Anne Neville on March 23, 2015

Updates »
Sign up and receive updates about the National
Broadband Map

Broadband Speed Test (Mbps)

Download Upload

Location Cumulative Tests 25th percentile median speed (Mbps) 75th percentile

Location	Cumulative Tests	25 th percentile	median speed (Mbps)	75 th percentile
Home	8	0.3	5.5	5.5
Schools, Libraries, Community Centers	0			
Medium/Large Business	0			
Small Business	0			
Mobile	0			
Other	0			

Community Anchor Institutions

Download Upload

Total Number of Records

Institution Number of Yes No Provided Reported

Institution	Number of Yes	No	Provided	Reported
Schools K through 12	2	0	2	0
University, College, other post-secondary	1	0	0	1
Libraries	1	1	0	1
Medical / Healthcare	0	0	0	0
Public Safety	1	0	0	1
Community Centers - Government support	4	1	0	3
Community Centers - Non-Government support	0	0	0	0

Download Community Anchor Institutions data on the download page

results: 0.83 seconds