FROM THE OFFICE OF COUNCILMEMBER JENNIFER MOSSOTTI Serving the People of Lexington's 9th District



9TH DISTRICT NEWS NOTES NEWSLETTER

VOLUME III, ISSUE 4



APRIL 2015



View a map of the district here.

Dear 9th District Neighbors,

On April 7, Mayor Gray presented his annual proposed budget to the Council. The FY16 budget is largely based upon an improving economy and on a government that is more efficient. Each spring, the Mayor proposes the City's next fiscal year budget and the Council then reviews the various proposals and ultimately ratifies a final budget in late June.

The Mayor's proposed budget for the new fiscal year is a \$324 million spending plan-a 3.6% increase over last year's General Fund budget. In addition to the projected revenues for FY16, the Mayor is proposing to reallocate \$10.4 million in • surplus funds from the current budget year. View the FY2015-2016 Mayor's Proposed Budget.

Highlights of the proposed budget include expenditures for much-needed infrastructure items, public • safety enhancements, community and social services funding, and parks and recreation improvements. Key items include:

- \$10 million for road paving across Lexington
- \$2.75 million for initiatives in the offices of Affordable Housing and Homelessness Preven- You can read the Mayor's budget address here. As
- \$1.9 million for parks projects
- \$750,000 to study the relocation of City Hall



- \$250,000 for development of a Parks Master
- Funding for 10 new police officers and \$2.5 million for new police vehicles
- Funding for police body cameras
- \$2.8 million for new fire vehicles
- \$5.2 million to complete the Public Safety Operations Center

The FY16 Budget will now be thoroughly reviewed and discussed by the full Council in the coming \$3 million for social services partner agencies weeks before a final vote occurs. The City's new (25% dedicated to emergency shelter funding) budget must be approved by July 1. For a breakdown by department, refer to the pie chart at right.

always, I welcome your feedback. My best,

CALENDAR:

April 30: Last day to submit firefighter application. (See p. 6.)

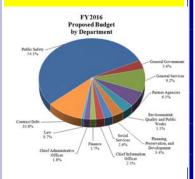
May 16: Wyndham Downs Neighborhood Yard Sale.

May 16: Southpoint Neighborhood Yard Sale.

May 23: GreenFest. bgGreenFest.org

View the City Calendar.

FY 2016 PROPOSED BUDGET BY DEPT.



Councilmember Mossotti on social media:







APPLICANT REQUESTS POSTPONEMENT RE: GARDEN CENTER

Central KY Garden Shop, LLC has requested a postponement until later this summer regarding their application for a conditional use permit to construct and operate a garden center, with mulch sales, and a variance to reduce the front setback from 50 feet to 15 feet in an Agricultural Urban (A-U) zone, at 1400 Higbee Mill Road. The property is currently designated as a "single family residence."

The matter will now be heard by the City's Board of Adjustment at their regularly scheduled meeting on July 21, 2015. That meeting will be open to the public and occur here at City Hall.

To view a copy of the applicant's Conditional Use Permit Application and Conceptual Site Layout, click here: https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B0aBvWAKyfxaNzNuX2hFZ1FsVE0/view.



CLAYS MILL ROAD IMPROVEMENTS - SECTION 2C TO BEGIN

Within the next couple of weeks, construction will begin on "Section 2C" of the Clays Mill Road Improvement Project. The area affected will be from Keithshire Way to New Circle Road. The overall project is designed to relieve congestion and improve safety along Clays Mill Road while maintaining the road's residential character.

Construction will consist of pavement widening and the placement of bike lanes, a new storm sewer system with associated structures, the placing of curb and gutters, a 5-foot sidewalk throughout the construction area and realigning of the culvert at Wellington. Landscaping will be added once the project is close to being completed.

The work is anticipated to be completed by the early part of next year.

The contractor will work Monday through Friday from 7:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. This schedule could change due to weather conditions. Saturdays would be used for make up days.

While the contractor will do their best to minimize the traffic problems and impacts, motorists should expect traffic impacts during this construction.

I will update you as events warrant via this newsletter and through my Facebook page.

GIVE A NEIGHBOR A NOD



Recognize those stand out in the crowd! Please take a moment to recognize that neighbor whose efforts make a positive impact on our community. Nominate your neighbor for 9th District "Neighbor of the Month." E-mail details to me at jmossotti@LexingtonKy.gov.



INPUT FOR SNOW PLAN REVIEW?



A formal review of the City's Snow & Ice Control Plan will occur at the June 2015 meeting of the Council's Environmental Quality & Public Works Committee.

Snow and ice removal in Fayette County is a combined effort of the City's Department of Environmental Quality & Public Works and the

Kentucky Department of Highways. Public Works is responsible for snow and ice removal from more than 1,110 lane miles of city and county roads. The state is responsible for plowing more than 500 miles of roadways in Fayette County.

If you have feedback, comments, recommendations or suggestions, please feel free to e-mail me at jmossotti@LexingtonKy.gov.

SUSTAINABILITY GRANT PROGRAM EXPANDED



Lexington's Sustainability Grant program, designed to collaboratively and creatively improve Lexington's environmental health, is being expanded to include art projects. The grants underwrite creative projects that get people thinking about stormwater, energy conservation, recycling and other environmental issues.

Residents are invited to apply for a 2015 Sustainability Grant. The grant amount has been increased to \$5,000 and eligibility requirements have been expanded to include all 501c3 nonprofit organizations. Public and private schools, neighborhood and homeowner associations, and churches can also apply.

More information and application materials about this grant opportunity are available at www.lexingtonky.gov/greengrants. Applications must be postmarked or submitted to the department's office by 4:30 p.m. on May 8, 2015.

Contact Louise Caldwell-Edmonds at (859) 425-2800 or via e-mail at <u>louisec@lexingtonky.gov</u> if you have questions.

LEXCALL REQUESTS FOR SERVICE FROM CITIZENS FOR MARCH

In the 21 working days of the month of March, LexCall answered 17,503 calls and initiated 6,913 service requests from citizens. The number one service request for the month of March was "pothole repair." There were **594** service requests initiated by LexCall 311. This is a **40 percent increase** from last year's requests.

The divisions that generated the most service requests for the month were as follows:

Waste Management – 4,698

Streets & Roads - 948

Water Quality – 495

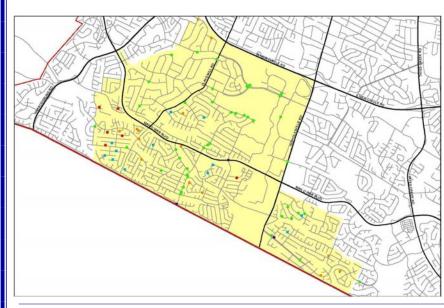
Code Enforcement - 365

Traffic Engineering - 170



The inmate anti-litter crew program also kicked-off for its second year during March. The crew is being supervised by employees of the Division of Streets and Roads and will be working throughout the community in the coming months to help keep our city clean.

To submit a service request to LexCall, dial 3-1-1 or visit: http://www.lexingtonky.gov/index.aspx?page=3441



The "Top 5" requests for service for the 9th District for March were:

- Pothole Repair (74 calls)
- 2. Missed Yard Waste Collection (15 calls)
- 3. Request for Snow Removal (14 calls)
- 4. Container Not Out/Late (13 calls)
- 5. Repair Refuse Container (12 calls)

Source: LexCall

CITY'S CITIZEN ACADEMYS OFFER INFORMATIVE INSIGHT





Did you know the Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government offers citizens the opportunity to explore both the Division of Police and the Division of Fire & Emergency Services?

The **Citizen Police Academy** offers citizens insight into how police officers perform their duties and how the department serves the community. Instruction consists of one 3-hour class held each week for a duration of 12 weeks. This instruction is comprehensive, covering a different area of the Division of Police each week. Certified police officers, supervisors, and civilian instructors with particular expertise will conduct each topic. Classes are limited to 24 citizen attendees. All classes are free. Learn more and/or apply here: http://www.lexingtonky.gov/index.aspx?page=87.

The **Citizens Fire Academy** is a dynamic 10-week program designed to provide participants with an inside view of the organization and operations of Lexington's Fire Department. The curriculum includes live demonstrations, classroom learning and hand-on experiences, all of which are designed to give participants a true feel for the LFD. The program is free and open to anyone 18-years-of-age or older who either lives or works in Fayette County. Learn more and/or apply for an upcoming class here: http://www.lexingtonky.gov/index.aspx?page=2869.

Classes for both academies fill up fast. Apply today!

NEW FIRE FIGHTING EQUIPMENT ARRIVES

The Lexington Division of Fire and Emergency Services now has a complete authorized fleet of aerial ladder trucks, fire engines and ambulances—a total of 12 new vehicles.

They include two new ladder trucks, which will replace two current 105-foot ladder trucks, manufactured in 2000 and 1997. The old ladder trucks will be part of the fire department's reserve fleet. The current reserve ladder trucks will be sold.

Lexington has seven on-duty ladder trucks and two reserve ladder trucks. The new equipment cost \$878,000 each.

The city has purchased five new fire engines over the last year or so. The new engines replaced Engine 1 at the Third Street Fire Station; Engine 8 on North Broadway; Engine 10 off Georgetown Road; Engine 12 on Southland Drive; and Engine 16 at the underground fire station on Man o' War Boulevard and Bold Bidder Drive.

Each new fire engine cost \$492,000. They replaced fire engines ranging in age from 1997 models to year 2000 models. One of the fire engines, Engine 8, was totaled in an accident on Interstate 75 in 2013. The city has 22 on-duty engine companies and also maintains four reserve engines.

Also, within the last several years, Lexington has replaced four ambulances and added one ambulance, at a cost of \$243,000 each. The new ambulances replaced EC1 at Station 1 on Third Street; EC4 on Tates Creek Road; EC8 at Station 2 on New Circle Road; and EC9 at Shillito Park. "EC" designates "Emergency Care."

Some of the ambulances replaced reportedly had more than 260,000 miles on them. But, considering idling time, they had the equivalent of more than 500,000 miles on them. As a fire official put it, "The fact that they were still on the road is amazing."



File photo.



Did you know?

In 2012, 37 percent of 15- to 20-year-old and 37 percent of 21-to 24-year-old male drivers involved in fatal crashes were speeding and 34 percent of motorcycle riders involved in fatal crashes were speeding.

Source: NHTSA

CO. CLERK IMPLEMENTS NEW VEHICLE REGISTRATION RECEIPT



The Fayette County Clerk's office has implemented a new system in conjunction with the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet that upgrades the receipt and substantially automates the procedures for vehicle registration.

As of Monday, April 13, Lexington residents will no longer receive the familiar blue and white registration receipt when they renew their vehicle license plate. The new receipt will have the familiar sticker embedded on an $8-\frac{1}{2} \times 11$ -inch page that contains all the same information as the retiring receipt. View new registration receipt example.

"This is a huge step forward in automation for both County Clerks and the Transportation Cabinet," said Don Blevins, Fayette County Clerk. "The embedded decal will prevent the public from misplacing the sticker before they apply it to their license plate. In addition, we are also implementing a document scanning process that will dramatically reduce the amount of paper we store and ship to the Transportation Cabinet."

The state-wide project is known as PODD, for "Printer on Demand Decal." So far, the new system has been deployed in 42 of 120 Kentucky counties, according to the project manager for the Transportation Cabinet. Full implementation is expected to be completed by the end of April.

FY 2016 PROPOSED CITY BUDGET WORKSHOP



On Friday morning, April 17, Mayor Gray and the administration conducted a FY16 Proposed Budget Workshop for the Council at the historic Lyric Theater & Cultural Arts Center downtown to discuss priorities and projected revenues and expenses.

The Council will have an opportunity to modify the Mayor's proposed budget in coming weeks. The City's actual budget must be approved by the Council by June 30. The new fiscal year begins July 1.

LFD PARTICIPATING IN TRIAL OF NEW EMS EQUIPMENT

The Lexington Fire Department is one of two fire departments in Kentucky that have been given the opportunity to have a trial run with a new innovative product, the iTClamp Hemorrhage Control System. It is a temporary wound closure device to control severe bleeding within seconds of application to a traumatic injury. This device was created by Innovative Trauma Care and is new to the Emergency Medical Service field. The Lexington Fire Department is one of very few departments who have had the opportunity to use this new product.





Innovative Trauma Care approached the State Medical Director, Dr. Julia Martin, with this product to give it out as a trial. Dr. Martin saw the Lexington Fire Department as a good fit for this product and asked Director of Emergency Medical Services Battalion Chief Brian Wood of the Lexington Fire Department to take this opportunity. Since the trial started, in November 2014, the devices have been used twice on patients to control major cuts and traumatic injuries.

MAYOR GRAY NAMES BROWN 1ST DISTRICT COUNCILMEMBER



Mayor Gray recently named James Brown, President of the Radcliffe-Marlboro Neighborhood Association, as the new Councilmember for the 1st District.

Brown took the oath of office, administered by Fayette Circuit Judge Pamela Goodwine, before a diverse crowd of neighborhood leaders, ministers, housing advocates, public servants, family members and friends. He replaces Chris Ford, who stepped down from the Council last month to become Gray's Commissioner of Social Services. The diverse 1st District includes areas of Lexington's historic downtown, African-American neighborhoods in the East End and the West End, plus a broad section of north Lexington outside of downtown.

Brown serves as a parent representative on the Bryan Station High School Site-Based Council, is actively involved in the 16th District PTA and through it serves as Chair of the Urban Family Engagement Network. He helped initiate a neighborhood watch program, managed multiple neighborhood grant projects and serves as member of the public school rezoning committee. He said he will run for the seat in the fall election.

Brown, a Realtor, is a Lexington native. He and his wife, Charmayne, have three children.

HOMELESSNESS SHOWS SIGNS OF DECLINE IN LEXINGTON

Some of Lexington's long-term homeless citizens are moving into apartments of their own. The Housing First Pilot Project has helped 9 people move to homes of their own with 11 more in progress. The three-year project is being evaluated by the University of Kentucky's Center for Business and Economic Research to assess its return on investment and potential for expansion to other local programming. Housing First places people experiencing homelessness directly into their own apartments while placing no conditions on receipt of services such as sobriety or mental health treatment.

Preliminary results from the 2015 Point In Time Count of people experiencing homelessness show that on January 28 there were 1,267 people on the street or in emergency or transitional housing in Lexington. This is a decline of 186 people or about 13 percent from the 2014 count of 1,453. While still a large number, the decline is encouraging especially as it reflects a very low number of people who were unsheltered indicating Lexington is doing a better job of getting everyone who needs help under a roof for the night. Click here to view the full news release with historical data.



Source: Office of Homelessness Prevention & Intervention

UPDATE: NEW SENIOR CENTER CONSTRUCTION



The City's current Senior Center located at Nicholasville Road and Alumni Drive is being replaced with a new, modern center that is being built at Idle Hour Park off Richmond Road.

Now that the bad weather is hopefully behind us, • the Senior Center construction should really take off. The following is a brief update that the Council recently received from the City's Chief Administrative Officer:

Schedule

• Current construction completion date is April 8, 2016.

Budget

• The project is within budget.

Progress

- Concrete foundations are complete.
- Storm sewer work is complete.
- Fire suppression water line to building site is complete.
- Domestic water line to the building site is complete.
- Fiber optic conduit has been installed from the northeast corner of the building site to Richmond Road.

- Fiber optic line will connect to the city fiber on south side of Richmond Road necessitating the subcontractor bore under Richmond Road. Coordination meeting between all parties took place on 3/30. Two permits are pending.
- Building slab will be poured during the week of April 6 weather permitting.
- Steel erection will begin during the week of April 13 weather permitting.
- Trees along Life Lane are being removed by Kentucky Utilities and Streets and Roads forces. This is necessary as part of the agreement with Southland Christian Church and to clear the area for the new sidewalk along that portion of Life Lane. New trees will be added in the vicinity as part of the construction contract.

I will keep you updated on the construction progress as I receive new information.

STOP THE TEXTS. STOP THE WRECKS.

DRIVERS WHO USE
HAND-HELD DEVICES ARE
FOUR TIMES AS LIKELY
TO GET INTO CRASHES SERIOUS
ENOUGH TO INJURE THEMSELVES.

LARGE TURNOUT FOR STONEWALL COMMUNITY MEETING

Thank you to Janet Cabaniss, president of Stonewall Community Association and the association's board for the invitation and opportunity to attend and speak at their annual meeting on March 23. As always, there was a terrific turnout.

The Stonewall Community Association was formally organized to preserve and promote and improve the neighborhood. Association Board members are residents that volunteer a great deal of time toward community events, activities, and resident concerns.

Annual association events include their neighborhood Independence Day Parade, Ice Cream Social, Community Yard Sale and other activities.

For more information, email: stonewallweb@gmail.com.



ANNUAL RABIES VACCINATION CLINIC IS MAY 7



An upcoming clinic will give Lexington pet owners a shot at a low-cost rabies shot. The Lexington-Fayette County Health Department's annual Rabies Vaccination Clinic will be held from 6-9 p.m. Thursday, May 7, at Douglass Park, 726 Georgetown Street.

Vaccinations cost just \$3.

All cats must be in a carrier, and all dogs must be on leashes.

In the event of inclement weather, the clinic date is subject to change. The health department will provide updates at www.lexingtonhealthdepartment.org.

Rabies, a viral disease of humans, pets and wild animals, is transmitted from animals to humans by the saliva of a rabid animal, usually from a bite. Rabies vaccinations typically cost about \$20, making this clinic a great value to pet owners.

State law requires that all dogs, cats and ferrets maintain a current rabies vaccination. The health department gave 493 rabies shots during the May 2014 clinic. The LFCHD Rabies Control Program received 768 animal bite reports last year, with LFCHD staff making sure each animal was up to date on all rabies vaccination shots.

ADDRESSING THE SUPPLY SIDE OF LOCAL FOOD

More than 40 farmers, processors, distributors, lenders and market leaders recently convened on the University of Kentucky campus for the "Bluegrass Barn Raising" to discuss strategies for expanding the supply of local foods. The event was a joint effort of stakeholders within the Lexington and Louisville foodsheds. Participants focused on increasing local food service to large organizations such as hospitals, school districts, higher education institutions, as well as large food retailers.

Mayor Jim Gray and Louisville's Mayor Greg Fisher launched the morning session with a panel discussion moderated by Joel Neaveill, chief of staff of the Governor's Office of Agricultural Policy. Both mayors emphasized how a local food system benefits the overall economy. Both mayors emphasized the ongoing collaboration between the two cities, a collaboration that also affects the surrounding "super-region," an area that includes 38 Central Kentucky counties.





Report a pothole. With the recent double-whammy of winter storms, there are now a lot of potholes which now need to be patched across Lexington. City crews are out daily working to make the repairs but need your help in indentifying the various locations where potholes presently exist.

When you see a pothole, please report it to LexCall at 3-1-1 (or 425-2255) or you can enter a service request here: http://lexcall.lexingtonky.gov/Services/ServiceRequests/serviceRequest.aspx.

APRIL IS DISTRACTED DRIVER AWARENESS MONTH

Eighty percent of American drivers believe hands-free devices are safer than using a handheld phone. But that is just not the case. More than 30 studies show hands-free devices are no safer because the brain remains distracted by the conversation. When talking on a cell phone, drivers can miss seeing up to half of what's around them, such as traffic lights, stop signs and pedestrians. Take the National Safety Council's Focused Driver Challenge and pledge to drive cell free: https://www.nsc.org/forms/distracteddriving_pledge.aspx.



A habit worth breaking

The ringing of a phone or pinging of a text creates irresistible urges for many people to answer the call, read the message or respond.

To avoid these temptations:

- O Turn off your cell phone, or put it on silent, before driving
- O Toss your cell phone in the trunk or glove box to avoid temptation
- O Pre-set your navigation system and music playlists before driving
- O Schedule stops to check voicemails, emails and texts
- O Set special ring tones for important incoming calls, and pull off to a safe place to take them
- O Tell coworkers, family and friends not to call or text you when they know you're driving
- O Start all conference calls by asking if anyone is driving, and have them call back when they are in a safe location
- Install an app on your phone that disables it while your vehicle is in motion
- O Ask a passenger to answer incoming calls and say "You'll call back when not driving"
- O Change your voicemail greeting to tell people that you may be driving and you'll call them back when you can safely do so

Positive side effects of not using a phone while driving:

- ✓ More likely to arrive safely at your destination
- ✓ Feeling more relaxed; some of our best ideas and solutions come when we are at ease
- ✓ Not letting your phone control you
- ✓ Being able to have a conversation with your passengers
- ✓ Avoiding crashes and their associated costs doctor visits, auto repairs, court fees

It feels good to take back control.

Check out the story of Debbie Z. on breaking the habit:

I had a long commute. To keep from being bored, I often used my drive to call friends and catch up.

I was then educated by my employer on the risks of distracted driving, and it began to make sense. I realized when talking on the phone I could get home and not remember seeing any of my usual roadside milestones. My mind wasn't focused on driving – kinda scary.

I also realized I wasn't a quality participant in the phone conversations I was having. I never talked about anything so important that it was worth putting someone's life – including my own – at risk.

Armed with this knowledge, I decided to quit cold turkey. Before each drive, I put my phone on silent in my purse. I put my purse in the back seat and out of reach to avoid temptation.

Sure, this caused me a little anxiety the first few days, but pretty soon it just became my new routine. Now my phone doesn't control me, and I'm a safer driver for it.

Take the "Focused Driver" Challenge today. You can find more information on the risks of using cell phones while driving at **nsc.org/cellfree.**

#CallsKill

Calls kill
Hands-free is not risk-free





From the Office of Councilmember Jennifer Mossotti Serving the People of Lexington's 9th District

Government Center, 200 East Main St., 5th Floor Lexington, KY 40507

http://www.lexingtonky.gov/index.aspx?page=364

To contact Councilmember Mossotti: Office Phone: 859-258-3215 E-mail: <u>imossotti@lexingtonky.gov</u>

> Legislative Aide: Rob Bolson rbolson@lexingtonky.gov Phone: 859-425-2564

FOLLOW ON SOCIAL MEDIA: FACEBOOK:

COUNCILMEMBER JENNIFER MOSSOTTI TWITTER: <u>@Mossotti9th</u> INSTAGRAM: COUNCILMEMBERMOSSOTTI







OTHER INFORMATION OF NOTE...



The Lexington Fire Department will host their annual golf scramble on Thursday, June 18, at the Gibson Bay Golf Course in Richmond.

The cost is \$50 per player or \$200 for a 4-person team and the fee includes 18 holes of golf (including cart), lunch and door prizes.

All proceeds will directly support fire prevention programs for students as well as residents of Lexington.



More information, including a registration form, can be found of the LFD website. The deadline to register is June 12.

FIRE DEPARTMENT NOW HIRING



The Lexington Fire Department's hiring process is now open. If you or someone you know is interested in becoming a firefighter, follow the link below to register and complete an application. The application filing deadline is Thursday, April 30.

https://jobs.lexingtonky.gov/careers

More information is also available on the Facebook page "LexFireJobs" at https://www.facebook.com/ LexFireJobs.

The Lexington Fire Department proudly serves the nearly 300,000 citizens spread over 280 square miles.

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS:

LexCall (City Hall) 311

Police (Non-emergency) 258-3600

Fire (Non-emergency) 231-5600

Columbia Gas 800-432-9345

Fayette County Clerk 253-3344

Fayette County Sheriff 252-1771

Garbage Collection 425-2255 or 311

Health Dept. 252-2371 **Humane Society** 225-9033 Ky. Utilities 255-0394

Ky. American Water 800-678-6301

231-5500 Lexington Public Library

Report a Pothole 800-728-2448 or 311

278-6072 Senior Citizen Center Time-Warner Cable 514-1400 Traffic Hotline 258-3830 255-8683 Voter Registration

United Way 211

FREE RAIN GARDEN WORKSHOPS



Bluegrass Greensource—a non-profit organization that provides education and resources on how we affect our environment-is offering several free Rain Garden Work Shops to the public. For more information, visit:

http://www.bggreensource.org/

LIONS CLUB PANCAKE BREAKFAST



The Lion Gilbert Scott Memorial Pancake Breakfast, sponsored by the Lexington Lions Club, is Saturday, April 25 from 8 a.m.-11:30 a.m. at Centenary United Method-

ist Church at 2800 Tates Creek Road. All-youcan-eat for only \$5—and it's for a great cause.

All proceeds will be used to assist the Lions Club in providing much need support to humanitarian and community service efforts in Lexington.



Share the news! Do you know someone who might also enjoy reading this monthly newsletter? Please forward a copy to them. If you are not currently a subscriber, please e-mail rbolson@lexingtonky.gov to be added to the e-mail list. Did you miss an edition? View previous editions of the 9th District Newsletter here: http://www.lexingtonky.gov/index.aspx?page=364 Miss an issue, miss a lot!