# PADD PRESS

A publication of the Pennyrile Area Development District

## **West Kentucky Workforce**

## Hopkins County Expungement Event



It was another successful expungement event in Hopkins County on April 25th, thanks to community partners and West Kentucky Workforce Board staff coming together to make it happen. Individuals once again lined the halls of the Ballard Convention Center in Madisonville, two hours prior to the start of the event, for a chance to speak to an attorney and a chance to change their life's trajectory. Stories were told of how finding housing was nearly impossible with a background, buying a car was difficult, and of course employment opportunities were limited in such cases.

The whole reason behind this community event is to change people's lives for the better. This goal not only includes linking individuals to employment, but also making sure that they receive information regarding housing, transportation, health insurance, etc. to improve their quality of life. Second chance employers and community resources were on-site to discuss these topics, in addition to the local attorneys giving

their time and the KY Department of Corrections providing free background checks. Around 135 individuals attended the event (100 people in the first hour), and 70 of those individuals were eligible for expungement.

Thanks to the sponsorship of the Hopkins County Law Library, these 70 individuals will not have to pay the \$40 fee associated with obtaining the expungement certificate of eligibility.

This event was presented in partnership with: Hopkins County Attorney's Office-Child Support Unit, Madisonville-Hopkins County Economic Development Corporation, Western Kentucky Reentry Council, Division of Reentry Services-KY Department of Corrections, Hopkins County Bar Association, and the West Kentucky Workforce Board."

## "Unlock Your Future" Job Fair

The West Kentucky
Workforce Board
was pleased to
partner with
Crittenden County
Schools and the
Lake Barkley
Partnership on a job
fair on Tuesday,
May 2nd. The main
goal of this event
was to give juniors



and seniors an opportunity to see what positions local and regional employers had available, in the hopes that jobs could be secured upon graduation. This event was also opened up to the public for a short time period, so individuals could network with participating employers.

## **Fort Campbell Activities**



A Monthly
Manufacturing
Seminar is held
the last Tuesday
of each month at
the Fort
Campbell
Transition
Assistance
Program center,
located at 5661

Screaming Eagle Blvd. in Fort Campbell, KY. Employers from

the SWK EDC region spend two hours speaking to transitioning service members about the companies' local and global impact, career opportunities, and additional employee benefits. It also provides an opportunity for the service members to expand their professional networks, offers a risk-free, low stress engagement with the plant leader or HR professionals, who can offer advice on their resumes as well as navigating the employment process. Last month representation from Wabash, White Drive Products, and Ascend Elements were present, as seen below. The next event is scheduled for Tuesday, May 30. Contact Derek Poor at derek.poor@ky.gov for more information.



### Welcome to the team!

David Leix started as an Accounting Clerk with PeADD on April 7<sup>th</sup>, 2023. Originally from Owensboro, KY, he currently lives in Clarksville, TN with his family. As a graduate of Kentucky Wesleyan College, David worked a number of different jobs, accounting or otherwise, with the latest of which being a call center employee assisting health insurance beneficiaries with benefit inquiries, claims, etc. David is excited to return to the field of accounting and begin this next chapter supporting the administrative duties of the PeADD agency.

Please help us welcome David to the PeADD team!



# **Community & Economic Development**

## Two Pennyrile Cities Selected to Improve Parks

Gov. Andy Beshear announced his selection of 37 projects that will enhance accessibility and upgrade parks and recreation spaces throughout the commonwealth, two of which are located in the Pennyrile.

The federally funded Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) has allotted \$3.9 million to communities across Kentucky for a wide variety of outdoor, health-related improvements, including the renovation or replacement of playground equipment, construction of walking and paths and bringing recreational facilities into compliance with Americans with Disabilities Act accessibility guidelines.



- Mortons Gap (Hopkins County) Mortons Gap will use \$30,000 to purchase and install accessible playground equipment for the city park. The project also includes rubber surfacing and the burial of one utility line.
- Princeton (Caldwell County) Princeton will use \$250,000 to revitalize two baseball/softball fields at the City-County Park. Fencing needs to be replaced, as well as the dugout structures, bleachers and utility poles for lighting.

# Funds Available to Help Communities Recover from 2021 Natural Disasters

Gov. Andy Beshear announced that beginning May 1, more than \$123 million will be available to communities impacted by the 2021 tornadoes in the West and flooding in the East to build homes, rental properties and multifamily rental properties.

The federal Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) allocated Kentucky funds from the Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery appropriation. Under the Disaster Recovery program, the four counties most impacted and distressed by the 2021 weather events – Graves, Warren, Hopkins and Breathitt – will receive 80% of the funds. The other 20% of funding will help an additional 36 counites also impacted by 2021 weather events including Caldwell, Christian, Lyon, and Muhlenberg in the Pennyrile.





Gov. Beshear was joined by Mayor Kathy O'Nan of Mayfield, Mayor Laura Thomas of Jackson, and Hopkins County Judge/Executive Jack Whitfield for the announcement.

"It is overwhelming the events and destruction we have seen across Kentucky. This funding is going to be used to keep bringing us forward and to continue the great economic developments years that we have had," said Judge Whitfield. "This is going to make sure we continue that growth, and that Kentucky will be better than it's ever been because of events like this."

The program will be administered by the Department for Local Government and the applications will be available on their website starting May 1. Questions about the program can be sent to Amy Frogue at amy.forgue@ky.gov or call (270) 886-9484.

# **Area Agency on Aging & Independent Living**

## May is Older Americans Month

Every May, the Administration for Community Living leads the nation's observance of Older American's Month. The 2023 theme is Aging Unbound, which offers an opportunity to explore diverse experiences and discuss how communities can combat stereotypes. Join the Pennyrile Area Agency on Aging and Independent Living in promoting flexible thinking about aging- and how we all benefit when older adults remain engaged, independent and included.

Our local Senior Centers are celebrating Older Americans Month with activities throughout the month. Visit our website for details on a center in your county.



## Are You Missing Out on Benefits?

Kentucky Medicaid provides partial financial assistance with Medicare premiums, deductibles, or coinsurance through the Medicare Savings Program (i.e., Qualified Medicare Beneficiaries, Specified Low-Income Medicare Beneficiaries, and Qualifying Individuals) - to certain low income Medicare beneficiaries who are not entitled to the full Medicaid benefit package.

If you are currently are having \$164.90 taken out of your Social Security check each month for your Part B monthly premium, and you are low income, there is a program that may be able to assist you with that premium cost! If your income is under \$1,660/single or \$2,239/married and your resources/assets are under \$9,090/single or \$13,630/ married then you may qualify to receive assistance through the state through one of the Medicare Savings Programs.

These programs may help pay for your Part B premiums and potentially assist in also paying for Part A premiums, deductibles, coinsurance, and copayments, depending on

your income level. To see if you are eligible and apply for these programs, contact Ali Jones with the Pennyrile Area Development District in Hopkinsville, KY at (866) 844-4396 or (270) 886-9484.



## **2023** Annual Meeting

PENNYRILE AREA DEVELOPMENT 54TH ANNUAL DISTRICT DINNER MEETING

Monday, June 12, 2023

Reception at 5:30 PM Dinner Meeting at 6:00 PM

The Bruce Convention Center 303 Conference Center Dr. Hopkinsville, KY 42240

RSVP by May 26, 2023 via reply card or the QR Code below.

Email questions to melissal.thompson@ky.gov

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# **2023 UPCOMING EVENTS**

Event Name	Date	Time (CT)	Location
PeADD Board of Directors Meeting	May 8, 2023	12 pm	PeADD Office & Streamed on YouTube
Pennyrile West Park Committee Meeting	May 8, 2023	1 pm (or after PeADD Board Meeting	PeADD Office
Alzheimer's Support Group	May 9, 2023	10 am	PeADD Office & Zoom
Pennyrile Area Agency on Aging & Independent Living Advisory Council, Staff & Volunteer Training	May 10, 2023	9 am	Lake Barkley Convention Center Cadiz, KY
Pennyrile Grandparent Support Group	May 17, 2023	10 am	PeADD Office & Zoom
Tri-County Elder Abuse Council Meeting	May 17, 2023	12 pm	PeADD Office & Zoom
Pennyrile Elder Abuse Board of Director's Meeting	May 17, 2023	1 pm	PeADD Office & Zoom
Muhlenberg County Job Fair	May 23, 2023	9 am – 2 pm	Sue & Brown Badgett Center - Greenville, KY
West Kentucky Workforce Board Meeting	May 24, 2023	10 am	Lake Barkley Convention Center - Cadiz, KY
It's Time for a Job Fair	May 31, 2023	9 am – 1pm	Boys & Girls Club - Hopkinsville, KY
PeADD Board of Directors Annual Dinner Meeting	June 12, 2023	6 pm	The Bruce Convention Center - Hopkinsville, KY

## **PeADD BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

#### **CALDWELL COUNTY**

Amanda Davenport, Citizen Representative Jim Seibert, Mayor of Fredonia Brock Thomas, Mayor of Princeton Dakota Young, Judge/Executive

#### **CHRISTIAN COUNTY**

Nikki Durham, Citizen Representative Jerry Gilliam, Judge/Executive Lori Harper, Citizen Representative J.R. Knight, Mayor of Hopkinsville Verdell Smith, Citizen Representative

#### **CRITTENDEN COUNTY**

D'Anna Browning, Mayor of Marion Bart Frazer, Citizen Representative Perry Newcom, Judge/Executive Roger Simpson, Citizen Representative

#### **HOPKINS COUNTY**

Kevin Cotton, Mayor of Madisonville Chris Phelps, Mayor of Mortons Gap Chris Smiley, Citizen Representative Jack Whitfield, Jr., Judge/Executive

#### **LIVINGSTON COUNTY**

Crissy Carter, Citizen Representative Gary Damron, Mayor of Salem Garrett Gruber, Judge/Executive Bill Hesser, Mayor of Smithland Terry Stringer, Citizen Representative

#### **LYON COUNTY**

Greg Greene, Mayor of Eddyville Deb Domke, Citizen Representative Jaime Green-Smith, Judge/Executive Lee Wilson, Citizen Representative

#### **MUHLENBERG COUNTY**

Tony Armour, Mayor of Central City Eddie DeArmond, Mayor of Greenville Rajiv Johar, Citizen Representative Mack McGehee, Judge/Executive Karen Robinson, Citizen Representative

#### **TODD COUNTY**

Arthur Green, Mayor of Elkton Todd Mansfield, Judge/Executive Scott Marshall, Citizen Representative Martha Jo Ray, Mayor of Trenton

#### **TRIGG COUNTY**

Connie Allen, (Cadiz) Mayor's Designee Stan Humphries, Judge/Executive Todd Wallace, Citizen Representative Beth Sumner, Citizen Representative









## **PeADD PRESS**

An official publication of the

#### PENNYRILE AREA **DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT**

Jason Vincent, Executive Director

#### **PeADD Officers**

Board Chair	Crissy Carter
Vice Chair	Todd Mansfield
Secretary	Dakota Young
Treasurer	Kevin Cotton

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