

Irvine--A Small Town Reborn

by Nancy Robinson, Editor

Being born and reared in Irvine, the county seat of Estill County, I was delighted to have the chance to talk with the mayor and county judge about their efforts to improve the town and county. I have travelled on the new bypass and bridge several times (See article on Estill County, page 6) and am very pleased with the overall look of downtown Irvine. Since I work in Lexington and live in Richmond, I haven't had as many opportunities to return to Irvine as I would like. Now I'll have a chance to see the improvements up close.

When I met with Irvine Mayor Tom Williams, he told me "We've come a long way towards reviving downtown Irvine" since he took office 13 years ago. We talked about the many improvements to the downtown area and some future plans for Irvine, including a new building to house city hall, the fire and police departments. Then he took me on a walking tour of the town. I could see immediately that Mayor Williams loves Irvine and its people... and they love him. Pedestrians constantly greeted him and drivers honked their horns and waved. Even before he was elected mayor, Williams demonstrated his commitment to Irvine by serving on the City Council for 26 years.

Irvine is governed by a six-member Council that currently includes the following people: Bill Eckler, Bill Arthur, Tommy Bryant, Nancy Farmer, Tim Burkhart, and James Hughes. The Council meets with the Mayor twice a month.

The Mayor and City Council can be very proud of the improvements that have been made in the downtown area. One of the most noticeable improvements is the new intersection at Main Street and River Drive, which is the first intersection you encounter as you cross the bridge and enter into Irvine. At one time, River Drive was so bumpy at that intersection that it was difficult to drive through it or stop at



Mayor Williams stands in the landscaped lot at the right of the intersection pictured below.

the traffic light. The load of the vehicles constantly stopping and then pulling away when the light turned green had caused the asphalt to flow under the pavement. Engineers call it pushing and shoving or washboarding. Mayor Williams said it was also difficult for large trucks to drive on River Drive because the intersection and road weren't wide enough. The State Highway Department purchased the old pool hall on the corner of Main Street and River Drive and tore it down to make room for a wider intersection and the road was three-laned to Ravenna, which is about a mile from Irvine.

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This intersection at Main Street and River Drive in downtown Irvine was renovated and widened. The green space to the right was landscaped and will soon become the site of Irvine's new identification sign. The Citizen Voice & Times newspaper building in the background was formerly the Colonial Hotel, an Irvine landmark for many years.

Irvine--Small Town Reborn
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Mayor Williams said that all of the main roads in town (Main Street, Broadway, River Drive, Rice Street, Court Street, Park Avenue, and Estill Avenue) are owned and maintained by the state. The city owns all the side streets and alleys and currently contracts their road work to Hinkle Contracting. He said most all of the alleys are paved now. They won't be doing much surfacing this year though, he said, because of all the water problems and runoff they've had due to heavy spring rains. He said they are going to have to tile and concrete many of the storm drains to repair the damage caused by the rain.

Renaissance Irvine

It has been quite a challenge for many years now for Kentucky's downtown areas to survive while stores and shopping localities have congregated in malls where the parking is easier and the stores are prolific. For many years, Irvine's center of shopping has flourished just before you get to town at the "Y" where Richmond Road (KY 52) meets the bridge, with one side road going right to South Irvine and KY 52 curving over the bridge into downtown Irvine. It didn't look good for the struggling town for a long time. It took a lot of planning and work to turn things around. Mayor Williams said there are several dynamic organizations and programs, along with dedicated leaders, who have helped renovate the downtown area.

One organization that has made a difference in Irvine and Estill County is the Estill Development Alliance (EDA). EDA is a non-profit organization established seven years ago to improve the quality of life for the citizens in the county. EDA, directed by Jeffrey W. Crowe, manages several programs that help the county, including Irvine Renaissance, industrial development, cultural events and tourism. It also established the Estill County Technology Center and helped implement the Arts Council. EDA is in the process of building a Web site: www.eda.estill.net/index.html which will provide readers with information about the county.



The EDA Building, renovated with governmental funds, houses the Tech Center, Estill County Development Alliance, and Art on Main.



Renaissance Apartments in downtown Irvine with retail spaces below.

Listed below are some of Irvine's renovation projects:

- ☒ The city purchased four decaying buildings on Main Street and later sold them to the Kentucky Community Housing Corporation. The Corporation, through the city, applied for funding to renovate the buildings. Through this partnering effort between the city, the Corporation, and the Kentucky Renaissance Program, the buildings were renovated into 30 apartments, all which are rented. There is floor space for four retail stores, which are still under construction.
- ☒ The city has replaced the downtown trees because they had grown so large that they were encroaching into the store awnings and buildings. They created "islands" in the sidewalks for new, smaller trees and then planted flowers around the bases of the trees.
- ☒ The Estill County Technology Center is housed in a renovated building along with the Estill County Development Alliance and "Art on Main," which showcases craft items such as jewelry, baskets, pottery, and artwork all handmade by local artisans.
The Tech Center, with four computers available to the general public, averages 270 patrons a month. Other services offered by the Tech Center include: free Internet access, resume preparation, fax services, e-mail accounts, copying, continuing education courses, workshops, community meeting rooms, and conferences/seminars.
- ☒ The Estill County Historical Society rents the building that was once the Black Brothers Bus Stop & Cafe across from City Hall and has turned it into a museum and genealogical research center. According to member Edison Estes, the Society, through the city, has applied for a \$100,000 grant (with a \$25,000 match from the Society) from the Transportation Enhancement Funds to purchase and renovate the building.

Estill County Historical Society Museum

Below: Diana Arthur, Vice-President of the Historical Society, exhibits a drop leaf table, spinning wheel and several quilts in the museum collection.



Edison Estes, who handles all the photographs donated to the Society, poses by part of the genealogical collection at the museum.

This grant program is administered by the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet as part of the TEA-21 program to fund non-traditional projects that enhance the state's roadsides. The categories range from bicycle paths to scenic road easements to historic transportation building rehabilitation. (For information about the Transportation Enhancement program, check out the National Transportation Enhancements Clearinghouse site: www.enhancements.org)

Estes said, "This Society is one of the most active historical societies in the state." It is 21 years old and has over 300 members nationwide. There are 60-70 members in Estill County, 30 of whom are very active, according to Estes. He said anywhere from 35 to 80 members attend the monthly meetings.

The Society sponsors several activities at the museum to draw people to Irvine, including "Old-Timers' Day" which they plan to make an annual event to be held in October. They also hold a "Back Porch Homecoming" on the last weekend in July for those who have roots in Irvine/Estill County and who communicate through various Internet sites, such as www.hillsandhollows.com which provides information about Estill County.

Mushroom Festival Promotes Downtown Irvine



As part of the revitalization project, Irvine's Mushroom Festival was started in 1991. Held the last weekend in April, it attracts approximately 15,000 - 20,000 people from up to 15 different states. Broadway is closed and over 100 arts and crafts booths are set up and the city parking lot is turned into a food court for the weekend.



Contact us:

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To find out more about the Renaissance Kentucky Program:

1. Log onto the Kentucky Housing Corporation Web site www.kyhousing.org/programs/renaissance/ or call Penny Young at 1-800-633-8896 extension 305 (in-state only)
2. Call the Center's Library for the following materials:
 - a. "Kentucky Takes the Road Less Traveled: Kentucky Historic Preservation and the Transportation Enhancement Program," Kentucky Heritage Council and the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet, September 2001.
 - b. "Building on the Past, Traveling to the Future, Second Edition--A Preservationist's Guide to the Federal Transportation Enhancement Provision" published by the Federal Highway Administration and the National Trust for Historic Preservation,
 - c. Call the Center for a free copy of a CD entitled "Kentucky Streetscape Design Guidelines for Historic Commercial Districts," Kentucky Heritage Council and Kentucky Transportation Cabinet.

Ky. Operation Lifesaver Delivers Safety

Operation Lifesaver is a nationwide nonprofit public awareness program dedicated to ending collisions, fatalities and injuries at highway-rail grade crossings and on railroad property through the promotion of the “3 E’s”: **Education, Enforcement and Engineering.**

by: Dr. Wesley F. Ross
State Coordinator



History

The Operation Lifesaver Program began in Idaho in 1972 after the average yearly highway-rail grade crossing fatalities escalated to 1,200. During the year that this campaign was held, Idaho’s crossing-related fatalities dropped by 43%.

The concept spread to Nebraska, where the reduction in collisions was 26%; then to Kansas and Georgia which experienced similar success the following year. U.S. Senator Kay Bailey Hutchinson, Vice-Chairman of the National Transportation Safety Board, encouraged the nation’s transportation community to take the program nationwide. By 1986, independent Operation Lifesaver programs had begun in the continental United States and District of Columbia.

A national program was established under the auspices of the National Safety Council (NSC) in 1978. In 1986, the national program was released from the NSC and incorporated as a national, nonprofit organization. In 1989, Operation Lifesaver, Inc., opened a national support center office in Alexandria, Virginia.

Operation Lifesaver’s 49 state programs and the District of Columbia work with almost 200 trainers and 2,000 volunteer presenters to deliver Operation Lifesaver’s message on highway-rail grade crossing and pedestrian safety to more than 2,000,000 Americans annually, including school children, business leaders, driving school teachers and students, professional truck and bus drivers, school bus drivers, law enforcement officers, fire fighters and EMTs, and fair attendees.

Since 1972, the Federal Highway Administration has credited Operation Lifesaver with helping to save 10,000 lives and to prevent 40,000 injuries. Collisions at highway-rail intersections have been reduced by more than 70% since that year. During the past 10 years alone, highway-rail collisions have dropped by 40% despite a 30% increase in freight train miles traveled and a 25% increase in highway traffic.

The goal of Operation Lifesaver has remained the same: To end tragic collisions, deaths and injuries on America’s railroad crossings by encouraging every motorist to: **“Look, Listen...and Live!”** Since 1996, Operation Lifesaver, Inc. has also reminded pedestrians to: **“Stay Off! Stay Away! Stay Alive!”**

STAY OFF! STAY AWAY! STAY ALIVE!

Kentucky Operation Lifesaver Program

During 1980 there were 198 crashes at highway-rail grade crossings in the state, which resulted in 14 deaths and 47 injuries. The Kentucky Program was organized in 1981 and in that year, the number of crashes was reduced 10% and another 21% the next year. There has been a 60% reduction in the number of crashes at highway-rail grade crossings since 1980, despite the large increase in the number of licensed drivers and the number of miles traveled by trains.

Kentucky’s program is directed by State Coordinator **Dr. Wesley F. Ross** of Lexington. The Board of Directors includes members from many transportation agencies throughout the state. There are currently 58 certified presenters in Kentucky. Last year 532 presentations were made to 47, 048 individuals in Kentucky. An additional 173,010 Kentuckians viewed Operation Lifesaver displays at 79 events throughout the state.

Kentucky Crash Statistics: An analysis of the available data from crashes in the past two years in Kentucky at highway-rail grade crossings shows the largest number of incidents occurred in Jefferson County, followed by Daviess, Kenton, Shelby, Oldham, and Pike counties. In 2001, the incidents involved seven railroads: CSX, Norfolk Southern, Paducah & Louisville, Illinois Central, Hardin Southern Railroad, TransKentucky Transportation Railroad, and Kentucky West Tennessee Railroad. Kentucky data show:

- ◆ 92% of the incidents occurred at locations where the driver of the motor vehicle had an unobstructed view of the track.
- ◆ 67% of the crashes occurred at crossings that had active warning devices, such as gates, lights, or both.
- ◆ 63% of the crashes were during daylight hours.
- ◆ 72% of them were on a clear day. Only 17% occurred on a cloudy day. *Continued on next page*



WoRKsHop OuTtakEs

As hard as we try to take great pictures at our workshops, well....it just doesn't happen every time! We want to share some of the funnier ones with you from time to time. Hope you enjoy them as much as we do!



Operations Lifesaver Continued from previous page



- Only 2% of the incidents in the Commonwealth involved a second train in the crash.
- 53% of the incidents involved automobiles, 15% involved pickup trucks, 15% other trucks, 12% tractor-trailers, 3% vans, and 1% each for pedestrians and other types of vehicles.
- Males are involved in 80% of the crashes.
- Over 40% of the crashes in Kentucky occurred in July, August, September, and October. Another 20% occurred in February and March. The fewest crashes occurred during the month of May.
- Approximately 40% of the crashes occurred on Fridays or Mondays, followed closely by Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday.
- Sunday and Wednesday are the safest days in Kentucky.

Schedule an Operation Lifesaver Event

Kentucky Operation Lifesaver offers free presentations to all groups in Kentucky. Specialized programs are available for trespass prevention, mature drivers, professional truck drivers, school bus drivers, fire fighters, EMS personnel, and police officers. Displays can be scheduled for activities such as safety days, county fairs, and other types of community activities. Please schedule such events well in advance to assure availability of both displays and personnel. For information, contact: Wesley F. Ross, State Coordinator, 1749 Bahama Road, Lexington, KY 40509. Telephone: 859-293-0807 or e-mail: wesley.ross@verizon.net.

It was so successful, we're doing it again!

Kentucky Aviation Maintenance & Operations Seminar scheduled for February 2003.

Through the cooperative efforts of the aviation industry, the Federal Aviation Administration, and the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet Division of Aeronautics, the first **Kentucky Aviation Maintenance & Operations Seminar** was a huge success! Over 250 aviation professionals from the tri-state area attended, and over 25 companies exhibited at the seminar, held on March 20-21 in Louisville. Center staff helped with the planning, logistics, and presentations.

Bringing quality education and training to the aviation professional is the cornerstone of the seminar. Training sessions included the following:

- ♦ Inspector Authorization Certification workshops including:
 - ♦ FAA enforcement procedures
 - ♦ Rigging and structural repair
 - ♦ Care and maintenance of aircraft tires
- ♦ Runway Incursion workshop
- ♦ National Transportation Safety Board Accident Investigation

The Seminar will continually aim to provide aviation maintenance safety education, Inspector Authorization renewals, current industry trends, and networking opportunities to the aviation professional. **Be sure to mark your calendars for February 25-26, 2003.**

Publication Statement

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Estill County's Moving in the Right Direction

April showers may bring May flowers, but to Estill County Judge/Executive Dwight Arvin the showers--or rather drenching rains--have brought only challenges to his county. The road crew is staying busy this spring just repairing potholes and cleaning ditches.

He said his 12-man crew maintains 300-350 miles of highways, with 65-70 miles of those roads being gravel. There are usually 10 crew members each day out working on their county roads. Their road fund budget for 2002 is \$903,000 and their equipment includes the following :

- ◆ four dump trucks
- ◆ two backhoes
- ◆ one asphalt paver
- ◆ one roller
- ◆ an air compressor
- ◆ a one-ton truck and snowplow/spreader
- ◆ two graders
- ◆ two tractors with mowers
- ◆ an endloader (wheel loader)
- ◆ an excavator to clean ditches
- ◆ four pickup trucks, two equipped with snow removal equipment

Judge Arvin said that when he took office in 1994, the road department "didn't put down any blacktop ourselves, we contracted the work, which was expensive." He and the magistrates decided they could stretch their road dollar and still have good roads by starting their own cold-mix program. They bought a paver and can now pave about 8 - 10 miles of gravel road a year. He said the cold-mix works fine on their rural roads where there isn't much traffic. The county has paved about 40 miles since 1994.

The county is managed by a Fiscal Court that meets once a month and consists of Judge Arvin and magistrates Kevin Williams, Samuel Tipton, and Robert Burns.

The Judge said one of their most challenging road problems in Estill County is roadside embankments that fail. He said they don't have the money, equipment, or expertise to fix those. He said that so far the Kentucky DOH has come to

Road Foreman Darrell Horn has become both a Roads Scholar and Road Master through the Center's training programs.



Judge Arvin plays guitar as a hobby and on most Tuesday evenings other local musicians stop by his office for a "jam session."

their aid and helped repair the embankments using emergency funds.

For about 15 years the road department has been housed in the old Armory Building in Ravenna, about a mile from Irvine. It is in the same building as a youth center and the recycling plant. There is very little room to park the trucks and equipment in the narrow drive beside the building. He said he wants to build a new garage on property that is more centrally located as soon as they can get the money. "The money is the bottom line," he said.

Judge Arvin said the county has a good road crew, headed by Darrell Horn. The Judge has encouraged him to attend training sessions at the Center and Horn has become both a Roads Scholar and a Road Master. He said that he has gained benefits from every class he has attended at the Center, "I also made connections to people who can help--there's always someone with a different point of view on how to do something." He recommends that every crew send at least one or two people to the training programs. He said the information he acquired on safety and signage especially helped him.

Even though there are many challenges for Estill County, Judge Arvin said, "We are moving in the right direction." He is especially proud of the county's new 1.6-mile Joseph Proctor Memorial Bypass and new bridge that connects highways KY 52 and KY 89, bypassing Irvine. He said the planning and construction took several years, at a cost of more than \$8 million, including the new bridge over the Kentucky River. Judge Arvin said that before the bypass, there were a lot of traffic jams in Irvine due to vehicles going through town to get to the Mountain Parkway and those drivers commuting to Richmond and Lexington to their jobs or to attend classes at Eastern Kentucky University or UK. Since the bypass opened on August 30, 2000, the congestion and traffic jams have been eliminated and driving has been much more efficient and pleasant.

Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) research in action...

Remote Monitoring System in Walton, Ky. Proves Effective

by Jennifer Walton, Transportation Research Engineer, Intelligent Transportation Program, Kentucky Transportation Center

US 25, US 31W, US 42, US 60--what do these US routes have in common? All these roadways have segments that run parallel to an interstate and can be used to bypass weigh stations in Kentucky.

A good example is US 25 in Walton, Kentucky. Southbound trucks on Interstate 75 can take Exit 171, drive south on US 25, and reenter the Interstate at Exit 166. This adds only a couple of minutes to their trip and allows them to avoid the Kenton County weigh station. Some commercial vehicles have legitimate business on US 25 and are operating safely and within legal requirements. Others, however, are using this route to avoid having their safety and credentials checked.

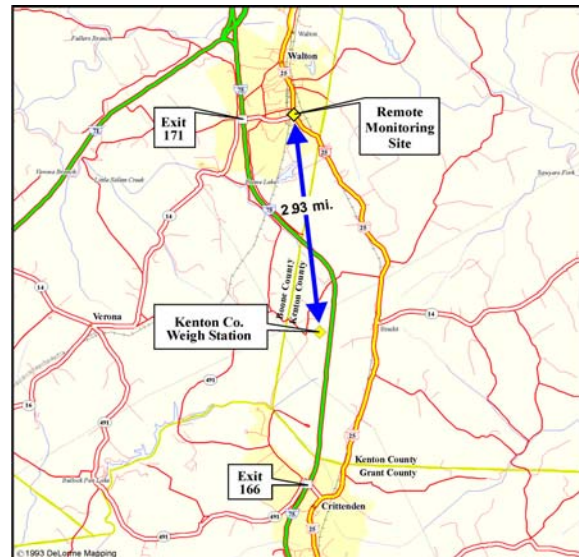
Officers are sent to patrol this section of roadway as often as possible, but truckers quickly spread the word about the presence of enforcement. Many truckers will avoid the area until the officer leaves. The result is unsafe, overweight, and illegal trucks operating on our local roadways.

Fortunately, Kentucky has found a way to improve its enforcement efforts on these local roadways. It's called a Remote Monitoring System and it allows enforcement officers to monitor a section of roadway remotely from anywhere in the state. Center engineers conceptualized the system with the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet Department of Vehicle Regulation. This out-of-sight system is in place in Walton on US 25 and uses image-capture equipment to monitor all southbound truck traffic in the area. Eight images are captured of each truck and sent within seconds to the Kenton County weigh station. An officer or clerk at the station can review these images and identify the vehicle through the USDOT number or the KYU number on the side of the vehicle. If a vehicle has a potential problem, an officer can be dispatched to intercept the vehicle before it reenters the Interstate.

This system allows officers to make more efficient use of their time, since they are only dispatched when a problem is identified. Plus, the system is always in place and always turned on. Since truckers never know when their truck is being monitored, it is difficult for them to bypass the system. It has the effect of leveling the playing field for the trucking industry.

The system has proven to be very effective in Walton. Now a second generation of the system is being developed, a Virtual Weigh Station. This system will function like the Remote Monitoring System, but also will have the capability to weigh trucks as they move along the bypass route. This system will be implemented at one site in the fall of this year.

If you would like more information on the Remote Monitoring System or the Virtual Weigh Station, please contact Jennifer Walton at 859-257-4513 x 239 or jwalton@engr.uky.edu.



Samples of some of the eight images taken of each truck by a remote monitoring system. The images are sent within seconds to the weigh station and the truck can be identified. If there is a potential problem, an officer can be dispatched to intercept the vehicle before it reenters the Interstate.

TRAINING CALENDAR

2002

* Indicates Roads Scholar course # Indicates Road Master course CST--Indicates Central Standard Time Zone

July

9	*Managing People II	Holiday Inn Riverfront, Covington
11	#Computer Familiarization	West Kentucky Technical College, Paducah**
16	*Construction of Concrete Pavements	Holiday Inn Riverfront, Covington
18	#Communications II	Blue Licks Battlefield State Resort Park, Mt. Olivet
23	*Drainage: The Key to Roads That Last	Pritchard Community Center, Elizabethtown
25	#Computer Familiarization	Elizabethtown Technical College
30	*Risk Management/Tort Liability	Ramada Inn & Convention Center, Lexington
31	*Managing Roads & Streets	Ramada Inn & Convention Center, Lexington

August

6	#Computer Familiarization	Central Kentucky Technical College, Lexington
6	*Risk Management/Tort Liability	Four Points Sheraton, Lexington
8	*Work Zone Traffic Control	Center for Rural Development, Somerset
13	#Snow and Ice Removal	Holiday Inn Riverfront, Covington
13	*Managing Roads and Streets	Ramada Inn & Convention Center, Lexington
15	*Traffic Management Through Signals, Signs, & Markings	Center for Rural Development, Somerset
21	#AAA Defensive Driving	Ramada Inn & Convention Center, Lexington
22	#Environmental Awareness	Four Points Sheraton, Lexington
27	#Small Bridges	Jenny Wiley State Resort Park, Prestonsburg
28	#Developing Leadership Skills	Center for Rural Development, Somerset
29	*Managing People IV	Center for Rural Development, Somerset

September

10	*Managing Roads & Streets	Pritchard Community Center, Elizabethtown
10	#Roadside/Vegetation Management	Carter Caves State Park, Olive Hill
12	*Traffic Management Through Signals, Signs, & Markings	Ramada Inn & Convention Center, Lexington
17	*Managing Roads and Streets	Holiday Inn Airport East, Louisville
19	*Communications	Ramada Inn & Convention Center, Lexington
19	#Computer Familiarization	Central Kentucky Technical College, Lexington
22-24	Southeast Local Roads Conference	Myrtle Beach, South Carolina
24	#Snow & Ice Removal	Pritchard Community Center, Elizabethtown
26	*Work Zone Traffic Control	Holiday Inn Riverfront, Covington
26	*Communications	Center for Rural Development, Somerset

October

1	#Developing Leadership Skills	Pennyrile Forest State Park, Dawson Springs**
3	*Risk Management/Tort Liability	Jenny Wiley State Resort Park, Prestonsburg
8	*Managing People V	Best Western Inn, Frankfort
9	#Environmental Awareness	Jenny Wiley State Resort Park, Prestonsburg
16	#Communications II	Center for Rural Development, Somerset
17	*Drainage: The Key to Roads That Last	Four Points Sheraton, Lexington
22	#Snow & Ice Removal	Center for Rural Development, Somerset
24	#Computer Familiarization	Central Kentucky Technical College, Lexington
24	*Managing People I	Center for Rural Development, Somerset
29	*Traffic Management Through Signals, Signs, & Markings	Blue Licks Battlefield State Park, Mt. Olivet

- Check our Web site for calendar additions and changes: www.ktc.uky.edu
- For more information about any of these courses, call the Center at 1-800-432-0719 or 859-257-4513

About Our Instructors . . .

Russell Thomas

Russell Thomas is a Project Manager for the Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government (LFUCG). He has worked with LFUCG for 27 years on projects in paving operations, snow removal, and special events. He is certified by the American Traffic Safety Services Association. Since 1999, Thomas has taught training courses for the Center,



Thank you very much, Mr. Wood, for the nice letter! GOOD WORK, Russell! We always appreciate receiving feedback on our workshops (that's how we know whether we're attaining our goal of providing the best training



including snow removal workshops, and is currently teaching our *Work Zone Traffic Control* courses.

Thomas enjoys farming at his home in Shelbyville and is currently involved with the Herd Improvement Program. He purchased his first registered Angus bull this year. He

entered the Shelby County Fair for the first time last year and won second place in the garden and flowers category. He said it is a challenge to plant everything just at the right time so the flowers and vegetables will be fresh and pretty in time for the fair. This year, he said, "I'm striving for first place!"

We chose to highlight Thomas in this issue of *The Link* because of a letter we received from the city of Bowling Green after a Work Zone Traffic Control workshop was presented there. It reads as follows:

To Whom It May Concern:

On 5 March, Mr. Russell Thomas of the Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government (LFUCG) provided work zone safety training to our operations personnel. I sat in on the class this morning and, having seen Mr. Thomas in action, I would like to commend him for the quality of his instruction.

It's obvious that Mr. Thomas brings a wealth of practical, hands-on experience to "the platform". He engages the audience, holds their attention and generally establishes a rapport with the students.

Please pass my appreciation as well as that of the City of Bowling Green to Mr. Thomas. His excellent training will help keep our employees safe as they go about their work of maintaining our rights of way under heavy traffic conditions.

Sincerely,

Emmett Wood, Jr., P.E.
Director of Public Works

(Continued at top of next column)

possible or whether we need to change something about the workshop--or us).

Whenever we receive an especially nice commendation on one of our trainers, we will share it with you! Now that we know Russell is so good (all right, we knew that already), we can work him twice as hard. (Relax, Russell, just joking...)

Work Zone Traffic Control Training

This full-day workshop is required for the Roads Scholar Training Program and is a prerequisite for the IMSA Level I Traffic Signal Technical Certification class. Topics include:

- ◆ Selection and use of devices
- ◆ Work area flagging
- ◆ Sample applications of work area traffic control
- ◆ Monitoring, maintenance, and record keeping

Who Should Attend

Roads Scholar courses are designed to provide governmental roadway maintenance workers basic knowledge necessary to safely and efficiently maintain Kentucky's rural highways. These classes are open to private industry, the general public, and anyone regardless of job assignment with an interest in learning more about maintaining roads and streets. Listed below are the dates scheduled for this course:

August 8 Center for Rural Development, Somerset
Sept. 26 Holiday Inn Riverfront, Covington

Log onto the Center's Web site to register online and/or to pay by credit card, or call the Center at 1-800-432-0719 or locally 859-257-4513 x 269. Remember state employees must contact their training coordinators to register for any of the Center's training.

Wonders of the Web--

Great sites where you can obtain useful information

Web sites on emergency management and disaster response

The American Public Works Association (APWA) has developed some Web site links to resources for information and training on emergency management and disaster response. Go to www.apwa.net/ResourceCenter/index.asp?topic=160

QuickZone estimates work zone delay

QuickZone is a tool developed by the Operations and Intelligent Transportation Systems Research Team of FHWA's Turner-Fairbank Highway Research Center for work zone delay estimation. More information and a test version of the software can be downloaded from: <http://ops.fhwa.dot.gov/wz/quickz.htm>

Chain saw safety e-book available

Tim Ard of Forest Applications Training in Georgia has just released an electronic version of "The Complete Guide to Chain Saw Safety and Directional Felling." Ard has presented workshops on chainsaw safety for T² centers in Rhode Island, Connecticut, Massachusetts, and Vermont.

For more information or to purchase the CD, check out www.forestapps.com/e-book/index.html

Pedestrian and Bicycling Information Center's Image Library

This collection features over 1400 categorized images that can be used (they are not copyrighted) in any noncommercial projects including publications, reports, and web pages. Categories of photos include: walking, bicycling, people and behavior, design and engineering, traffic calming and management, and compact developments. To find out more about the usage guidelines and to access the collection, log on to: www.walkinginfo.org (Click on Image Library)

After you check out the other features on this site, visit their bicycling site: www.bicyclinginfo.org

Other Sites of Interest:

Kentucky Division of Surplus Property--Public Auction Listings: www.state.ky.us/agencies/adm/mars/auction.htm

The **New Jersey TIDE Center** has catalogued much of the transportation-related information available on the Web. Check out some of the hundreds of transportation links at: www.njtide.org/links/index.html

Looking for **newspapers in the USA, Europe, Africa, Asia, or Australia**? Log on to www.newspaperlink.com

Find out whether your workplace or home is prone to disasters: www.esri.com/hazards (Click on "Online Hazard Maps" and enter your zip code, city and state, or congressional district.)

Then, find out how to prepare for those disasters and to lessen your risks at **FEMA's Project Impact** Web site: www.fema.gov/impact/

Buy a tree, check the growing zones, or even nominate a tree to be placed on the National Register of Historic Trees by visiting **American Forests** Web site: www.historictrees.com Their mission is to "Identify, Preserve, and Protect the Trees with American Heritage."

View the video of Dateline's May 7th show on the **most dangerous roads in America**. The Web site is: www.msnbc.com/news/748422.asp Then scroll down the story and click on the "Dangerous Roads" icon, type in the county and state to find out the number of fatal accidents on your streets.

Commercial Driver's Licensing: The Kentucky Transportation Cabinet has an on-line manual for those who need to study to take the Commercial Drivers test. Find it by logging onto www.kytc.state.ky.us/DrLic/home.htm For tips on taking the test and to look over some sample test questions, go to www.driverstest.net

Units conversion--This site has all the basic measurements such as weight and mass, length, volume, area, etc. and also has computer storage units such as bits, megabytes. It also has a relative temperature conversion and links to other conversion sites. Go to: www.convert-me.com

The **Salary Calculator**--great site for comparing the cost of living between two cities. Enter your salary, choose your home city and a destination city, and the salary calculator will tell you how much you need to earn in the new city to have the same standard of living. Log onto to: www.homefair.com/homefair/servlet/ActionServlet?pid=27&cid=homefair (In the left column, click on "Salary Calculator" under heading "Research Calculators.")

Gravel Roads Maintenance Manual is on www.epa.gov/owow/nps/gravelman.pdf

Check Out Your World

AT THE LIBRARY

New Materials to Borrow

Laura Whayne, Librarian
1-800-432-0719 or 859-257-4513, ext. 234
Email: lwhayne@engr.uky.edu
Fax: 859-257-1815

Videos

- AV-V810 *Anger at Work: Learning the Art of Anger Management on the Job.* 1996. (30 min.)
AV-V808 *ATV Safety on the Farm.* 1992. (9 min.)
AV-V809 *Chainsaw Safety, Maintenance and Operation.* 1996. (19 min.)
AV-V818 *Children in Traffic, Why Are They Different?* (14 min.)
AV-V829 *Grading Safety.* 1996. (14 min.)
AV-V833 *Loading, Transporting, and Unloading Heavy Equipment.* 1999. (12 min.)
AV-V820 *Paving Safety.* 1998. (11 min.)
AV-V826 *Profit Through Prevention: Best Environmental Practices for Fleet Maintenance.* 1999. (35 min.)
AV-V814 *Seeing is Believing: Safely Exposing Buried Utilities.* 2001. (30 min.)
AV-V835 *Surveying Safety.* 1996. (17 min.)



Publications

- TE270.A872001 *Asphalt Pavement Maintenance Field Handbook.* 2001.
FHWA-OP-02-023 *Deploying and Operating Intelligent Transportation Systems: Twenty Questions and Answers.* 2001.
TE233.S562002 *Gravel Roads: Maintenance and Design Manual.* 2002.
HN49.C6H62000 *How Transportation and Community Partnerships are Shaping America. Part II: Streets and Roads.* 2000.
TE228.M652000 *Innovative Traffic Control Equipment Procurement Methods.* 1999.
TE228.3.I5762000 *Intelligent Transportation Primer.* 2000.
KRR-KTC-99-01-14 *Management and Effective Use of Changeable Message Signs.* 2001.
FHWA-RD-01-102 *Pedestrian Facilities Users Guide: Providing Safety and Mobility.* 2002.
EPA-909-E-99-002 *Pollution Prevention Toolkit: Best Environmental Practices for Fleet Maintenance.* 1999.
FHWA-OP-01-002 *Regional Traffic Incident Management Programs: Implementation Guide.* 2001.
FHWA-JPO-96-0015 *Shared Resources: Sharing Right-of-Way for Telecommunications, Guidance on Legal and Institutional Issues.* 1996.
TE228.3.E872001 *State of the ARTS: Advanced Rural Transportation Systems 2001.* 2001.
HE5620.S6S872001 *Survey of Speed Zoning Practices: An Informational Report.* 2001.
TE228.W962001 *Tips for Work Zone Safety: Checklists and Example Work Zone Diagrams.* 2001.
TE228.T732001 *Traffic Control Devices Handbook 2001.* 2002.
HE355.A442001 *Taking It to the Streets: Information for the Non-Traffic Engineer.* 2001.
FHWA-SA-97-053 *Work Zone Safety Inspection Training Course: Instructor's Guide.* 1995.

Maintaining Gravel Roads--CD and Manual

The *Gravel Roads Maintenance and Design Manual* on CD was developed by the South Dakota LTAP. The purpose of the manual is to provide clear and helpful information for doing a better job of maintaining gravel roads. It is designed for the benefit of elected officials, managers, and grader operators who are responsible for designing and maintaining gravel roads. Call the Center's Library to borrow a copy of the CD and Manual. We have the editions from 2000 and 2002.

Another great web site

According to our friend, Nelda Bravo, at the National Transportation Library at the U.S. Department of Transportation, one of the best, if not THE best transportation Web sites is the World Bank's site. Check it out: www.worldbank.org/transport/

Estill County—Where Daniel Boone Once Explored



Estill County, with a current population over 15,000, was created in 1808 from Madison and Clark counties. It was named for Capt. James Estill, who along with seven frontiersmen in his company, were killed near the site of Mt. Sterling in 1782 in a hand-to-hand skirmish with Indian raiders.

Daniel Boone is said to have spent his first winter in Kentucky on Station Camp Creek, only five miles south of Irvine, the county seat.

Irvine was established in 1812 and has a current population of approximately 2,840. Col. William Irvine, for whom it was named, provided land for the town.

This county, largely embodied in the Daniel Boone National Forest, is home to iron furnaces that in the past produced iron from native ore deposits. The Fitchburg Furnace is the largest of its kind in the world.

Read more about Estill County on page 6. Turn to the front page to read more about Irvine.

GASB-34 Reminder

Twenty-five local government agencies and other organization have already requested the free computer program developed by the Center's T² staff to help establish rural road/street system values needed for the GASB-34 compliance. All you need to use the program on your computer is Microsoft (MS) Access software.



Call or email Annette Smith at T² for your free copy (it doesn't include MS Access software). She also offers technical support in using the program. Phone: 1-800-432-0719 or email Annette at aasmit3@engr.uky.edu

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- It was so successful, we're doing it again*..... Page 5
- Estill County's Moving in the Right Direction* . Page 6
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