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## Enriching Communities. Empowering People.

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**Jim Markwell**

**August 7, 1931 - September 28, 2019**

Mr. Markwell served as Chairman of the Green River Resource Conservation & Development Committee (RC&D). He also served on the GRADD Board of Directors from 1998 to 2010.

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**2019 GRADD Award Winners Unveiled at 51st Annual Dinner: City of Beaver Dam, Roxi Witt, Judge/Executive Brad Schneider, and Congressman James Comer.**



Paul Sandefur, Mayor of Beaver Dam, accepted the award from Carolyn Townsend, Mayor of Dixon.

**The City of Beaver Dam was named the 2019 GRADD Community of the Year, for their “BDKY Ambassador Program.”** Help was needed behind the scenes at the amphitheater such as setting up chairs and tents, manning informational booths, scanning tickets, selling concessions and the list goes on. While the Tourism Commission could have hired people or contracted out the event/concert support staff functions, they felt that in order to make all the

provided individuals with a list of possible volunteer opportunities and asked each to check off those they were most interested in. The first two informational meetings netted over 60 volunteers signing up! Volunteers received training pertaining to their area of interest. In return, volunteers are able to receive tickets to future shows. While the Beaver Dam Amphitheater requires the largest amount of manpower, BDKY Ambassadors are available to assist with other activities such as the Strawberry Festival, Christmas Festival, Sounds on 2nd, and much more. To date, there are over 90 volunteers who have provided over 3,000 man hours of labor for various concerts and events.



Kevin Reid presented Roxi Witt with the Charles Reid Regional Citizenship Award

**Roxi Witt received the Charles Reid Regional Citizenship Award.** Over the years, Witt has directed the International Bluegrass Music Awards, helped secure the \$100,000 Impact 100 grant, assisted, supervised, and expanded educational opportunities, such as Arts Teach Kids, Arts in the AM, the Youth Adult Theatre Academy, and summer camps for area children. She also helped establish a Bachelor of Theatre Arts degree that is offered at the three local colleges in Owensboro and she was awarded the Governor's School for the Arts Education Award in 2017.

Her leadership at the helm of the RiverPark Center has reached far beyond providing entertainment for the area. Her love for the arts and dedication to ensuring that school aged children to adults, from all our surrounding areas, have access to arts made a significant impact on the GRADD region.



Bill Parrish, former GRADD Board Member awarded Henderson County Judge/Executive Brad Schneider, with the Texal Brooks Regional Leadership Award.

**Judge/Executive Brad Schneider received the Texal Brooks Regional Leadership Award.** As a leader in economic development, Judge Schneider has been vital in generating support at the state and national level for the I-69 bridge project and maintaining momentum toward completion of the I-69 corridor through the GRADD region. Prior to becoming Henderson County Judge/Executive in November 2016, he spent the previous two-plus years as CEO of Kyndle, a regional economic development agency. Before the creation of Kyndle in 2014, he was president of the Henderson-Henderson County Chamber of Commerce for five years and was named Kentucky Chamber Executive of the Year for 2015. He is a founding board member of BridgeLink, which advocates for the building of the I-69 Bridge over the Ohio River. Judge Schneider has played a pivotal role in regional economic development through the I-69 project. He has also been vital to the success of projects, such as the Ohio Drive widening project and the Henderson City/County Airport runway extension project.



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**Congressman James Comer was awarded the Wendell H. Ford Legislative Leadership Award.** He has been serving the people of Western Kentucky for nearly two decades, having first been elected to the Kentucky House of Representatives in 2000. In 2012, after six terms in the House, he was selected to serve as Commissioner of Agriculture by then Governor Steve Beshear. Since 2016 he has represented Kentucky's 1st District in the U.S. House. He has been instrumental as a member of the 2018 Farm Bill Conference Committee, paving the way for removing hemp from the controlled substance list and helping pass a Farm Bill that protects crop insurance, provides relief for dairy farmers and provides certainty and stability for American farmers.

He strongly supports the I-69 Ohio River Crossing Project and has advocated for the project at both the state and federal level. As a member of the Oversight and Reform Committee, he has taken part in several hearings on combatting opioid abuse as well as childhood trauma and drug abuse. He also is deeply concerned about the challenges facing rural America and its access to broadband internet access.

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Accepting the award for Congressman Comer were Field Representatives Amelia Wilson and Corey Elder; Representative Suzanne Miles (center) presented the award.

**The 51st Annual GRADD Dinner was sponsored by Independence Bank, Atmos Energy, Century Aluminum, Canteen, KY Utilities, OMU, Owensboro Health, Phil Brown Insurance Agency, and Q-Wireless.**



### **GRADD Board of Directors Meeting**

Wednesday, October 9th at 10:30 AM

Guest Speaker:

Holly Hopkins-Scoville

KYWired

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For a complete listing of events and meetings check out our '[Events & Meetings](#)' webpage.



Nearly 600 seniors from across the GRADD region attended Senior Day Out at Towne Square Mall on Thursday, September 26th.



ConnectGRADD continues to expand its high-speed coverage throughout the

there. Upgrades have also been performed at the West Louisville water tank in Daviess County to expand video-speed service there to a full 360 degrees of coverage from that site.

All upgrades being performed on the network are to provide services capable of streaming video, replacing the legacy equipment installed on the ConnectGRADD network beginning in 2007. Upgrades are continuing throughout 2019 across the network.



The Owensboro-Daviess County Metropolitan Planning Organization, which assists the city and county with transportation planning, has launched a [survey](#) seeking public opinion from anyone who lives or works in Daviess County about transportation needs in the community.

The survey's data will help the MPO as it updates its Metropolitan Transportation Plan, which will help guide transportation improvements through 2050. Please take a moment to help the MPO help Owensboro and Daviess County! Thank you!





### Do you know a senior citizen at risk of hunger?

With nearly one in six senior citizens at risk of hunger (according to the Meals on Wheels Association of America), chances are you do. While the number of adults age 60+ who struggle with food insecurity continues to increase, local agencies are partnering to sponsor the **8th annual "Feed Seniors Now"** food drive. Since its inception in 2011, this area food drive has collected nearly 40 tons of food and provided meals for over 3,000 seniors. Collection of non-perishable items will take place **now through October 11**.

### Drop-Off Locations:

#### DAVIESS COUNTY

Independence Bank (2425 Frederica Street, Owensboro)  
Independence Bank (2465 Parrish Avenue, Owensboro)  
Independence Bank (3228 KY Highway 54, Owensboro)  
Owensboro Convention Center (501 W 2nd St, Owensboro)  
Kroger (2630 Frederica Street, Owensboro)  
Kroger (1670 Starlite Drive, Owensboro)  
Kroger (2308 US Highway 60 East, Owensboro)  
Hometown IGA (900 East 25th Street, Owensboro)  
Hometown IGA (201 Carter Road, Owensboro)  
Comfort Keepers (401 Frederica Street, Owensboro)  
GRADD Office (300 GRADD Way, Owensboro)  
Senior Community Center of Owensboro-Daviess County (1650 West 2nd Street, Owensboro)

#### HANCOCK COUNTY

Independence Bank (8523 US Highway 60 West, Lewisport)  
Independence Bank (225 US Highway 60 East, Hawesville)  
Bill's IGA (290 Hawes Boulevard, Hawesville)  
Hancock County Senior Services (315 Ridgewood Drive, Hawesville)

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## HENDERSON COUNTY

Independence Bank (1100 Barret Boulevard, Henderson)

Independence Bank (76 South Green Street, Henderson)

Independence Bank (2610 Zion Road, Henderson)

Sureway (504 Watson Ln, Henderson)

Sureway (1126 S Green St, Henderson)

The Gathering Place (1817 North Elm Street, Henderson)

## McLEAN COUNTY

Independence Bank (614 Henton Street, Livermore)

McLean County Senior Services (875 Walnut St, Calhoun, KY)

## OHIO COUNTY

Ohio County Senior Services (2320 Highway 69 North, Hartford) Hometown

IGA (1137 Highway 231, Hartford)

## WEBSTER COUNTY

Independence Bank (308 US-41, Sebree)

Independence Bank (211 US-41A South, Providence)

Sureway (101 US 41-A, Providence)

Townsend Food Center (1308 US Highway 41A S, Dixon)

Webster County Senior Services (44 N. College St., Dixon)





### **Funding Available for Child Abuse/Neglect Prevention**

The GRADD Community Collaboration for Children (CCC) Regional Network is currently offering a total of \$3000 in mini-grants to enhance and promote programs aimed at preventing and building awareness of child abuse and neglect.

Organizations within Daviess, Hancock, Henderson, McLean, Ohio, Union, and Webster Counties are eligible to apply.

Projects must encompass one of the following goals:

- 1) focus directly on child abuse/neglect prevention,
- 2) educate the public and/or families about child abuse/neglect, or
- 3) focus on developing positive relationships between children and parents.

Eligible grant expenditures include: educational materials, training events, and parenting classes. Funds cannot be used for capital equipment, building improvements, personnel costs, transportation, or projects exclusive to foster care or juvenile justice.

**The application deadline is October 11, 2019**

**[Grant Application](#)**



October is National Long-Term Care Residents' Rights Month, a time to acknowledge the contributions and sacrifices many long-term care (LTC) residents have made to better our community and to call attention to the rights of residents in long-term care facilities. The theme for Residents' Rights Month 2019 is - **"Stand for Quality"**– to emphasize the importance of standing for quality in all aspects of residents' experiences. "We want to emphasize the importance of quality in all aspects of residents' experiences – quality care, quality of life, quality services, and quality choices – to name a few, and we want to encourage residents, as well as family members, long-term care ombudsmen, facility staff and other advocates, to work together to stand for and promote quality," said Lori Smetanka, Executive Director of the National Consumer Voice for Quality Long-Term Care.

Residents' Rights Month is an opportunity to focus on and celebrate awareness of dignity, respect and the rights of each resident. The federal Nursing Home Reform Law guarantees residents' rights and places a strong emphasis on individual dignity, choice, and self-determination. The law also requires nursing homes to "promote and protect the rights of each resident". Residents' Rights Month is a time to raise awareness of these rights and celebrate residents.

During Residents' Rights Month, we recognize our local long-term care ombudsman program staff and volunteers, who work daily to promote residents' rights, assist residents with complaints and provide information to those who need to find a long-term care facility. In this area, the Green River District Ombudsman Program serves residents in 7 counties living in 24 facilities.

As the Green River Area Development District celebrates Residents' Rights, we encourage community members to visit those they know in a long-term care facility, volunteer in a facility, participate in Residents' Rights Month events or inquire about becoming a volunteer long-term care ombudsman. Your



been forgotten.

For further information about the program or training opportunities, you may contact the District Ombudsman, Heather Mullican at 270-926-4433 or [heathermullican@gradd.com](mailto:heathermullican@gradd.com)



### 2019 Annual Training Conference

October 19 - 22, 2019  
Peppermill Resort Hotel  
Reno, Nevada  
[More Information](#)



### 45th Annual KACo Conference & Exposition

October 23 - 25, 2019  
Galt House Hotel & Suites  
Louisville, Kentucky  
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**KENTUCKY ASSOCIATION  
for  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**  
*A commonwealth of opportunity*

## **2019 Kentucky Economic Forum**

November 13 - 15, 2019

The Brown Hotel

Louisville, Kentucky

[More Information](#)



## **Congratulations**

The Daviess County Fiscal Court was named the recipient of the 2019 Spirit of Kentucky Award for their Cedar Hills/Friendly Village project.



### Congratulations!

The Kentucky Transportation Cabinet District 2 won the 2019 Performance Based Flexible Solutions Award for Excellence for their US 60 Flooding Improvement Project.



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