



# Trail Time

Kentucky Rails To Trails Council, Inc.

KY RT Statistics  
Trails with RT sections: 9 (15.5 mi.)  
Trail Projects: 23 (40 mi.)  
Longest contiguous section of RT:  
6 mi, Muhlenberg Co.

Early Fall 2003 (Sept)

## Activities on the trail in Muhlenberg Co.

Becky Keith, a KY Rails to Trails Council Board Member, brought us up to date on rail trail activities in Muhlenberg County. This summer the community had a 10 K run on their trail as a fund raiser. The Health Department is sponsoring an evening Walking Clinic for women during a week in June. This fall they plan to have their 5<sup>th</sup> annual bicycle ride. The train car on the right is to be the future Muhlenberg County Rail Trail museum. They are trying to locate more historical information, anecdotes and photos for the museum. If you know of any you may reach her at [rebeck@muhlon.com](mailto:rebeck@muhlon.com) or at 320 Dawn Drive, Greenville, KY 42345.

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## Crisis in TE Funding averted for now

The House of Representatives voted to restore funding for the Transportation Enhancements program in the 2004 Transportation Appropriations bill. Representative Thomas E. Petri (R-WI) agreed to sponsor, along with other House members, an amendment to strike Section 114 from the transportation appropriations bill (H.R.2989). The effect of this amendment, was to restore full funding for Transportation Enhancements activities.

Representatives Fletcher, Lewis, Lucas, Whitfield voted Yes for the amendment. Representative Lewis was one of the 12 Representatives who spoke on the floor in favor of the amendment. Representatives Northup and Rogers voted against it. A very big THANK YOU to the railtrail supporters who contacted their Representatives on this issue.

Congress established the TE program in 1991 as a guarantee to their constituents that a small percentage of their gas tax dollars would be targeted to small-scale, community-initiated, locally selected transportation projects. H.R. 2989 breaks that promise, and contradicts the intent of ISTEA and TEA-21 to provide balanced, intermodal transportation networks. Congress created the program because state departments of transportation

were simply not investing in projects supporting bicycling, walking, trails, scenic or historic preservation.

Proponents of the funding cut say revenues are down and the economy is tight and therefore cuts must be made - but H.R. 2989 actually increases the transportation budget by \$4.5 billion over the administration's funding request.

The long-term impact of the TE program has already resulted in more transportation options that allow for incorporating active living into daily activities and routines; and changes in local community design, transportation, and architecture make it easier and more inviting for people to be physically active. Just think what another 6 years will bring!

Since 1991, the TE program has provided \$6 billion for state and local transportation projects. Fifty-five percent (\$3.3 billion) has gone for bicycle and pedestrian projects. However, this still represents less than one percent of all federal transportation funding. The TE program has been the funding source for three-quarters of all bicycle and pedestrian projects implemented under ISTEA and TEA-21.

As railtrail supports we need to be vigilant & keep our elected Representatives informed about the value and cost effectiveness of greenways and trails for our communities and nation.

## Local groups & non-profit organizations

Bluegrass Rails Trails Foundation (Fayette, Clark and Montgomery Co.). Mailing Address, 266 White Station Rd., Berea, KY 40403. David Gagnon, President, DoctorG @mis.net, Robin Reams , Treas., 859.986.0692, robinreams @aol.com

Daniel Boone Rails-To-Trails, 105 East Main Street, Morehead, KY 40351, 606.784.5989, April Haight, haight@yahoo.com ,www.dbrt.org.

Greenways of Oldham Co., PO Box 868, Crestwood, KY 40014, Paul Clinton, pclinton@bluegrass.net, www.oldhamahead.org/greenways.html

High Bridge Rail-Trail ,% Tim Powell, 410 Maxey St., Wilmore, KY 40390, 859.858.3139, www.worldtimzone.com/railtrail.

Lake Cumberland Trail Foundation, 2292 South Highway 27 Ste. 310, Somerset, KY 42501, 606-677-6000, Fax: (606)677-6010, rbates@ca.uky.edu

Pennyriple Rails to Trails Foundation, P.O. Box 1204, Hopkinsville, KY 42241, info@pennyrilerailtrail.org, www.pennyrilerailtrail.org, (931) 645-1865

The Little Mount Trail Commission, Lisa Browning, 51 N. Maysville St., Mt. Sterling, KY, mountsterling-ky.com/civic/rails\_to\_trails.htm

Muhlenberg Rails to Trails, PO Box 137, Greenville, KY. 42345, % Judge Kirtley, cojudge@muhlon.com.

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## Schedule of Kentucky Rail Trail Council Meetings

The KY Rails to Trails Council meets on the third Tuesday of each month except in December. The meetings are on the 5th floor of the Lexington Fayette Urban Co. Government building, 200 East Main St., Lexington. The regular attendees are always happy to see new faces, please come and get involved. If travel distance makes this prohibitive, please let us know of your interest to be active. As an all volunteer organization we often do not have the people power to respond promptly; please do not give up if someone does not immediately contact you. The Council is moving to a committee structure which will make it easier for smaller groups to meet and work together on RT projects. For more information contact Dixie Moore, Secretary, 859-263-2772 or dixiemoores@insightbb.com.

## Most States Don't Meet Minimum Physical Activity Requirements

Aug. 18, 2003 -The states that had the most physically active residents were Wyoming, Washington, and Alaska. About 55-56% of the people in each of these states met or exceeded the U.S. physical activity recommendations of more than 30 minutes of any physical activity more than five days a week or more than 20 minutes of vigorous physical activity on more than three days per week. **The least active state was Kentucky, where only 29% of its residents met the minimum physical activity requirements.** Nebraska and Louisiana rounded out the bottom three with 34% and 35% of their residents, respectively, following the physical activity recommendations. ( Excerpt from "Physically Active? How Your State Rates" by Jennifer Warner.)

## 5th KY Rail-Trail & Greenway Conference, May 14 &15, 2004

KRTC will have their 5<sup>th</sup> Rail-Trails and Greenways biannual state wide conference at the Galt House in Louisville on May 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>, 2004. The conference theme will be Quality of Life through Partnerships. These conferences are held to give information and provide problem solving forums on trail and greenway development in local communities. The conferences are targeted to trail and greenway advocates, elected officials, community development advocates, public health, design and planning professionals, landscape architects, and officials from transportation, park and recreation agencies. Continuing education credit are offered for most professions.

The cost of the conference will be close to \$15,000 even with substantial volunteer help. The conference co-chairs are Cheri Tolle of the UK Prevention Center and Scott Southall, a KRTC board member. KRTC is actively looking for agencies, business and individuals to underwrite the cost of the 2004 conference. If you or your business would like to help underwrite the conference please contact Scott Southall, 561 Lone Oak Dr., Lexington, KY 40503, H 859.277.5616, C 859.221.9067, Southall@

## Update your Email Address

Many of the emails addresses in KRTC's database are in error. If you want email mailings, KY Rail Trail listserve email updates and announcements please send your preferred email address to DixieMoore @insightbb.com.

## 2003 Trail Update

Kentucky has 15.5 miles of existing railtrails. KY ranks 47th in the US. 210 miles are proposed for development or are in progress. Trails with a useable section are listed by their names. Potential trails actively being promoted/or developed are listed by county. Rail corridors which have not had recent interest are listed as inactive. Major Greenways with similar multi-purpose use as railtrails are also listed.

### Trails with Usable Sections

**Cadiz Railroad Trail:** Trigg Co., 1.5 mi, asphalt, Cadiz, KY (downtown) Begins at the site of the original railroad depot at KY-139N, just north of the downtown area. The 10-mile Cadiz Railroad was built in 1901 to haul tobacco to Gracey in Christian County, where it connected with the Illinois Central and Louisville & Nashville railroads. Dedicated in 1989, this was the first rail-trail in Kentucky. Contact: Jim Lancaster, Address: City Clerk, City of Cadiz, P.O. Box 1465, Cadiz, KY 42211, 207.522.8224; Cadiz@commandnet.net. Stan White, Chairman, Cadiz Railroad Trail Committee, Drawer B, Cadiz, KY 42211, 502-522-8483.

**Cathy Crockett Memorial Trail:** Pulaski & McCreary Co., Sloans Valley, south of Somerset to McCreary Co., 2 mi of 7.5 completed. Surface: gravel, most is subsurface of old rail bed. Take Highway 27 south through Somerset & Burnside. About 2 miles south of Burnside is trailhead. The trailhead will be signed from highway. Uses: walking, running, bicycles (non-motorized traffic). No horses at this time. The trail is part of the old Cincinnati-Southern rail bed that was relocated in the 1950's when Lake Cumberland was formed. The work was funded by a TCSP grant. On the southern end, the trail offers three tunnels built in late 1800's and in very good shape. 6 miles of the trail will be within the Daniel Boone National Forest. In 2003 The forest service has completed the Environmental impact study on our trail and are now sending out for public comment. Contact: Rick Bates-President, Lake Cumberland Trail Foundation, 2292 South Highway 27, Ste. 310, Somerset, KY. 42501, 606-677-6000, Fax: 606-677-6010, rbates@uky.edu.

**Central City-Greenville-Pond Creek Trail.** Muhlenberg & possibly an extension into McLean Co., Central City to Greenville, 6 mi., asphalt, located on ROW owned previously by the Paducah and Louisville Railroad. Muhlenberg County Rails to Trails Committee has railbanked an additional 3 miles from CSXT. Contact: Judge/Exec. Rodney Kirtley, Muhlenberg Courthouse, Greenville, KY 42345, cojudget@muhlon.com.

**L&N Bridge Renovation.** Campbell County to Cincinnati, OH. Newport, KY over the Ohio River. Trailhead: Will connect proposed Ohio River Trail in Cincinnati and proposed River Path in KY at the new Newport on the Levee Commercial center and Aquarium. Directions to Trailhead: 3rd St. (Ky. SR 8) to north on Saratoga St. Endpoints: 3rd and Saratoga Sts. in Newport and Pete Rose Way in Cincinnati. 0.5 mile, Surface: Asphalt. Pedestrian and bike travel. It is a double bridge with a rail span. The bridge was sold to Newport by the KY Transportation Cabinet. Contact: Wally Pagan, Southbank Partners, 421 Monmouth St., Newport, Ky. 41071, 859-655-7700. wjpagan@aol.com, or Don Burrell, Senior Planner, Bicycle / Pedestrian Coordinator, OKI Regional Council of Governments, 801-B West Eighth St. Suite 400, Cincinnati, OH 45203-1607, 513-621-6300, 513-621-9325 – fax, dburrell@oki.org.

**Louisville Riverwalk/ Ohio River Levee Trail.** Jefferson Co., Louisville Waterfront Park to Riverport.. Multiuse. Goes past the McAlpine Locks and Dam, through Portland and all the way to the Farnsley Moorman Landing. approx. 20 miles . Primarily a greenway with .4 mi RT. asphalt. Contact: Louisville Jefferson Metro Gov't, 601 West Jefferson, Louisville, KY 40202, 502-574-3921. www.loukymetro.org/Department/MetroParks and <http://www.mtbreview.com/trails/Kentucky/LOUISVILLERIVERWALK.html>

**Sheltowee Trace,** McCreary County. The Sheltowee Trace is a 269-mile multiple-use national recreation trail that traverses the length of the Daniel Boone National Forest. Approximately 3.6 miles in McCreary County near Whitley City is RT along Railroad Fk and Barren Fk (Section 30). The ROW was part of the Barren Fork Coal Camp,

**Sturgis Rail Trail,** Union Co., 1 mi., Sturgis. A local 5th grade class is an active partner with state, local and federal agencies. The rail trail passes the Sturgis Elementary school which now has a safe traffic free access for the children and parents. Contact: Cindy Loxley, Sturgis Elementary, 1101 N. Grant St., Sturgis, KY, 42459.

**Uniontown Trail,** Union Co. 1825 ft asphalt trail in northern Union County. Funded as part of the Recreational Trails Program in addition to the Transportation Enhancements Program. Information from KY Statewide Rail Plan.

*(Continued on page 4)*

**White Plains.** Southeastern Hopkins Co, 1.5 mi., 8ft. wide. White Plains, KY.

### Proposed trails

**Anderson Co., Wild Turkey Rail Trail,** Wild Turkey Distillery to Lawrenceburg, 2.8 mi., Tyrone, near the Kentucky River and US 127, RTC has railbanked the line. KRTC and Railtrail Conservancy (RTC) are currently working with the county to see if they will accept the railbanked section.

**Anderson County and Woodford County.** The Tyrone Bridge and Rail Company is a group that formed from the Bluegrass Railroad Museum with the primary interest being the preservation of Young's High Bridge and two other bridges. The TBRC has been notified by the IRS that their application for 501 c 3 status will be granted. They are studying the feasibility of a rail with trail which would parallel the rail line from the Bridge to the Woodford County Park., approximately 2.8 mi. There is the hope to run a train from Woodford County Park to the Bridge. At present the line is railbanked by RTC which is due to expire in July, 2003, however a 6 month extension can be had. . The RTC (Rails to Trails Conservancy) is working on a conveyance of property with Norfolk Southern Railroad. If they are successful then TBRC will become the owner of the abandonment from Lawrenceburg to the Woodford County side of the Kentucky River.

**Bell Co., Clear Creek Trail.** It will traverse through Clear Creek Baptist Bible College Campus (easement obtained) and a section of the Kentucky Ridge State Forest for about 1.5 miles. This is adjacent to Pine Mt. State Resort Park. There is currently a \$40,000 project to upgrade the old rail corridor for pedestrian and biking use. Trail development is scheduled to begin summer 2003. Possibility of another .75 miles. Probably looking at least two years and more for trail development. Contact: Carey Tichenor, Kentucky State Parks, 502-564-4940 ext. 246, Carey.Tichenor@mail.state.ky.us

**Bullitt Co.** An approximately 1 mi. Rail with Trail project that would parallels the track over which the Kentucky Dinner Train operates along Highway 245. Bernheim Forest to Highway 1604 at Lotus. Surface: crushed stone.

**Christian County, Hopkinsville Trail.** Proposed 4 mi trail. Part of a recent rail relocation project by the United States Government.

**Clark Co.,** 1.5 mi., parallels Ironworks Road (US15) and extends either side of the new Winchester Bypass. Asphalt or crushed limestone, part of Lexington Big Sandy RT. Contact: Bluegrass Rails Trails Foundation (Fayette, Clark & Montgomery Co.). Mailing Address, 266 White Station Rd., Berea, KY 40403. David Gagnon, Pres., DoctorG@mis.net, or Robin Reams, Treas., 859.986.0692, robinreams@aol.com.

**Crittenden and Webster Counties. Blackford Pedestrian Bridge.** A proposed short rail trail utilizing an abandoned railroad bridge across the Tradewater River in Blackford. Funding through the Transportation Enhancements Program. Information from KY Statewide Rail Plan.

**Crittenden County. Crittenden County Trail Project** is located between Marion and Princeton, Kentucky. The fiscal court in Crittenden County is seeking to purchase the right of way owned by the Western Kentucky Railway. Proposed length 21 miles. Information from KY Statewide Rail Plan.

**Fayette Co., South Elkhorn Trail,** Waveland Historic Site to Shillito Park , 1.3 miles, asphalt, parallels active railway line. Contact: Keith Lovan, 200 E. Main St., Lexington, KY 40507, 859-258-3478 klov@lfucg.com or Cindy Dietz, , 200 E. Main St Lexington, KY 40507, 859-258-3478, 859- 258-3267 cdeitz@lfucg.com.

**Fayette Co. Town Branch Trail** (rail section with trail). From New Circle Road to the east passing through downtown. 7 miles approximately, asphalt, rail with trail +/- 2 miles. Contact: Town Branch Trail, Inc., 155 Constitution St., Lexington, KY 40507 <http://www.townbranch.org>. Van Meter Pettit, President and Treasurer.

**Fayette Co., Brighton East Rail Trail,** Bryant Road to Walnut Grove Lane, approx. 2 miles, 12' wide asphalt, Location: east of Lexington. Railhead: Pleasant Ridge Park on Pleasant Ridge Dr. Use: multi-purpose, non-motorized, handicapped accessible. Funded through Transportation Enhancement funds. Future expansion: Possible to the west over Man of War to Hamburg Place and to the east to link through rural Fayette Co. to Winchester. Contact Keith Lovan , Project Lead, 859-258-3478 and Cindy Deitz, Greenspace Planner, 859- 258-3267, 200 E. Main St., Lexington, KY 40507, klov@lfucg.com.

**Fayette, Clark, Montgomery, Bath, Rowan, Carter & Boyd Co., Lexington/Big Sandy Project.** Lexington to Coalton (outside Ashland), 109 mi., Contact in Fayette Co.: Keith Lovan, 200 E. Main St. , Lexington, KY 40507, 859-258-3478, klov@lfucg.com. Contact in Clark Co.: Bluegrass Rails Trails Foundation (Fayette, Clark & Montgomery Co.). Mailing Address: 266 White Station Rd., Berea, KY 40403. David Gagnon, Pres., DoctorG@mis.net, or Robin Reams, Treas., 859.986.0692, robinreams@aol.com. Contact in Rowan Co.: April Haight, Daniel Boone Rails-To-Trails, 105 E. Main St, Morehead, KY 40351, 606.784.5989, adhaight@yahoo.com .

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**Graves Co., Wingo, KY.** 2.5 mi.. The trail is on the Illinois Central abandonment. A caboose donated by P& L Railroad is being made into a welcome center. It has the long term potential to eventually be about 18 miles long. It would tie the Cities of Mayfield, Wingo and Fulton together. Contact: Pat Carr, City Clerk, Wingo City Hall, PO Box 117, Wingo, KY, 42088.

**Harlan Co., Loyall Trail.** .75 mi project has been funded. Information from KY Statewide Rail Plan.

**Harlan Co., Cumberland, Benham & Lynch.** City of Benham is taking the lead to acquire ROW to a 3.2 CSXT abandoned line segment in their town. Information from KY Statewide Rail Plan.

**Hopkins Co., St. Charles-Isley Trail.** Would connect these two towns. No specifics available at this time. Information from KY Statewide Rail Plan.

**Jessamine Co., High Bridge – Wilmore Rail-Trail,** High Bridge Park to Wilmore Caboose Museum, Wilmore, KY, 4.5 mi, asphalt, in planning stage, Contact: Tim Powell, 859.858.3139, rail-trail@worldtimzone.com

**Marshall Co., Benton, KY,** (western KY) 1.5 mi along the Clarks River. It is expected to be completed in 2003. The project is being funded by a Recreation Trails Program grant. Right of way for the project was purchased as a National Wildlife Refuge. Contact: Linda Riley, City Clerk, 270-527-8677.

**Montgomery County. Mt. Sterling Trail.** 3 mile long rail trail . Would be part of the Lexington Big Sandy Rail Trail.

**Muhlenberg & McLean Co., Moorman-Island Trail.** Endpoints are the South Shore of the Green River to Moorman, KY, 7 mi. Property currently owned by CSXT. Contact: Roger Humphrey, 497 Higgs Lane, Rumsey, KY 42371. 270-273-3327.

**Oldham Co., Oldham County Interurban Greenway,** LaGrange (trail head) to Pewee Valley, 13 mi., along KY 146, through Buckner, Crestwood & Pewee Valley. Its proposed location is in the right of way (as much as possible) of the old rail line that once connected Louisville and Oldham County. The Fiscal Court Greenways Oversight Committee, Greenways for Oldham County, Inc., and the design consultant, Claire Bennett and Associates, have produced the Oldham County Interurban Greenway Master Plan, a comprehensive Master Plan, and it is scheduled to be released to the public in the summer of 2003. The Planning Department at Louisville Metro Parks (Jefferson County) is aware of the Oldham County Interurban Greenway master plan and is exploring a connection at the Oldham County line to the proposed Jefferson County loop trails. A governmental body must receive and manage the TEA-21 grant money that is partially funding the greenways effort in Oldham County. Therefore, because the greenway is to reach countywide, Greenways for Oldham County, Inc. requested that Oldham County Fiscal Court manage the greenway projects. Sarah Moser has been hired as a Community Planner by the Oldham County Fiscal Court and has been assigned project manager for the Interurban Greenway. Contact: Sarah Moser, ASLA, Oldham County Fiscal Court, 100 W. Jefferson Street, Lagrange, KY 40031, 502-222-9357. Greenways for Oldham County, PO Box 868, Crestwood, KY 40014.

**Rowan Co., KY 32 to Cave Run Lake,** 1 mi. Contact: April Haight, Daniel Boone Rails-To-Trails, 105 E. Main St., Morehead, KY 40351, 606.784.5989, adhaight@yahoo.com

**Warren Co.,** 0.75 mile rail-trail near Boatlanding Park, along the Portage Railroad Spur line; funded in 2003; expected completion in 2005. The Cemetery Road Greenway is a 10' wide shared use path alongside Cemetery Road (KY 234), near the new I-65 interchange at exit 26. A loop of 1 1/3 miles is created with Mt Victor Lane (old KY 234). Path users may park near the signal at Cemetery Road and Briteway Drive. By 2005, this greenway will create a 3.5 mile connection from the Lovers Lane Soccer Complex to the downtown River Walk Park. Both part of 30-year, 350-mile Greenbelt Master Plan for Bowling Green and Warren County. See [www.warrenpc.org](http://www.warrenpc.org) or contact Helen Tyson Siewers, Greenways Coordinator, 1141 State Street, Bowling Green, KY 42101, 270-842-1953, 270-842-1282 fax, email: [siewh91@bgky.org](mailto:siewh91@bgky.org)

## Greenways

**Pine Mountain Trail:** Harlan, Letcher & Pike Co., and eventually Bell County. Breaks Interstate Park to the Cumberland Gap Nat. Park. Open to non-motorized traffic, the trail is currently under construction with approximately 35 miles already on the ground. The Birch Knob Section (Elkhorn City to US 23 at Jenkins) is the northeast end, is 28 miles long and is open to hikers, cyclists and horses. The second section is under construction with 7 miles on the ground; it is known as the Highlands Section and goes from US 23 to US

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119 and has foot traffic only. Ultimately, the trail will be nearly 110 mi. Details of the trails can be found at [www.pinemountaintrail.com](http://www.pinemountaintrail.com). It is a greenway, not a railtrail. Pine Mt. Trail Conference, Inc. PO Box 784, Whitesburg, KY 41858, 606.633.0369. sbaker@ca.uky.edu. Website: <http://www.pinemountaintrailconference.org>.

**Campbell, Kenton & Boone Co., River Path** (proposed). 40 mi., In process: Paving a 1 mile section from Pendry Park through Melbourne KY in Campbell County. The River Path Route Map shows the current shared roadway route and planned shared use trail portions of the route. Contact Forward Quest for a free copy. The next phase will be 3 miles through Silver Grove Contact: Forward Quest, % E. River Center Blvd, Suite 400, Covington, KY 41011, 859-291-2020.

**Inactives – No recent information**

**Caldwell Co.,** 2.4 mi.

**Franklin Co.,** Frankfort Trail Project ,4 mi.. Pinsky Railroad Company has an interest in two miles and two miles are privately owned. The landowner is interested in selling it for a trail. Local citizens propose to reactivate the Capital Heritage Trail Foundation to support the project. The reactivation process is stalled. **Garrard Co.,** Leavel Tunnel near Old Railroad Road near KY 52.

**Hardin Co.,** Elizabethtown, 3 miles, inactive. An individual and an industry share ownership. The railbed was abandoned approximately 20 years ago.

Please send updated information & corrections to Dixie Moore, Sec/KRTC, Suite 8A, 121 Prosperous Place, Lexington, KY 40509, DixieMoore@insighbb.com.

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**More Info on the Muhlenberg Trail –  
A Success Story**

The trail is something in which I have been very involved and of which I am quite proud. It is also a source of pride for those who live in this county. I have been very concerned with preventive health issues since I have worked in the health department arena for the last 12 years.

In January 1999 under Judge Executive Rodney Kirtley's leadership, a group of interested citizens from Muhlenberg County met to form a committee and to elect officers for the development of a Rails to Trails Committee. Bob Strosnider, a representative of the KRT council, spoke to the group about the trails and what it could mean to our community. I was elected as chairperson then. We incorporated our organization and named our trail the Muhlenberg County Rails to Trails. We then placed an article in our local newspaper inviting the public to participate in a walk of the six mile trail and to become a supporter.

It was necessary to first rail bank the railroad property through the Dept of Transportation which then gave the Rails to Trails first right of refusal for the land. Then, we applied for funding for a ISTE A grant (now known as TEA 2) to get the trail established. Because it was required that it must be a government entity, I was asked to present the proposal to the fiscal court. Despite a great deal of opposition (there were

others who wanted the land for their own private financial gains), the fiscal court voted to accept the grant and purchase the property. Once the property was purchased, plans were made to level the path and excess gravel was sold to cover the cost of the land. It was July before the grant was approved. The main expense was black topping the full six miles and parking lot and the width of six feet was decided based on this cost. It was a long wait to actually receive the grant money and we finally completed black topping just short of two years after our first meeting.

The ribbon cutting was on October 20, 2000. But many people in the community were already using the trail before it was even paved. The Wendell Ford Training center agreed to help with the trail and use it. The Wildlife Reserve that borders the trail agreed to establish an additional natural trail. The high schools have used the trail for cross country training as well as for science and biology educational units. The trail has been received into the community with great response. Citizens of all ages use it daily. It is also accessible for those disabled. It is estimated that currently an average of 300 use it daily. Walking clinics have been held by our local health department to promote exercise and health in children as well.

We have added a covered bridge over one of the four on the trail. We hold an annual family bicycling event. We hope to continue to promote the health issues in a county that is plagued with diabetes, obesity

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## Daniel Boone Rails to Trails

Daniel Boone Rails to Trails is the local non profit organization in Rowan County recently formed to build a multipurpose historical trail along an abandoned railroad corridor. The DBRT currently has funding available from two grants. The first is a TEA-21 grant to acquire easements for the trail. The second has been recently obtained from the State of Kentucky (Department for Local Government) to build bridges for the trail in the City of Morehead.

The original TEA-21 proposal contained a like amount for easements in Rowan County from Morehead to KY 801 in Farmers, but the County has opted out of this until such time that strong support for such a trail is demonstrated in the County. Thus, the DBRT has been focusing on the City portion in the hopes that it will become appealing to the folks in the County.

DBRT has started acquiring easements in the City of Morehead. This involves surveying each of the tracts involved, and obtaining an appraisal for each easement which will be done by the State of Kentucky. Once the appraisals are made, the actual process of purchasing the easements can begin. Once the easements are obtained, trail development can proceed. The surveys are estimated to cost between \$300 and \$500 per tract, and TEA-21 funds are used to pay for the surveys since they are part of the easement acquisition process. They are working principally between the City Park and KY 519 in Clearfield and in that section there are five landowners.

In order to physically build a workable trail in the City of Morehead, several footbridges are needed to cross streams that flow into Triplett Creek. The second grant, from the Department for Local Government is meant to provide funds for just such trail development. There is \$10,600 from this grant, matched by another \$10,600 from local sources (both cash and in-kind).

Their final goal is to provide a recreational trail that will be enjoyed by many. It is hoped that such success may eventually facilitate the extension of the trail westward into the County. The DBRT plans to actually include bits and pieces of family history and lore along the trail through signs and little displays. Such a "heritage" trail will give landowners a stake in the trail and a point of pride. This project would also meld well with sesquicentennial (150 year) celebrations in Rowan County planned in 2006.

Membership dues paid to the DBRT automatically registers you for the Kentucky Rails to Trails Council

(KRTC) Newsletter. Membership dues are used primarily for operating costs, in particular for expenses incurred for printing brochures and for publicity such as printing a DBRT banner. Send a check (payable to the DBRT) to Daniel Boone Rails to Trails, Inc., 105 E. Main Street, Morehead, KY 40351.

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and heart disease. We hold fund raising for several charities annually, including the American Cancer Society. We have applied for the Blueprint Mini-grant in hopes to start a tradition of physical activity in our primarily sedentary community. We are also working toward the goal of adding a Wellness Center adjacent to the Central City entrance of our trail.

Our community has improved because of the addition of the trail and we hope that it will further the cause of prevention of disease in our county. As a nurse practitioner for our health department , I find that many of my patients now use the trail to achieve their health goals as do I. On a more personal note, I would like to add that I recently visited Germany and was so impressed with the abundance of trails that have been established for the citizens. They are used greatly and I think it is evident in the number of active older people who walk and cycle for their health and enjoyment. We have learned that first the facility must be made available in order to make it possible for those in need to be able to take the best steps towards a healthful life. I would like to think of our success here as a prototype for other communities to follow. Rebecca Keith, KRTC Board Member from Muhlenberg County.

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**Land Trust Alliance Rally 2003**  
**Sacramento California**  
 Join more than 1,700 of America's conservation leaders at the largest gathering of land trust professionals, volunteers, board members, public agency staff, attorneys, and others devoted to land conservation.  
**Are you ready to Rally?**  
 October 16 – October 19, 2003  
 Register online: [www.lta.org](http://www.lta.org)  
 In California, famous for Cabernet, movie stars, big trees, &...



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Kentucky Rails To Trails Council, Inc. is a 501 © (3) non-profit tax-exempt organization founded in 1995. The purpose of the Kentucky Rails to Trails Council is to “foster and facilitate the conservation of greenways and rail rights of ways in Kentucky by the conversion of such holdings to trail use for the general public.”

Contributions and dues are tax deductible to the fullest extent of the law.

Kentucky Rails to Trail Council, Inc.  
Post Office Box 597, Lexington, KY 40588-0597  
Website: www.KyRailTrail.org  
webmaster@kyrailtrail.org

Newspaper Editor, Dixie Moore, 8A, 121 Prosperous Pl.  
Lexington, KY 40509, dixiemooore@insightbb.com

**Kentucky Rails to Trails Council, Inc.**

**MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION , DONATION &/or RENEWAL for 2003**

- \$ 15 Individual     \$ 25 Family     \$ 50 Patron     \$ 100 Benefactor  
 \$ 250 Engineer     \$ 500 Trail Blazer     \$1000 Golden Spike     \$5000 Corporate/  
Partner

Donation \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Address Correction

*I am making an additional donation of \_\_\_\_\_ to: (check one)*

- \_\_\_ Bluegrass Rails Trails Foundation (Fayette, Clark & Montgomery Co.)    \_\_\_ Daniel Boone Rails-To-Trails (Rowan Co)  
\_\_\_ Greenways of Oldham Co. (Oldham Co.)    \_\_\_ High Bridge Rail Trail (Jessamine Co)  
\_\_\_ Lake Cumberland Trail Foundation (Pulaski Co)    \_\_\_ Muhlenberg County RT  
\_\_\_ Pennyriple Rails to Trails Foundation (Henderson Co).    \_\_\_ Local Project in \_\_\_\_\_ (fill in)  
(If no amount indicated, all money will go to the local group minus \$15 for KRTC’s general expenses.)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ County: \_\_\_\_\_ State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: H W C \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

*The Kentucky Rails to Trails Council is always in need of volunteers, e.g. writing newsletter articles, being an officer, fundraising, giving presentations, contacting landowners, checking maps, web site design, letter stuffing.     I would like to volunteer with KRTC.*

**Please make check payable and mail to: Kentucky Rails to Trails Council, Inc.**

**Post Office Box 597, Lexington, KY 40588-0597**

Please remove my name from the mailing list. We hate to see you go, but thank you for your honesty.