

THE V.I.P.

Winter 2021

Notices Keep Moving to Internet

By: Frank Friday
Gov't Relations Executive

We live in an information age with our continuing internet-based society. More band width keeps pushing life into the digital domain, and events like the pandemic accelerate it even more. This has left government straining to keep up and enjoy the cost savings that might be had from such modern trends.

But things do move ahead, even in government. One area the Clerk's Office has sought to advance in recent years is that of legal notices. Our office and Metro government put an enormous sum every year in to publishing legal advertising, from tax delinquencies to voter information in our local newspaper.

Newspapers simply don't reach as many people as they did, even 10 years ago, and many parts of Kentucky have no daily paper at all. So, placing a "one-shot" ad in a paper, any paper, is a rather hit-or-miss proposition, when free internet listings on a government website are easily available to everyone.

The General Assembly finally recognized this fact by passing HB 195, allowing local governments to post legal notices on their websites in lieu of newspapers. Originally, this was going to be available to all counties but was later limited to urban-county governments; consolidated local governments; charter counties; unified local governments; and any county containing a population of eighty thousand (80,000); any city within such a county; any special district within such a county; any school district within such county; and any special purpose

governmental entity within such a county.

Many small county newspapers exist almost totally on ad revenue from legal notices, so the law was written to cover the larger metro areas.

For the Clerk's Office and other

independent county offices, however, it is still up in the air on what HB 195

Continued on page 2

A Message from the Jefferson County Clerk



The Jefferson County Clerk's Office spent little time resting after wrapping up the successful 2020 Presidential Election. Soon after, staff members of the Election Center relocated to their new home at 1000 E Liberty Street. This marks the second time in five years that the Election Center has moved, but we hope to remain at the current location for a long time to come.

Similarly, JCCO employees from the Human Resources, Finance, Logistics, IT, and Communications Departments have all relocated to new facilities within the First Trust Centre. In the weeks to come, they will be joined by members of Motor Vehicle Administration, the Downtown Branch, Dealers, Motor Vehicle Records, Liens, and the Processing and Call Center.

While we continue to plan an exciting year full of projects, our main concern remains the citizens of Jefferson County. I will always try to exceed your expectations and make all your experiences with the Clerk's Office as pleasant and stress-free as possible. If you have any questions or suggestions as to how the Clerk's Office can better serve you, please let us know.

Have a very happy and healthy new year.

Bobbie Holsclaw
Jefferson County Clerk

HB 195 allows local governments to post legal notices on their websites.

Support Your Alma Mater and the AIKCU

By: Jordan Kelch,
Public Relations

While many are aware of the various Independent Colleges and Universities spread about the Commonwealth, fewer are familiar with the institution that binds these entities together. The Association of Independent Kentucky Colleges and Universities, a 501(c)3 based out of Frankfort, is comprised of 18 member schools and serves roughly 56,000 students. While dedicated to the advocacy of affordable, high quality education, the AIKCU also "represents its member institutions in public policy issues related to higher education at the state and federal levels, raises funds for student scholarships, coordinates member services, and facilitates information sharing and collaboration among other members," according to its mission statement.

As the product of a merger, the AIKCU possesses roots from both the Council on Independent Kentucky Colleges and Universities and the Kentucky Independent College Foundation. With 18 of the Commonwealth's private, four-year institutions as members, the AIKCU sports an impressive list of constituents. Of course, all 18 affiliates must be licensed by the Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education, as well as be accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges



and Schools Commission of Colleges.

The member colleges and universities of The Association of Independent Kentucky Colleges and Universities include: Alice Lloyd College; Asbury

University; Bellarmine University; Berea College; Brescia University; Campbellsville University; Centre College; Georgetown College; Kentucky Christian University; Kentucky Wesleyan College; Lindsey Wilson College; Midway University; Spalding University; Thomas More University; Transylvania University; Union College; University of the Cumberlands; and the University of Pikeville.

Each member school has a specialty license plate that can be purchased at any county clerk office. All owners of a non-commercial motor vehicle registered for use on KY highways are eligible to purchase a plate. The initial cost is \$44.00 with a \$31.00 annual renewal fee. \$10.00 of the initial issuance fee and renewal fee are mandatory contributions. All donations go to the general scholarship fund of the specific college or university. For more information, please visit <http://www.aikcu.org/>. These plates are available for personalization with an additional \$25.00 application fee annually. All personalized plates are limited to a maximum of 5 characters.

Information gathered from Association of Independent Kentucky Colleges and Universities webpage at <https://aikcu.org/page/about>

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Gov't Affairs Executive

Continued from page 1

covers. The county government is the ultimate statutory payor of the legal advertisement, so one would think this would also be covered by law, but state government has yet to issue any regulations to go with this new law. So, clerks and other independent offices will be waiting for more direction from Frankfort in this area. One thing is certain: the trend to digital information is irreversible.



'Newspapers simply don't reach as many people as they did, even 10 years ago, and many parts of Kentucky have no daily paper at all.'

Navigating the Gig Economy

By: Frank Friday
Gov't Affairs Executive

Opportunities to pick up some money on the side and work flexible hours have exploded with car sharing services like Uber and Lyft, while the big new growth in this area has been food delivery. Grubhub, Doordash, and others have exploded with the pandemic, and Uber and Lyft are working this area too, making their real profits delivering food, not people.

Not surprisingly, such disruptive services have left traditional cab companies and their employees complaining. Some states have sought to block such services, unsuccessfully, but now California passed a law that seems to require Uber drivers to be employees, not independent contractors.

The IRS says people who are in an independent trade, business, or profession in which they offer their services to the general public are generally independent contractors.

The rule is that an individual is an independent contractor if the payer has the right to control or direct only the result of the work and not what will be done and how it will be done. The earnings of a person who is working as an independent contractor are subject to Self-Employment Tax.

However, people paying contractors don't have overtime pay, or even minimum wage requirements and no medical obligations. That means companies like Uber and Lyft can often underprice cab companies. If they must treat drivers as employees, they may not be viable.

The California law, AB5, made a 3-part test to determine if a worker was a contractor: the worker has to be free to perform services without the control or direction of the company; the worker must perform work tasks that are outside the usual course of the company's business activities; and, he/she must be customarily engaged in an independently established trade, occupation, or business of the same nature as that which is being performed.

Interestingly, the California courts are pushing the idea that driver services are considered employment under this law, because the Uber app tells the drivers where to go and what route to take.

But a meal delivery is not considered employment. Much like an independent truck driver hauling a load, the

driver has one set price for delivery and may take whatever route desired to reach the delivery point.

'California passed a law that seems to require Uber drivers to be employees.'

So, one could still safely take a gig delivering pizzas in the Golden State without any fuss.

Uber and other similar companies were understandably not happy with this arrangement and put together ballot proposition 22 in California to overturn the law. It passed on November 3, with 58% of the vote. Such a strong endorsement by the voters there, probably has assured the legal viability of ride sharing.

Voters, whatever the other misgivings, no doubt recognize there have been two great safety benefits for the motoring public with ride sharing- the increased mobility older people enjoy, getting to appointments and the like; and the significant decrease in drunk driving fatalities in towns where ride sharing is common.



Jefferson County Election Center Relocates to 1000 East Liberty

By Nore Ghibaudy,
Public Relations Director

It doesn't seem like it was long ago that the Election Center moved to the Edison Building on West Ormsby from the Urban Government Center on Barret Avenue. The move took place in July of 2016.

The Election Center and the Jefferson County Clerk's Finance and Human Resources Divisions have relocated to make room for the new home of the Louisville Metro Police Department (which originally occupied only the lower level of the Edison Center). The Clerk's Office Human Resources and Finance Divisions are now located on the 4th floor of the First Trust Centre in downtown Louisville.

Most recently the 1000 East Liberty location was occupied by Neighborhood Place. Many longtime Jefferson County residents would remember it as the former Casa Grisanti's restaurant.

Bobbie Holsclaw, Jefferson County Clerk and Chair-



person of the Board of Elections said, "The layout of the new Election Center meets the needs of the staff and the location is convenient for Jefferson County voters. We look forward to future elections in this new facility."



Celebrating the 100th Anniversary of Women's Right to Vote

By: Jordan Kelch,
Public Relations

America was born out of struggle. At times, it is forgotten that the principles and ideology this country is founded upon were not miraculous gifts granted to our ancestors, but goals and beliefs that were obtained through long-term bravery and resilience. Everything we have come at a cost. Our contemporary freedom stands upon the shoulders of giants who refused anything less than liberty, equality, and justice. Time, though, has a way of distancing the sacrifice and dulling the achievement.

Today, American political offices are occupied by more female representatives than any other time in history. In fact, the 117th (current) Congress features 26 female senators and 118 female members of the house. For the first time ever, nearly one-third of the U.S. Congress is comprised of women. This representation also extends into the Commonwealth, where the current Kentucky State Legislature features 32 female office holders (out of a total 138 seats).

With so much current representation, it may be easy to overlook the American female's long, arduous path toward equality. Make no mistake about it: securing the right to vote was an enormous struggle. In fact, there was nearly a century of demonstrations before the 19th Amendment was passed in 1920. Women's rights movements were gaining steam even before the Civil War, with demands for women's suffrage dating back to the 1840s.

The first women's rights assembly, known as the Seneca Falls Convention, was held in July of 1848. One of the defining moments came when the members passed a resolution in favor of women's suffrage. From that instant, the right to vote became one of the key principles of the movement – a

'For the first time ever, one fourth of the U.S. Congress is comprised of women.'

goal that symbolized equality, liberty, and freedom for all Americans, no matter sex.

By 1870, various national organizations dedicated to women's suffrage were founded. Lucy Stone established the American Women Suffrage Association, while Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Susan B. Anthony created the rival National Women Suffrage Association. Movements continued popping up across the country until the turn of the century, when separate organizations merged into one powerhouse, creating the National American Woman Suffrage Association (NAWSA).

During this time, NAWSA backed various attempts to pass a women's suffrage bill in the U.S. Congress, but it wasn't until May 21, 1919 that legislation officially cleared the U.S. House and Senate. Then, on August 18, 1920, the Nineteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution was ratified, granting women's suffrage and securing the right of all American females to vote.

A lot has happened in 100 years, and females in the U.S. have continued to make strides towards equality. Yes, contemporary America is far from perfect, but it is important to recognize how far we have come, to remember the names of those who stood up and made our country a better place. Take a moment and consider the sacrifice and the achievement. Consider the struggle.



Two Elections with a Few Twists and Turns

By Nore Ghibaudy and Jordan Kelch,
Public Relations

Every Election has its challenges, some more than others. However, both the Primary and General Elections of 2020 certainly rank as two of the most demanding and taxing elections of recent memory. Both were conducted under and during unique circumstances and both required complicated decisions and careful consideration.

The Primary Election began with a delay from the originally scheduled May 19th date. Due to COVID-19 and concerns for the health and safety of Election Officers and voters, the date was rescheduled to June 23rd. Then the question became how Kentucky's Primary would be conducted. Would voting be back in the neighborhoods? Would there be voting centers, or would voting be done by mail-in ballot?

In the end it was decided by the Governor, Secretary of State and State Board of Elections to allow all voters to either request a mail-in absentee ballot or to vote early in-person due to COVID-19.

Jefferson County had the highest Primary Election turnout in its history

Of course, Jefferson County still had to have a polling place of some sort. In reviewing past voting locations throughout the county, it became clear that most would be too small to accommodate the many needs this election would require. We searched for a place that could hold the 2000 different ballot styles necessary to this election, as well as hundreds of voting booths, electronic pollbooks, staff members, and election officers. The vote center would also need ample parking with adequate handicap spaces as well as lots of square footage to allow for social distancing. Jefferson County sought and selected the Exposition Center as it is superbly equipped to accommodate all of these needs.

The solitary super-center location was not meant to replace the usual 227 polling locations on Election Day. In fact, it was to make sure that those voters who did not secure their ballot in the manner that was encouraged (Absentee ballot) for this Election still had an avenue to exercise their right to vote.

Jefferson County had the highest turnout for a Primary Election in its history with a total of 206,719 ballots cast, representing 33.53% of the county's registered voters.

The 2020 Presidential Election came with a new set of guidelines. There was ballot request through the Board of Elections portal; mail-in/drop-off voting; and three weeks of early in-person voting at four locations plus 16 additional voting centers added on Election Day.

Fulfilling the online ballot requests once again brought about challenges. In order to get the job done, it took all JCCO staff working their regular 8-hour day plus an additional 4-hour evening shift three days a week.

A one 12-hour weekend day was also required to process and accommodate the 175,457 ballot requests.

Other challenges remained, including scouting four locations needed for these locations, plus 16 additional polling places, would also need to be functional on Election Day. Eventually, the Kentucky Exposition Center; the Kentucky Center for African American Heritage; the KFC Yum! Center and the Marriot Louisville East were selected as the four early vote centers. On Election Day, 16 JCPS schools were added to that list.

Thankfully, 2020 saw 2 successful elections in Jefferson County. A big thanks goes out to all JCCO employees for their hard work and dedication. The best part about the 2021 election cycle is - there isn't one!





Milestones

Retirement

MARCH 16 — AUGUST 31, 2020

Teresa Sparks	CSA	Highview Branch	Janet Beattie	CSA	Dealer/Specials
Sue Toole	Executive Director	Administration	Mary Bryant	CSA	Lien Department
			Gina Wheatley	Legal Records Specialist	Legal Records Dept.

Promotions

MARCH 16 — AUGUST 31, 2020

Andrew Holmes	CSA	Highview Branch
Alexis Marshall	CSA	Highview Branch
Gretchen Hoene	CSA	Westport Branch
Cherie Newlen	CSA	Dealer/Specials
Sandra Scarletto	CSA	Highview Branch
Stephen Infantino	CSA	MVPCC
Sharon Franklin	CSA	Dealer/Specials
Kaylani Bryant	CSA	Highview Branch
Kathryn Belt	CSA	MVPCC

Jamie McNabb	CSA	Highview Branch
Jackie Toscano Lucero	CSA	Downtown Branch
Allen Hazelwood	CSA	Downtown Branch

SEPTEMBER 1 — DECEMBER 15, 2020

Wayneesha Elliott	CSA	Dixie Branch
Cristi Karrer	CSA	MV Records
Deon Brown	CSA	Downtown Branch
Carrie Harrison	Legal Records Specialist	Legal Records Dept.

New Hires

MARCH 16 — AUGUST 31, 2020

Ronnie Weedman	Election Technician	Elec. Warehouse
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Anniversaries

MARCH 16 — AUGUST 31, 2020

Roxann McGaughey	Legal Records	5 Years
Scott BlairElec.	Warehouse	5 Years
Colette Stoner	Dealer/Specials	5 Years
Tyrece Crowe	Logistics	5 Years
Karen Fields	MV Admin.	5 Years
Melissa Catron	Finance	5 Years
Cherlene McCampbel	ILien Dept.	15 Years
Keshia Dougherty	MVPCC	20 Years
Maureen Vannatta	Westport Branch	20 Years
Sally Williamson	Election Ctr.	20 Years
Barbara Gilbert	Dealer/Specials	20 Years
Beverly Wright	Fairdale Branch	20 Years
Karen Burkhead	Finance	25 Years
Tricia Gray	Administration	25 Years

SEPTEMBER 1 — DECEMBER 15, 2020

Katherine Batton	Dixie Branch	5 years
Rebecca Ison	Comm., Media & PR	5 years
Richard Vowels	Election Center	10 years
Leah Straughan	Election Center	10 years
Doris Harrison	Pro. Lic./Del. Tax	10 years
Erika Tseren	J-Town Branch	15 years
Armond Bethel	Dealer/Specials	15 years
Karen Jefferies	Westport Branch	15 years
Diane Moore	Lien Dept.	20 years
Donald Benson	Legal Records	20 years
Patricia Thompson	Lien Dept.	20 years
Claudette White	Dealer/Specials	20 years
Rebecca Searcy	Legal Records	20 years
Tammy Webb	Finance	20 years
Timiko Pulliam	Lien Department	25 years
Wilma Colvin	Legal Records	25 years

