

JULY

C-TRAIN grants awarded: During the month of July, The Center awarded nine regional businesses a total of nearly **\$84,500 in C-TRAIN** Phase II grants to provide technology training for 57 of their employees. Businesses receiving grants were: **Gray Engineering** (Laurel County), **Central Kentucky Blood Center** (Pulaski & Pike County), **Phoenix Preferred Care** (Pulaski County), **Casey County Bank** (Casey County), **Mountain Telephone** (Morgan County), **PDNS, LLC** and **Coalfields Telephone Company** (Floyd County), **Trim Masters, Inc.** (Jessamine County), and **Kentucky River Community Care** (Perry County).

The Center graduates 7th class of Rogers Scholars: Sixty teens recently returned to their home communities after graduating from The Center's Rogers Scholars program. The annual session, now in its seventh year, is a unique and **exciting learning opportunity** for juniors from 42 counties in Southern and Eastern Kentucky. Dates for this year's program were June 27-July 2 and July 18-23.

"We must stop exporting our young talent," is often heard from Congressman Hal Rogers, for whom the program is named, when he speaks of issues critical to the region's success. An **investment in future leaders**, the Rogers Scholars program seeks to plant a mindset that will make the Scholars want to return home and lead after completing their educations.

LET wireless project on schedule: Phase one of The Center's Law Enforcement Technology wireless infrastructure project was completed July 1, with approximately **85% coverage** in the service area. In addition, new **CAD** (computer-aided dispatch) systems have been installed and are operational at **Paintsville/Johnson County 911** and **Perry County 911**.

Operation UNITE nabs 45: During July, Operation UNITE's Floyd County roundup resulted in the **arrest of 45 street-level drug traffickers**. The roundup took place in the Big Sandy Narcotics Task Force, which serves 10 counties. Officers from three law enforcement agencies participated in the roundup, including Operation UNITE, Prestonsburg Police Department and Floyd County Sheriff's office.

Since UNITE formed the first task force in January 2004, detectives have **opened 619 criminal cases** and responded to over 1300 complaints reported through the UNITE/HIDTA Tip Line. To date, UNITE detectives have drugs with a street value of well over **\$1.5 million**.

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- **UNITE community events** in July were the Leslie County Youth Pool Party and Anti-Drug March, the Owsley County Drug Free Bash in Booneville, and the Wayne County Anti-Drug March and Rally. All activities were held to celebrate being drug-free and show community drug dealers that drug trafficking and abuse will not be tolerated.
- At a press conference in London on July 27, Congressman Hal Rogers announced the results of the **2004 PRIDE Spring Cleanup**, held April 10-24. More than 26,500 volunteers spent over 78,600 hours cleaning up 40 streams and nearly 2600 road miles. They collected a staggering amount of junk: 10,449 appliances, 48,831 tires and 47,588 bags of trash. Rogers presented trophies to the city, county and school with the greatest volunteer participation this year. Winners were the City of Warfield in Martin County, Perry County and Saint Camillus Academy in Corbin.
- Applications for the **PRIDE Wastewater Construction Grant**, which provides 100% of the funding needed to extend wastewater collection lines into areas without sewer service, were mailed in July. Submission deadline is **September 1** and awards will be announced in October.

AUGUST

Kentucky's own Patty Loveless to perform at Center: Pikeville native Patty Loveless, whose strong alto voice has touched fans for years, will appear in **concert** at The Center on Friday, **September 10** at 7:30 pm. With numerous Grammy-nominated chart toppers and nearly 20 albums, Patty's songs of genuine emotion capture the joys and sorrow of everyday people. Opening the show will be new country artist Andy Griggs, who moves easily from firecracker country-rockers to heartstring-plucking ballads. Reserved seat **tickets** (\$25 and \$30) go **on sale** at 9:00 am, Tues., **August 3**, at The Center box office or by phone at 606-677-6000.

PRIDE Grant recipients to be announced: PRIDE will announce the recipients of the **2004 PRIDE Community Grants** on August 10. The grants for up to **\$50,000** are awarded to cities, counties and other public entities and non-profit organizations for environmental improvement projects such as illegal dump removal. **Training sessions** for grant recipients will be held August 10 at The Center, August 12 in Prestonsburg, August 13 in Columbia and August 17 in Hazard.

George Davidson opens 2004-05 CenterStage season: The 2004-05 CenterStage season, presented by Lake Cumberland Performing Arts, has **something to please everyone**, with a wonderfully entertaining lineup of toe-tapping **musicals**, side-splitting **comedy**, mystical **magic**, a traditional holiday **ballet** classic and delightful instrumental **music** and **vocalists**. New season **subscriptions** and Popular and Family **series tickets** will be **on sale August 5-17**; **individual ticket** sales start **August 18** at The Center box office or by phone at 606-677-6000. Season brochures will be in the mail in early August and more information can be found at www.centertech.com/events/centerstage.htm.

The new season opens **Thursday, August 26 at 7:30 p.m.** with a Popular Series performance by **pianist George Davidson**, whose music is filled with heartfelt emotion and poetry that appeals to any listener. His performance is an entrancing collection of **classical** and **pop music**, as well as theme songs and his own original compositions. Tickets are \$20 and \$15 for children 12 and under and available August 18 at the box office or by phone.

NEW! Online reservations for School Time Theatre: Teachers can now make reservations for School Time Theatre shows simply by visiting www.centertech.com/events/schooltime.htm and filling out and submitting an online reservation form. Complete descriptions of all five shows in the 2004-05 season are also found on the web site.

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- UNITE will host "**Hot Drugs in Kentucky**" on August 23 at the First Baptist Church in **London** and on August 24 at the Mountain Arts Center in **Prestonsburg**. Also this month, five members of the UNITE team will travel to Chicago for a Coalition Boot Camp to learn new aspects of forming coalition and handling media.
- **SEKDTA** provided funding and direction for "**Exploring an American Original**" airing on KET on Sundays at 3:30 pm. The **9-program series**, which began in July, features the area's natural beauty, unique culture and history, from Eastern Kentucky's Country Music Highway and historic landmarks south of the Bluegrass region to the natural beauty of Red River Gorge and the Daniel Boone National Forest. Remaining episodes will air on: 8/1: Country Music Highway Corridor; 8/8: The Cumberlands Corridor; 8/15: Heritage Landmarks Corridor; 8/22: Mountain Parkway Trails; 8/29: Mountain Lake Corridor; and 9/5: Kentucky Elk Country Corridor.
- **PRIDE** will announce recipients of 2004 **Environmental Education Grants** on August 30. Grants for up to \$5,000 are awarded to promote hands-on environmental education programs. Recipient training will be 8/30 at The Center, 9/1 in Prestonsburg and 9/2 in Hazard.