

COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

TOYOTA BOSHOKU AMERICA CELEBRATED NEW FACILITY IN HOPKINSVILLE

On Wednesday, October 4th, Governor Andy Beshear joined local officials and leadership at Toyota Boshoku America Inc. (TBA), a premier manufacturer of automotive interior systems, which includes seats, door trim, headliner, substrate and carpet in addition to air and oil filters for a variety of customers, to celebrate the recent announcement of the company's new \$225 million investment in Hopkinsville that will create 157 quality jobs for Kentuckians.

The new facility will include a 327,000-square-foot building pad on nearly 50 acres in Christian County. The plant will be TBA's first "smart plant," implementing technologies to create a more efficient and environmentally responsible operation. The facility will produce seat frame mechanism parts such as seat tracks, seat recliners and motors with gear. Construction began in June 2023 with operation planned for 2025.



MUHLENBERG COUNTY BUILDING RENOVATION PROJECT

The Economic Development Administration (EDA) announced an investment in Muhlenberg County to renovate the Muhlenberg County Opportunity Center.

This award will support workforce development by establishing a new workforce development facility that will prepare individuals for transition into the work environment. The new renovations will include the construction of:

- administrative space
- client support space
- recreation space
- other support space

The project will provide special needs for those individuals in Muhlenberg County with the opportunity to create additional jobs for those with special needs in an area that has suffered with job loss. Once completed, the county will create an increase in employment and diversify the local economy.

This EDA investment, to be matched with \$569,240 in state and local funds, is expected to create 30 jobs.

MADISONVILLE RECEIVES FUNDING FOR TO STRENGTHEN REGIONAL ECONOMY

The City of Madisonville was recently awarded \$96,000 through a grant from the Economic Development Administration in an effort to strengthen the regional economy.

This funding will be utilized to support the development of a marketing and rebranding campaign for the city of Madisonville in an effort to revitalize the community by identifying strengths, assets, advantages, and opportunities. This will include

- community engagement
- assessments
- planning
- marketing strategies

As part of the regional Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS), this will assist in creating jobs, fostering stable and diversified economies, and improving overall living conditions in the area. Previous feedback from community members led to leaders identifying this as a need in their strategic plan to not only attract but to retain new industry and investors to the city as part of a regional plan for growth.

AHLSTROM CUT RIBBON ON NEW FACILITY IN HOPKINS COUNTY

Gov. Andy Beshear joined local officials and company leadership from Ahlstrom on Wednesday, October 4th, to cut the ribbon on the company's new \$68 million facility in Madisonville that is creating over 50 new full-time jobs.

The new facility, a manufacturer of fiber-based specialty materials announced in May 2021, will house a glass fiber tissue production line to make substrates for flooring materials such as luxury vinyl tiles and vinyl sheet materials. Its smooth, homogenous glass fiber tissue will also be marketed for building panels, energy storage and thermoplastic molding for the transportation industry. The company's current 133-employee facility in Madisonville produces filtration materials for automotive and industrial applications.



AREA AGENCY ON AGING & INDEPENDENT LIVING

2023 PENNYRILE SENIOR GAMES ARE A HUGE SUCCESS!



The 2023 Pennyrile Senior Games were held in Hopkinsville September 25-27, 2023. A total of 208 participants were registered to participate in the three day competitive event. Events included pickleball, bowling, 4 hole disc golf, one mile walk, croquet and more!

The oldest female participant was Clina Mae Norfleet age 98 from Christian County and the oldest male participant was Jim Gosnell age 90 from Trigg County. The county outside of Christian County with highest participation was Trigg County with a total of 27 participants.

The Pennyrile Area Agency on Aging and Independent Living Staff provided volunteer support throughout the games. Thank you to Hopkinsville Parks and Recreation for planning, hosting and ensuring safety and enjoyment throughout this wonderful event. Senior Games not only promotes physical fitness and healthy competition, but also fosters camaraderie among the participants. It provides an opportunity to stay active, engaged and socially connected.

WALK TO END ALZHEIMERS

Pennyrile Area Development District staff were excited to partner again with the Alzheimer’s Association for their annual Walk to End Alzheimer’s event. The event was held on Saturday, September 23, 2023 in downtown Hopkinsville. The Walk to End Alzheimer’s is the biggest fundraiser for the Alzheimer’s Association.

A majority of the funds raised will support research into Alzheimer’s disease. The Alzheimer’s Association also provides support to Alzheimer’s patients and their families through training, support groups, adult day care services, information, and public advocacy. Locally, they have provided numerous training events for families and direct care staff.



PeADD staff held several fundraisers this past year to help raise funds for their Walk to End Alzheimer’s team and will continue to fundraise through the end of the year. If you are interested in more information on the annual Walk to End Alzheimer’s or would like to attend a monthly Alzheimer’s support group, please contact Miranda White at 270-886-9484 or by email at Miranda.white@ky.gov.



MEDICARE BENEFICIARIES

If you are currently are having \$164.90 taken out of your Social Security check each month for your Part B monthly premium, and you are low income, there is a program that may be able to assist you with that premium cost! If your income is under \$1,660/single or \$2,239/married and your resources/assets are under \$9,090/single or \$13,630/married then you may qualify to receive assistance through the state through one of the Medicare Savings Programs. These programs may help pay for your Part B premiums and potentially assist in also paying for Part A premiums, deductibles, coinsurance, and copayments, depending on your income level. To see if you are eligible and apply for these programs, contact Ali Jones with the Pennyrile Area Development District in Hopkinsville, KY at (866) 844-4396 or (270) 886-9484.

WEST KENTUCKY WORKFORCE

EARNING WHILE LEARNING IN WIOA IN-SCHOOL YOUTH PROGRAM



Amari Stubbs was a senior at Hopkinsville High School and enrolled in Medical Nurse Aide (MNA) class, Patient Care Tech (PCT) certification course pathways at Gateway Academy. She had her sights on attending nursing school upon graduation but she needed support in transitioning to life after high school, direction with FAFSA, scholarships and how to navigate the tuition requirements for local colleges. She sought help from the Christian County Board of Education. She was determined eligible for their Workforce Innovation & Opportunity Act (WIOA) In-School Youth Program funded by West Kentucky Workforce Board.

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Amari spent her senior year in the WIOA In-School Youth Program attending tutoring, participating in transition services, and leadership development activities. She was provided Paid Work-Based Learning Experience at Jennie Stuart Health as a Student Patient Care Technician. Amari graduated with high school diploma and Medical Nurse Aide (MNA) class, Patient Care Tech (PCT) certifications in May of 2023.

Because of her excellent work ethic, dependability and reliability during her Paid Work-Based Learning Experience, Jennie Stuart Health hired her upon graduation creating a seamless talent pipeline in a high demand, critical shortage industry. Amari is now enrolled Hopkinsville Community College’s nursing program.

Amari has not forgotten the lessons she learned during her time in the youth program: “The WIOA program helped me to get real world and hands-on experiences so that I could focus on getting my professional certifications and diploma while working in my chosen pathway. I am earning money in a meaningful and gratifying profession that is in shortage and I have no college debt.”

WORKFORCE STAFF ATTEND SOUTHEASTERN EMPLOYMENT & TRAINING (SETA) FALL CONFERENCE

The SETA Fall Conference was held in Orange Beach, AL on September 17-20, 2023. West Kentucky Workforce Board staff attended the conference. Guest speakers included U.S. Department of Labor Region 3 Administrator, Kimberly Staley who led a panel discussion on “Envisioning the Future of Workforce with the Electric Vehicle Industry. Best practices on service program highlights were presented at various workshops throughout the conference. For more information on SETA, go to www.seta.org.



PRIDE OF THE PENNYRILE

Rain might have slowed things down, but it didn’t stop the 34th Annual Pride of the Pennyrile industry appreciation event from taking place on Thursday, September 28, 2022, at the beautiful Lake Barkley State Resort Park, located in Trigg County. Pennyrile Area Development District in partnership with Economic Development professionals and volunteers from the district hosted this industry appreciation event in recognition of the major employers of the Pennyrile Region for their contributions to our local economy and quality of life.

Following breakfast, twelve-teams hit the greens of Boots Randolph Golf Course for a golf scramble. Prizes were awarded to teams who achieved first, middle and last places. Boat riders enjoyed a relaxing day of games and refreshments with the lake as their scenery. Lunch followed along with a brief awards ceremony and door prize drawing MCed by South Western Kentucky Economic Development chairman, Lee Conrad.

Thanks to the support of our generous sponsors who helped make this event possible in providing breakfast, a golf scramble or boat cruise, lunch, door prizes, and gifts for all participants.



UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS

EVENT	DATE	TIME (CT)	LOCATION
PeADD Board of Directors Meeting	Cancelled		
Alzheimer's Support Group	October 17, 2023	10 am	PeADD Office & Zoom
Pennyrile Grandparent Support Group	October 19, 2023	10 am	PeADD Office & Zoom

PRIDE OF THE PENNYRILE CONTINUED



PeADD Board of Directors

CALDWELL COUNTY

Amanda Davenport, Citizen Representative
Jim Seibert, Mayor of Fredonia
Brock Thomas, Mayor of Princeton
William "Kota" Young, Judge/Executive

CHRISTIAN COUNTY

Nikki Durham, Citizen Representative
Jerry Gilliam, Judge/Executive
Lori Harper, Citizen Representative
J.R. Knight, Mayor of Hopkinsville
Verdell Smith, Citizen Representative

CRITTENDEN COUNTY

D'Anna Browning, Mayor of Marion
Bart Frazer, Citizen Representative
Perry Newcom, Judge/Executive
Roger Simpson, Citizen Representative

HOPKINS COUNTY

Kevin Cotton, Mayor of Madisonville
Chris Phelps, Mayor of Mortons Gap
Jenny Sewell, Citizen Representative
Jack Whitfield, Jr., Judge/Executive

LIVINGSTON COUNTY

Crissy Carter, Citizen Representative
Gary Damron, Mayor of Salem
Garrett Gruber, Judge/Executive
Bill Hesser, Mayor of Smithland
Brad Hunter, Citizen Representative

LYON COUNTY

Greg Greene, Mayor of Eddyville
Jaime Green-Smith, Judge/Executive
Wade White, Citizen Representative
Lee Wilson, Citizen Representative

MUHENBERG COUNTY

Tony Armour, Mayor of Central City
Eddie DeArmond, Mayor of Greenville
Rajiv Johar, Citizen Representative
Mack McGehee, Judge/Executive
Karen Robinson, Citizen Representative

TODD COUNTY

Arthur Green, Mayor of Elkton
Todd Mansfield, Judge/Executive
Scott Marshall, Citizen Representative
Martha Jo Ray, Mayor of Trenton

TRIGG COUNTY

Connie Allen, (Cadiz) Mayor's Designee
Stan Humphries, Judge/Executive
Todd Wallace, Citizen Representative
Beth Sumner, Citizen Representative



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PADD PRESS

An official publication of the

PENNYRILE AREA DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT

Jason Vincent, Executive Director

PeADD Board Officers

Board Chair.....Ms. Crissy Carter
Vice Chair.....Judge Todd Mansfield
Treasurer.....Mayor Kevin Cotton
Secretary.....Judge Kota Young



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The preparation of this document was financed with federal, state and local funds under a Joint Funding Agreement.