

Request
of our communities requested assistance with water system upgrades, so \$22.7 million is dedicated to improving water across six counties, making up nearly half of the earmark requests.”

As a former chairman of the U.S. House Appropriations Committee, Congressman Rogers included the following Community Project Funding Requests for Kentucky’s Fifth Congressional District: \$1.5 million to renovate Jackson County’s former jail into a new business incubator in downtown McKee, Kentucky. Funding will be used to rehabilitate and repurpose the former jail with an additional plaza for small start-up businesses and community engagement.

\$1.4 million for Operation UNITE to enhance prevention and treatment efforts across Kentucky’s Appalachian region, including key partnerships with schools and community coalitions.

\$2.5 million for the Eastern Kentucky PRIDE Septic System Program to provide grants for new septic systems in households across Kentucky’s Fifth Congressional District that remain under the 55% Housing and Urban Development poverty guideline.

\$3.5 million for the Morehead State University Medical Training Complex. The funding would replace and upgrade equipment and laboratory space for nursing, imaging science, kinesiology, and pre-physical therapy programs. Maintaining a pipeline of well-trained healthcare workers is essential for central Appalachia where healthcare jobs are important for the economic well-being of the region and to ensure healthcare providers have the necessary staff to provide care for a population with high rates of chronic disease.

\$3.9 million to construct a new Pikeville Medical Center Healthcare Vocational Complex, which will provide healthcare training opportunities in Eastern Kentucky. The new facility will provide training and continuing

education in fields such as radiology, laboratory, respiratory therapy, nursing, pharmacy, and surgery. The development of this complex aims to address the well-documented shortage of skilled healthcare workers in central Appalachia.

\$8.1 million for reconstruction of US 25 from KY 461 to I-75 at Exit 62 in Mount Vernon, Kentucky. The project includes widening the number of driving lanes and implementing access management strategies along the roadway.

Community Project Funding requests from across the country will be reviewed by the Senate and House Appropriations Committees and relative subcommittees. There is no guarantee that the projects will be funded. However, as a senior Member of the House Appropriations Committee, Congressman Rogers has a strong reputation for shepherding rural Kentucky projects through the complex federal funding process.

Earlier this year, Congressman Rogers secured nearly \$10 million in earmarks for community projects in Eastern Kentucky, as part of the fiscal year 2022 Omnibus Appropriations Bill, which became law in March.

Ball

However, it was too late to overcome the two-run lead Whitley County had. The Colonels won the first round of the tournament with a score of 4-2.

This General baseball team was the first in Jackson County High School history to win the 13th Region All A Championship. The team has played hard and done well enough to make it to the 13th Region Tournament three out of the last four years.

Audit

closed. That’s a total of 295 complaints filed for the 2022 primary season.

For comparison, Cameron says 330 complaints were filed during the 2020 primary season.

Cameron says as a result of this year’s complaints, three

criminal investigations have been opened. But he confirms this is not abnormal. This does happen.

And on top of this all, Cameron picked counties at random to audit their elections.

“We want to make sure our elections are secure and part of this process that has been established is doing these random post-election audits. Now, I will tell you that legislature decided to audit and expand the random audits that happen post-election. So, now we’ve done 12. In the past we have done 6,” said Cameron.

According to Cameron, along with Jackson County, the counties that will be audited are Nicholas, Monroe, Graves, Metcalfe, Hopkins, Pendleton, Boyd, Madison, Powell, Rockcastle, and Grayson. His office said the audits will take approximately a month and the results will be made public. The audits will be conducted by the Attorney General’s Department of Criminal Investigations (DCI).

Judge

on the Transcontinental Bike Route, visit one of our many music festivals, enjoy one of our many public parks or take a car trip on the soon coming Freedom Ridge car tour. This is just a few of the highlights of what Jackson County has to offer to vacationers and thrill seekers this year. The bed and breakfast and local owned lodging industry is rapidly growing and we have many places of lodging for tourist. If you would like to learn more about the tourism industry in Jackson County visit, www.visitjacksoncounty.org.

About three years ago, I was asked to serve on the Eastern Kentucky Concentrated Employment Program Board of Directors. The EKCEP was created after the rapid decline of the coal industry in Eastern Kentucky. This led to many displaced workers with no opportunities of careers or gainful employment. Under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA), EKCEP administers programs that help adults looking

for work, workers who have been dislocated from their jobs, and economically disadvantaged young people.

WIOA assistance ranges from career counseling and job search assistance to paying for tuition and providing on-the-job training opportunities. EKCEP operates the Kentucky Career Center JobSight network of workforce centers, which provide access to more than a dozen state and federal programs that offer employment and training assistance for jobseekers and employers all under one roof.

One of my main focuses, since coming in office, has been trying to develop jobs in Jackson County. We have had great success with companies like Teleworks, which has employed over 500 people in our county since starting in 2014. Teleworks is a work from home program that many have taken advantage of. We have several small manufacturers that are operating in our Industrial Parks and are doing well. My hopes are we can land a big manufacturer someday in Jackson County but this takes time and it is a highly competitive process. We have to prove that we have the people to fill these big jobs before the big manufacturers will come. It’s more than just making a phone call or a visit. Its a process that involves a lot of local and private investment. This is why I set on boards like EKCEP. I want to take advantage of every opportunity I can in hopes to land a big company for our people.

Last week, I received a call that I had been elected Chairman of the EKCEP Board of Directors. I am honored to do so as EKCEP basically covers every county east of Rockcastle County. I am hopeful by setting in this position I will be able to present the opportunities Jackson County and our citizens have at offering a quality workforce as well as work to better our neighboring counties in Eastern Kentucky at the same time gaining useful information on training and career development opportunities for our people.

I enjoy the opportunity to highlight our county every chance I get. Have a blessed week.

Update

to have a rich military history. It is deeply woven into the fabric bounding this beautiful Commonwealth together. Kentuckians’ call to service dates back further than even our nation’s, as the pioneers who called the Kentucky territory home fought with great distinction in the French and Indian War. It continued through the American Revolution and into the 19th century when more of our soldiers fought than any other state in the War of 1812. Kentucky patriots have pushed back against the forces of evil around the world—leading the fight in the Pacific, in Europe, and in the Middle East—to keep this country safe. They made the ultimate sacrifice so that the greater good could prevail.

Kentuckians know freedom’s price. In fact, the Medal of Honor, the military’s highest recognition, has been awarded to a total of 60 Kentuckians. That is why, on this and so many other memorial days, we remember. And as we remember, I’d like to share a few stories lost in time about heroes who donned camouflage and gave their lives in the cause of freedom. Morris E. Crain, Technical Sergeant, U.S. Army, of Ballard County, received the Medal of Honor for his actions during the final days of World War II. Facing powerful German forces across the Moder River in France, Crain’s outstanding valor helped Americans preserve the hard-won bridgehead. The Americans fell back from the house to house as the Germans pressed forward. When a house defended by some of his men came under deadly fire, he ordered his men to retreat. He held the position alone while bullets crashed through the walls and hit all around him until the enemy destroyed the building.

John W. Collier, Corporal, U.S. Army received the Medal of Honor for his bravery in the breakout of the Pusan Perimeter during the

Korean War. The Greenup County native and three fellow infantrymen volunteered and moved forward to neutralize an enemy machine-gun position which was hampering the company’s advance, but they were halted twice. On the third attempt, Collier exposed himself ahead of his comrades and destroyed the enemy’s machine-gun nest despite heavy barrages of fire. After rejoining his squad, an enemy grenade landed in their midst. Shouting a warning, he unhesitatingly threw himself upon the grenade and selflessly smothered its explosion, saving the others from death or injury.

Joe C. Paul, Lance Corporal, U.S. Marine Corps, went beyond the call of duty in the Vietnam War. The Whitley Countian received the Medal of Honor for his heroic actions that saved the lives of several fellow Marines. In a violent battle where his platoon was pinned down, wounded marines could not move from their exposed positions and rejoin the rest of their platoon. Facing almost certain death, Paul chose to disregard his safety and boldly dashed across the fire-swept rice paddies, placed himself between his wounded comrades and the enemy, and delivered suppressive fire. He continued to divert the Viet Cong long enough for others to evacuate, remaining in his exposed position until mortally wounded.

America truly is the land of the free and the home of the brave because of the noble sacrifice of others to keep us safe. Without them, we would not be afforded the rights we have today. As we all enjoy an extended weekend with friends and family, let us take time to reflect on these men and women who gave everything they had to preserve our rights and protect our country.

As always, I can be reached through the toll-free message line in Frankfort at 1-800-372-7181. Feel free to contact me via email at Timmy.Truett@lrc.ky.gov. If you would like more information, please visit the LRC website www.legislature.ky.gov.

**Thank You From Billy Ray Isaacs
Constable Elect District #3**



I would like to thank everyone for your vote of confidence in electing me constable in the May Primary. I will do the best of my ability to serve you in the way you deserve.

Paid for by Billy Ray Isaacs.

Spring is Here
It's Time for a new Style!
Call us or stop by for an appointment with Donna, Erica or our new stylist, Shay
Donna's Cut & Curl
5346 Highway 30 W, Annville, KY
(606) 364-2426