

**Solar**

and waste water treatment organizations.

“These projects represent innovative initiatives that provide long-term benefits to the citizens of Kentucky,” said Sec. Snively. “Some projects build upon existing programs that have already demonstrated the value of investments in energy efficiency while other projects integrate new technologies and practices in areas that support infrastructure in local communities.”

Grant funds are provided under a 2011 settlement agreement for a Clean Air Act violation. The settlement required the permittee to invest in new and upgraded state-of-the-art pollution controls that will reduce pollution, save energy and protect public health and the environment. Kentucky received \$11.2 million to implement environmental mitigation projects.

Kentucky’s Energy and Environment Cabinet issued a request for proposals early this year to award unused funds from the 2011 settlement.

The organizations, projects or programs that have received grants are:

- Botanica Inc. (Waterfront Botanical Gardens), \$375,000 for Botanica Inc. to support the development of a net zero energy visitor education center at the Waterfront Botanical Gardens.

- Butler County Water System, \$37,000 to support an energy efficiency project at the Butler County Water Treatment Plant. The project involves increasing the energy efficiency of the pumps, which are a major cost center of the water treatment plant.

- Kentucky Department for Local Government (DLG), \$375,000 to provide continuing support to local governments to undertake comprehensive energy efficiency projects to help save valuable local resources.

- Jackson Energy Cooperative, \$28,540 in support of a solar plus energy storage demonstration project at the corporate offices in McKee, Kentucky. The demonstration system will allow Jackson Energy to assess effects on peak demand, grid stabilization, power factor correction, and infrastructure cost avoidance.

- Owsley County Board of Education, \$335,896 for an energy project at the Owsley County Elementary School. The project involves energy efficiency improvements coupled with on-site solar generation to reduce the energy consumption

at the school and save money for the district.

- University of Louisville Research Foundation, Inc., \$105,426 for the University of Louisville, Kentucky Pollution Prevention Center, to implement a building operator certification program. The program will train and certify facility managers on building operations to achieve energy savings.

- Warren County Public Schools, \$375,000 to support solar installations on net zero ready or ENERGY STAR certified schools.

**UNITE**

determines the future,” said Senior and camp team leader Chase Gilbert.

Gilbert is from McKee said he first attended the camp in 2012, when he was in sixth grade. Months after his first camp experience, Gilbert witnessed firsthand what drug abuse can do.

“My dad had been addicted to prescription pills... Well after camp, in September, my dad passed away from a heart attack and the drug abuse,” Gilbert said.

Since then he has remained close with those he attended his first camp with and said they were even some of the first friends to reach out to him during the tough time. This camp it is my personal story, it is a part of me,” he said.

UNITE President Nancy Hale said sharing stories is what keeps the kids connected to one another.

“Some of them who felt like they were alone in having to make a stand to not use drugs thought that they were the only one. There are many other people who are making that choice,” Hale said.

This year’s camp theme is Hero of Hope, a slogan camp leaders think will show campers how to positively share a message against drugs, no matter how young they are.

Hale said one of the most important lessons campers can learn from the camp, is that there is someone they can look up to for guidance.

“If you want to know how to live your life, look at us, we’re going to help you see how to model your life and make a life of positive choices and make a life that is drug free.” Hale said.

According to Dale Morton from UNITE The 11th annual Camp UNITE, held July 25-28, 2017, at the University of the Cumberland, was attended by 225 campers from 28 counties – the largest ever! Camp utilized the leadership of 229

youth and adult volunteers.

Activities during camp are designed to develop leadership and communication skills, promote teamwork and problem solving, instill confidence and trust, and let youth know they do not have to face difficult situations on their own. Transportation to and from camp is provided free of charge if needed.

Since its inception in 2007, through 2017, Camp UNITE has hosted 2,155 youth from 33 counties.

**Trail**

In a related discussion, EMT training is needed on how to handle emergencies on Jackson County trails. Steve Barbour, Executive Director of Sheltoe Trace Association expressed an interest in coming to Jackson County to train our EMT staff on how to locate and treat folks who use the trails in an emergency. Several members of the Trail Town Committee attended a Sheltoe Trace Association meeting last week in Livingston, KY.

Barbour commented, “A lot of work needs to be done on the trails in Jackson County, there are many puddles of standing water that need to be drained.” Any problems with the trails can be reported on the Sheltoe Trace website which is www.sheltoeetrace.com.

Erik Wiggs made a motion at the Trail Town meeting that we provide an opportunity for local citizens and church groups to, “Adopt” part of the Sheltoe Trace Trail as a clean-up effort.

“We could offer this at our Jackson County Fair booth which could be made an interactive booth with a game to draw folk’s attention to our booth,” said Donna Bowling who seconded the “Adopt a Trail” motion.

“We could also approach businesses and clubs in Jackson County for donations to help fund Trail town projects,” said Jerry Bowling, Trail town Treasurer.

Brad Minter of S & T Hardware in McKee is going to begin stocking some bicycle parts to assist the many bicyclists that come through McKee on the TransAmerica Bicycle Route.

Minter commented, “I will provide a 5x6 space in my store dedicated to bicycle parts and stocking Sheltoe Trace maps.”

Judy Schmitt suggested we consider the Experience Works program supported by Good Will Industries. This program is used in Mt. Vernon and it pays

senior citizens to man the Welcome Center in that town.

The next Trail town meeting will be held August 10 at 6pm at the old courthouse in McKee. Everyone is welcome to attend.

**Judge**

if we sign a road with a speed limit it may work for some roads but it really depends on the driver. If they don’t respect our community’s they probably want pay attention to a sign. We must try something though before a tragedy happens.

The illegal drug problem is getting worse today as well. The only way to combat this problem is to change the addict and help them break the chains of addiction. I have been working with others in the county trying to get our local Unite Coalition back up and running. Peer pressure is very hard to deal with in today’s society and unfortunately several kids feel like they must fit in to be accepted but that’s not right. Everyone is unique in some way so we need to educate them on the dangers of these drugs before they become an addict. It only takes one time of using meth to hook a person on it. There are two ways to get away from drugs, death or change. I want to see people change. No matter how much we think it is drug use is not just a law enforcement problem it’s a social problem. You can’t arrest your way out of drug problems. Recovery is the answer. If you would like to get involved in educating our communities on the dangers of illegal drug use feel free to contact me. We must come to gether to make the change.

Things are running good in my office. We are working on economic development and still looking for opportunities to grow and prosper our County. I’m hoping that this year will be a lot better than last. We desire your prayers. God Bless.

**Sheriff**

characteristics of people with whom you should avoid close friendships.

Avoid becoming close friends with a total gossip. A gossip is never short for words and rarely let the facts stand in the way of a story, but they can cause damage that can last a lifetime. Their words usually only hurt people and rarely lead to positive results. It is also dangerous to become too close to a person who cannot control his/her temper. Few people make sound decisions when they cannot control their temper. Their actions can certainly effect their friends who happen to be around when they lose control. Be careful with people who are malcontents or disloyal people. A faithful friend is enjoyable to be around and will stand with you through trying times. A true friend does not go along with the wrong things in life, but will try to help their friend find a way back to the right path. Self-indulgent people think only of themselves and their personal pleasure. Avoid relationships with people who care only for themselves. They will step right on you to get what they want out of life.

Conversely, to find true friends, look for people with common interests. Look for people who think more of others than themselves. Seek friends who sacrifice for others

and commit spiritually to the growth of others. Be loyal to your friends as they are loyal to you. We are a constant influence on others, either good or bad. Surround yourself with people who seek higher things, who commits to make those around them better and who are willing to work toward that high mark. The result will be friendships that will last through the ages and relationships that will make this world a better place in which to live.

Camp UNITE was a tremendous success again this year. The Jackson County Sheriff’s Office transported seven local students to and from University of the Cumberland where they learned how to become a “Positive Example”. In all, 225 students from all over Eastern and South-Central Kentucky enjoyed the thrill of a lifetime at Camp UNITE. Additionally, there were several counselors from Jackson County that made an enormous difference in the lives of these students. We believe this experience may help these students stay away from the scourge of drug addiction as they become true role models in our schools. The Jackson County Sheriff’s Office is proud to support such a fantastic effort as we partner with Operation UNITE.

Last week the Jackson County Sheriff’s Office responded to 71 calls for service. We investigate 4 traffic accidents, opened six criminal cases and arrested 5 individuals. We appreciate the support from our citizens as we continue to work hard to make Jackson County a wonderful place to live. Thank you.

**Got Woodlands?**  
Learn how to care for them at the:

**Woodland Owners Short Course**  
August 12 - Laurel County  
Laurel Co. Extension Office, 200 County Extension Rd.  
Plus a field tour of BPM Lumber Mill

Learn:

- How to ID trees
- Timber Sales
- Hunt Leasing
- Wildlife Management
- Control Invasives Species
- Much More!

Program begins at 9 a.m. with registration at 8:30 a.m. Two program tracks to choose from -- check the website for more details.

Registration is \$20. Couples \$30.  
To register, visit [www.ukforestry.org](http://www.ukforestry.org) or call **UK Forestry Extension** at 859.257.7597.

Can't attend August 12? There will be another Short Course in Kenton Co. on Sept. 23!

University of Kentucky  
Cooperative Extension Service  
College of Agriculture, Food and Environment  
Forestry Extension