



## August E-News

### Hodgenville Prepares for Bicentennial Celebration

Downtown Hodgenville is getting a whole new look, just in time for the Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial celebration, which officially begins in early 2008.

"At this point, we're about 85 percent complete," said Hodgenville Mayor Terry Cruse. "Things are starting to take shape and it's looking very good."



The more than \$2.3-million project includes a complete renovation of the town square with a new streetscape and central park area. An historical church located near the square is being converted into a civic center. A statue depicting a young Abraham Lincoln will be installed in spring 2008.

Funding for the project came from several sources, including grants from both the national and state Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commissions.

"We're changing the entire look of the downtown in terms of landscaping," said Cruse. "It's a very exciting time."

The eyes of the nation will be on Hodgenville on February 12, 2008, as the site of the bicentennial kick-off commemorating the 200th anniversary of Lincoln's birth. Hodgenville is the seat of Larue County and is home to the Abraham Lincoln Birthplace National Historic Site, the Lincoln Museum, and the Lincoln Boyhood Home on Knob Creek.

For more information, visit the [City of Hodgenville's Web site](#) and [Larue County's Web site](#).

## Lincoln Bicentennial Grant Funds Now Available

A multiagency grant program is available through the Kentucky Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission (KALBC). The grants are intended to help raise public awareness that Kentucky was Lincoln's birthplace and that Kentucky and Kentuckians continued to play a significant role in his life and political career.

Grants funded by the commission are being administered by the Kentucky Humanities Council, the Kentucky Arts Council, the Kentucky Heritage Council, and the Kentucky Historical Society. This is the program's second year. In fiscal year 2007, more than 70 grants totaling nearly \$1 million was distributed to groups and organizations across the commonwealth.

Projects funded through these grants include special events, legacy projects, diversity and multicultural programs, exhibits, history and heritage programs, preservation projects, musical and theatre presentations, on-line exhibits and Web sites, programs for school children, teacher training, heritage tourism development projects, and Lincoln site assessments.



For information about the fiscal year 2008 grant program, see below:

### [Kentucky Arts Council](#)

**Grant Program Status:** Active

**Application Deadline:** Intent to Apply: September 15, 2007; Full Application: October 15, 2007

**Notification:** January 2008

### [Kentucky Heritage Council](#)

**Grant Program Status:** Active

**Application Deadline:** November 16, 2007

**Notification:** January 2008

### [Kentucky Historical Society](#)

**Grant Program Status:** Active

**Application Deadline:** November 1, 2007

**Notification:** December 15, 2007

### [Kentucky Humanities Council](#)

**Grant Program Status:** Active

**Application Deadline:** Minigrants: 1st of any month and at least 8 weeks before your program. Major Grants: Preliminary - August 20, 2007; Final Proposal - September 20, 2007.

**Notification:** Minigrants: Last day of each month; Major Grants: End of November 2007

## Second Annual Walk Through Lincoln's Life

The Abraham Lincoln Birthplace National Historic Site in Hodgenville is offering students an opportunity to walk through Lincoln's life, in the form of a free living-history event set for 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Wednesday, September 12.

While the event is geared toward students, the public is also invited to attend, according to Sandy Brue, chief of interpretation for the site. Schools and larger groups are asked to contact Stephen Brown at 270- 358-3137 to make reservations.



Costumed Chautauqua characters from the Kentucky Humanities Council will present performances throughout the day. Characters include Abraham Lincoln, Mary Todd Lincoln, Henry Clay, and Margaret Garner, a Kentucky slave who ran away and when caught, killed one of her

own children rather than see the child returned to slavery.

Musicians will perform on period instruments and other demonstrations will be ongoing throughout the day. Basket-making, yarn spinning, rail splitting, and blacksmithing will be featured. A Union military encampment with soldiers in period dress will be also be located on the grounds.

## Looking Back, Moving Forward

The Friends of the Network to Freedom Association will hold its inaugural conference September 10-15 at the Underground Railroad Research Institute (UGRRI) at Georgetown College.

The UGRRI's mission is to assist in the preservation and interpretation of Underground Railroad sites in the United States, Canada, Mexico, and the Caribbean. It works closely with the National Park Service (NPS), the Kentucky Heritage Council, the State Historic Preservation Office, and the United States Department of Education.

One of the goals of the conference is to form a friends group for the NPS Network to Freedom Program, according to Alicestyne Adams, director of the UGRRI. The Network to Freedom Program is in the process of developing a network of sites, programs, and facilities that have documented associations to the Underground Railroad.

"Right now there are 300 of those locations [Underground Railroad sites] around the country," said Adams. "But they don't operate as a unit."

The five day conference will include:

- Bus tours of Kentucky Underground Railroad and Abraham Lincoln sites
- NPS Network to Freedom application review for sites, programs, and facilities
- Roundtable discussions dealing with Underground Railroad issues

Camp Nelson in Nicholasville is one of the sites that will be considered for designation as an official Underground Railroad site.

"When these sites are accepted into the network, it means that there has been diligent research done that shows escapes from or to these sites have happened," said Adams.

Registration for the conference is now open, with a preregistration discount available until August 31. The cost is \$85 per guest. Discounts are available to members of the Friends of the Network Freedom Association. For more information, see the [UGRRI's Web site](#).

## Other News

- **Battle of Richmond Reenactment Weekend**, August 25-26, Richmond. Watch the reenactment of the August 1862 battle. The camp opens at 10 a.m. both days, with the battle starting at 2 p.m. each day. For more information, call 859-623-1720 or visit the [Battle of Richmond Web site](#).
- **Kentucky Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission meeting**, 1 p.m. August 27, Springfield Opera House, Springfield.
- **Kentucky Music and the Lincoln Family**, 6 p.m. September 3, White Hall in Richmond. The Lexington Philharmonic and dancers from the Lexington Vintage Society will offer a unique glimpse into the music and dance that would have been performed in Kentucky during the lifetime of Abraham Lincoln. Free admission. For more information, call 859-233-4226.
- **Camp Nelson Civil War Days**, September 8-9, Nicholasville. Experience military and civilian life during the Civil War. Gates open at 9 a.m. For more information, call 859-492-3115 or visit [Camp Nelson's Web site](#).

- **Kentucky Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission College Task Force Meeting**, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., September 17. For more information, call Jeanine Scott at 502-564-1792, ext. 4467.

Kentucky Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission Members List	Kentucky Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission Advisory Council List
<p style="text-align: center;"> Kent Masterson Brown  Dr. Anne Butler  Kimberly Clay  Mayor Terry Cruse  Senator Carroll Gibson  Sally Hamilton  Senator Dan Kelly (cochair)  Iris LaRue  Donna M. Neary  James Ott  Steve Price  Keith Pruitt  Dr. Winfield Rose  Andrea Saylor  Representative Dottie Sims  Will Terwort  Garnett Thurman, Jr.  Judge Executive Tommy Turner (cochair)  Kent Whitworth  Representative Brent Yonts </p>	<p style="text-align: center;"> Alicestyne Adams  Eric Brooks  Sandy Brue  Thomas Caradonio  Virginia Flanagan  Mayor Mike Haydon  Brooks Howard  Shae Hopkins  Kim Jefferson  Colonel Arthur Kelly  Daniel C. Kelly III  Dr. John Kleber  Dr. James Klotter  Steven T. McMurtry  Lori Meadows  Judge Paul Patton  Dr. Judy Pierce  Dr. James Ramage  Dr. Paul Tenkotte  Gwen Thompson  Dr. Mary Sias  Senator Katie Stine </p>

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