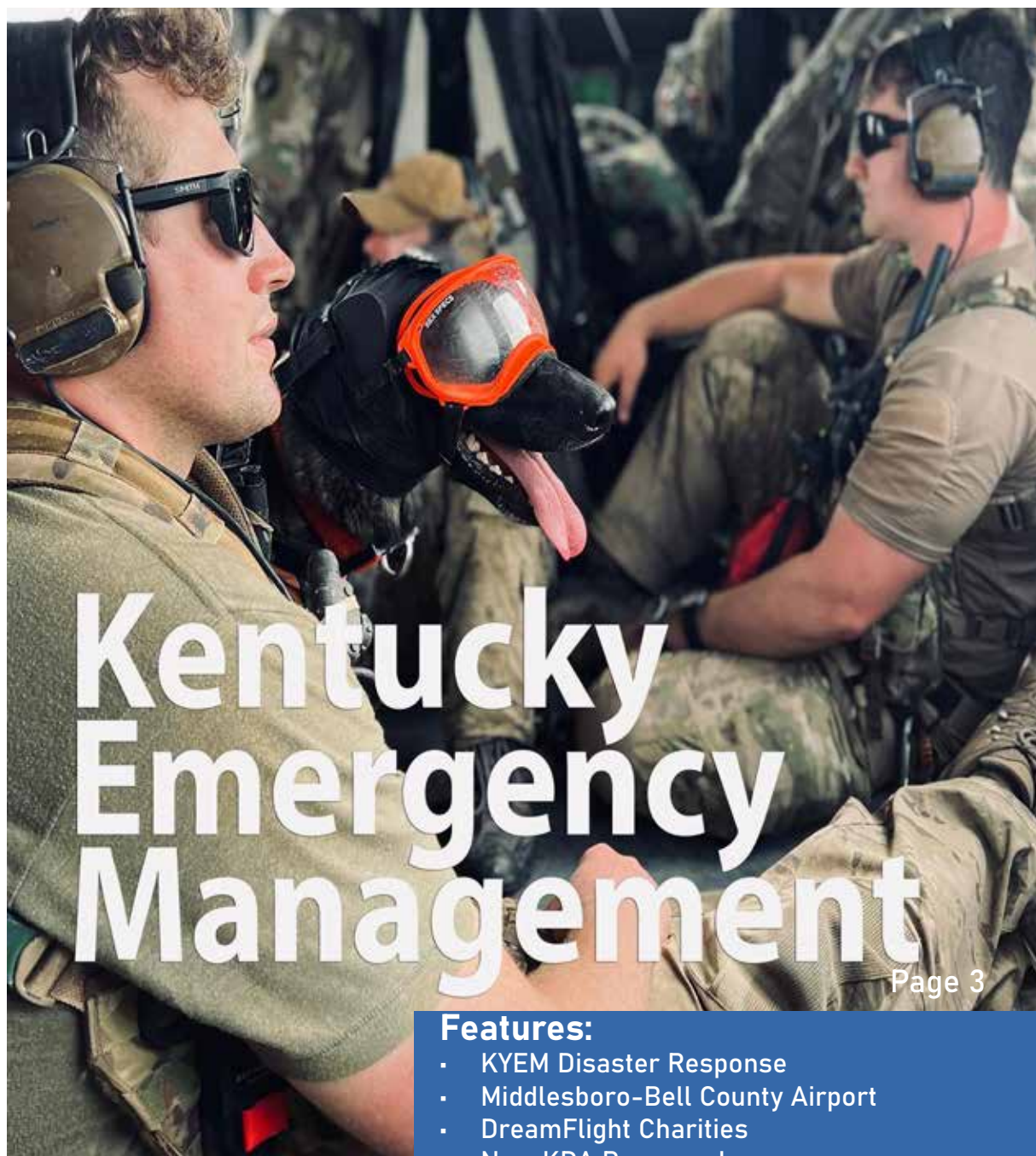


Spring 2023

# THE RUNWAY

Kentucky Department of Aviation



## Kentucky Emergency Management

Page 3

### Features:

- KYEM Disaster Response
- Middlesboro-Bell County Airport
- DreamFlight Charities
- New KDA Personnel
- KTC Hall of Fame Aviation Inductee
- Inspection Schedules
- ...and more



### AIRPORT NEWS

Page 5



### PROJECTS

Page 8



### ZONING

Page 10



### EVENTS

Page 15

# LETTER FROM THE COMMISSIONER



**Commissioner Carter and the 1917 Curtiss Jenny located at BWG Airport**

Last fall, I witnessed the aftermath of Hurricane Ian in Florida as my father is a long-time Fort Myers resident. Though he experienced some hardships, he was safe and sound and fared better than fellow Floridians. Ian served as just another reminder of the devastation Kentuckians experienced in Eastern and Western Kentucky following record-setting tornadoes and floods. The natural disasters brought one important observation to light – the value of aviation.

General aviation airports in Kentucky played a major role in response activities. Far from the capital and emergency response headquarters in Frankfort, Mayfield and Bremen in Western part Kentucky were the sites of key operations. Airport leaders in Mayfield, Princeton, and Madisonville had runways and ramps clear within hours of the storms' passing. They were critical access points for emergency personnel, needed supplies, and evacuation of those with severe injuries. In the east, mountainous terrain, wide-spread flooding, and washed-out roads and bridges also made our airports mission critical. Big Sandy, Hazard, Harlan, and London airports became emergency management base stations and were the

only means of entry for some areas during the flooding rescue efforts. Among the heroes in the response are those airport leaders in Eastern Kentucky.

Disaster preparedness isn't something all citizens think about, entrusting that responsibility to Kentucky Emergency Management and other government agencies. These natural disasters show the return on investment of maintaining and supporting Kentucky airports. I'm honored to lead the aviation system in Kentucky. Working with our airports, their local leaders and volunteers, and our excellent staff here in the KDA has been a great experience, especially when you see them rise to the occasion as they did during weather disasters.

Best wishes to you and yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'MBC'.

**Mark Carter  
Commissioner  
Kentucky Department of Aviation**



**Commissioner Carter poses with his Beechcraft Bonanza**



# KENTUCKY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT



Representatives from the supporting agencies during the July flood in Eastern Kentucky. KYEM, KYNG, KSP Aviation, Fish & Wildlife, SAR 123rd Special Tactics Squadron (Photo by: Jesse Elbouab)

## ABOVE DISASTER: HOW TEAM KENTUCKY & KYEM UNITED AVIATION EFFORTS IN 2022 EASTERN KENTUCKY FLOOD RESPONSE

**BY: JESSE ELBOUAB, KYEM, PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER**

FRANKFORT, Ky. – In the dark morning hours of July 29th, our neighbors in communities across Eastern Kentucky found themselves seeking high ground as the region began experiencing a catastrophic flood unlike any other they have experienced in the last century.

It was immediately evident that focusing rescue efforts via roadways would not be the most effective solution for saving lives due to the topography of Eastern Kentucky.

“Governor Andy Beshear and Kentucky Emergency Management knew right out of the gate that we would have to deploy every air asset we could find in the region, and we needed it fast,” said Kentucky Emergency Management Director, Col. Jeremy Slinker. “We wasted no time thinking outside the box from past emergency response efforts.”

The Kentucky National Guard, Kentucky State Police, Fish and Wildlife, multiple search and rescue (SAR) teams and West Virginia and Tennessee National Guard assets were some of the first in the region. They began surveilling the area from land, water, and air.

The response effort in Eastern Kentucky was flight centralized. While hoist rescues, survivor

transports and emergency supply distribution are common visuals on media platforms nationwide, the use of aircraft in the region expanded beyond these efforts.

Another primary use of the equipment was to rapidly move ground/boating units from location to location. The National Guard UH-60 or Blackhawk would drop boat crews, along with their equipment, into valleys otherwise inaccessible.

Over 1400 rescues were made by first responders immediately following the historic flood.

The Wendell H. Ford Airport in Chavies, Kentucky, played a crucial role in the initial phase of this disaster, acting not only as a flight facility but as a place of refuge for survivors and first responders.

“Without the staff and volunteers at the Wendell H Ford airport, there is no way our crew and all the other first responders could have pushed for as long and as hard as we did,” said Col. Dewayne Lewis, Joint Support Operations Commander and State Army Aviation Officer for the Kentucky National Guard.

# KENTUCKY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT (CONT.)



**KSP Special Response team on a mission to help support locals effected by the July flood in Eastern Kentucky**



**Waste Management employees cleaning up debris from July's flood in Eastern Kentucky**

"At one point, five ambulances were parked on the flight line. We would touch down, move survivors to safety and lift off for another search. The airport provided us with food, water, snacks, and a place to recharge when necessary to push forward," Lewis added.

The airport also served as a host to survivors needing non-life threatening medical attention, ground hospital transportation, and a place for loved ones to reconnect.

Doubling as a distribution center in the early weeks that followed, the Wendell H Ford Airport housed water and food that would be delivered by air across the region to homes isolated by washed out bridges and roadways.

"The Kentucky State Police Aircraft Branch was honored and humbled to assist in the aviation rescues in Eastern Kentucky. It was a monumental effort from numerous aviation agencies, search and rescue organizations, and police officers on the ground. At one point, there were nine helicopters operating in tandem within tight air space of each other," said Captain Brad Austin, Kentucky State Police Aircraft Support Branch.

Kentucky Emergency Management, in many ways, operates like the communities of Appalachia. When we need help, we go to our neighbor. When our neighbors need help, we answer the call.

Relationships across agencies, cabinets, and even state lines are crucial in the ability to

get people the help they need, as fast and as effective as possible.

The relationship we continue to develop with Capital City Airport here in Frankfort, Ky, and Wendell H Ford Airport is evidence that working together for the best of the commonwealth is something, as Kentuckians, we do without question.

"Rescue, recovery, and ultimately rebuilding are built on the foundation of relationships," Slinker added. "Regardless of what challenges Kentucky faces in the future, I am confident we can overcome them by working together."



**K9 Callie, providing support to the Kentucky National Guard during the July flood in Eastern Kentucky**



# AIRPORT NEWS



Middlesboro-Bell County Airport FBO



Aerial shot of Middlesboro-Bell County Airport

## MIDDLESBORO-BELL COUNTY AIRPORT

In this edition, we'd like to spotlight Middlesboro-Bell County Airport and the beautiful city of Middlesboro. This small but mighty airport hopes to implement a flight school for locals and aviation enthusiasts to pursue a career or hobby in aviation. We think Middlesboro-Bell County Airport should be on your radar!

Like many general aviation airports around the state, the airport is run by a board of 10 volunteers—five appointed by the county and five appointed by the city. This airport operates without an airport manager and is funded mainly by fuel purchases and hangar revenue.

An interesting fact about Middlesboro is that the town and the airport lie within a meteor impact crater from some 300 million years ago. It wasn't until 1966 that scientists determined that the valley was the site of an impact by a meteor estimated to be approximately 300' in diameter. While the crater's depression can make for a challenging approach to a new pilot, it should definitely be on your list of Kentucky airports to land.

Situated in the Appalachian Mountains, between Pine Mountain and the Cumberland Mountains, this location makes up a small feature of the Cumberland Gap. If you're a history buff or native Kentuckian, you know that the Cumberland Gap was a critical passage for early Kentucky and Ohio Valley settlers. Many traveling along the Cumberland Gap would have found it impossible to proceed had it not been for the crater, which provided a terrain suitable for livestock carrying goods. We encourage you to fly on over and see this crater for yourself!

Inside the airport's FBO, you will find a spacious lobby with comfortable seating. Upstairs is another seating area with a beautiful view of the runway. These accommodations include a fully equipped kitchen, bathroom with shower, and a pull-out couch if someone needs to stay the night, all free of charge. The airport also offers a courtesy car.

Glynna Brown, the airport board chairperson, pilot and notably the biggest cheerleader for the Middlesboro Airport has truly poured her heart and soul into making this airport feel like a home away from home. Glynna understands the importance of airport engagement and how the facility adds value to the local community and economy.

Glynna isn't just looking to promote her community, but to promote and advance aviation education there as well.

Middlesboro Airport has hopes to work alongside the local secondary schools to incorporate an on-field flight school/training.

Currently, [Southeastern Kentucky College](#) sits just across the runway of Middlesboro-Bell County Airport. They offer a two-semester aviation program in partnership with [Eastern Kentucky University](#). This program gives individuals two aviation certification options. A private pilot ground school certificate and/or a private pilot certification.

Whether you are looking to further your career in aviation, or just looking for an interesting place to visit, the airport of Middlesboro-Bell County is home to a thriving community steeped in Kentucky's rich history. We encourage all aviation enthusiasts to fly in, get a first-hand look at the crater, and explore what this little town has to offer.

# DREAMFLIGHT CHARITIES



Instructor, Ron Royer, reviews engine components with scholarship recipients Jackson Erwin, Rafael Angel, and Joshua Blackwell

## BIG DREAMS IN AVIATION

With its aviation and aerospace industry growing, Kentucky has yet to realize its greatest potential. Formed in late 2021, DreamFlight Charities seeks to engage the next generation of aviators while highlighting the many opportunities the Bluegrass State has to offer. In removing barriers and in developing or providing support for aviation-related STEM programming, the mission of this newly developed non-profit is intended to transcend the cockpit.

“We want to take a holistic approach to inspiring students throughout Kentucky,” states Executive Director, Drew Underwood. “Our goal is to encourage young minds to apply themselves and to realize that more often than not the only limitation to their dreams is themselves.”

Since receiving its non-profit designation, DreamFlight Charities has hosted numerous discovery flight events, providing flight training scholarships to students from Campbellsville, Danville, and Lexington. In looking toward 2023, goals include further expanding similar opportunities to more rural areas

of the state. This also entails fostering an interest in aviation at an earlier age, something that DreamFlight looks to accomplish through its developing mobile aviation camps.

Of their more ambitious goals, DreamFlight hopes to aid school districts across the Commonwealth in developing sustainable aviation-related STEM programs. “From providing online ground school instruction to helping fund and facilitate kit-plane builds, we hope to point students toward every aspect of our state’s aviation industry,” states Underwood. And, with pilot and mechanic shortages being felt nationwide, opportunities are seemingly endless in engaging in the aviation industry in some way.

“We want to better benefit our local communities where we live and work,” he continues. “We are even working on other programs to highlight our general aviation airports and help Kentuckians realize what a great asset they truly are.” Drew said.

With such a broad approach, there is a great need for volunteers and creative partnerships with like-minded organizations. “The task at hand is pretty daunting but, working together, we can create an empowering experience that will shape our aviation community for years to come.”

More information about DreamFlight Charities can be found online at [www.dreamflightcharities.org](http://www.dreamflightcharities.org), or by contacting Drew Underwood at 270.849.5765.



Student, Evie Sapp, refuels her training aircraft before a flight



Student, Joshua Blackwell, performing a preflight inspection



Many agencies utilize our Fleet Services to carry out missions such as eagle and bear flights, fire spotting, and transportation of staff and elected officials.

The Department of Aviation's Capital City Airport Division provides safe and cost-effective in-state and out-of-state transportation for state employees. Elected officials and state employees are encouraged to utilize state aircraft whenever conducting official business and when time is essential. Flying increases employee productivity and is often the more affordable when comparing driving time, lodging and meal expenses.

## WHO CAN CHARTER THE STATE AIRCRAFT?

Any state agency personnel, elected officials, Kentucky Universities and Community & Technical College System staff and people doing business with the state.

## HOW DO I SCHEDULE A FLIGHT?

Four easy steps can be found on our website at <https://transportation.ky.gov/Aviation/Pages/fleet.aspx>



# CURRENT PROJECTS

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## GALLATIN AIRPORT UPDATE

Progress continues on constructing the 58th general aviation airport in Sparta- less than three miles from the Kentucky Speedway. The runway, taxiway and apron paving are complete. Runways 06 and 24 are each 5000ft long and 75ft wide. The lighting phase of the project will begin in the Spring of 2023.

While targeted to open this summer, a state-funded terminal and fuel system are expected to be under construction by the fall of 2023.



## MADISONVILLE AIRPORT'S NEW RUNWAY

The Madisonville Regional Airport runway overlay project is the first project to use a new asphalt specification developed by the Kentucky Department of Aviation. During the design phase of this project, it was discovered that the existing asphalt surface had severe stripping and raveling.

To combat those issues, a polymer-modified chip seal was laid before placing 8,100 tons of an asphalt surface down. The mixture is reinforced with Kevlar fibers. KDA hopes that by developing this new asphalt spec, runway pavements will have a longer life by better sustaining the natural wear and tear incurred on a runway. The runway looks better than ever and is ready for all general aviation and corporate arrivals. Be sure to check out the new runway for yourself.



# PROJECTS (CONT.)



## PROJECT AND FUNDING REPORTING

In recent newsletters, we have listed our projects that were recently closed, as well as those currently open and under construction. To make these projects and our funding more readily available, we have added a section to our KDA website with all our projects, funding, and future requests from airports in the form of Pre-Applications (commonly referred to as Pre-Apps). These are updated the first week of each month.

Visit the webpage here <https://transportation.ky.gov/Aviation/Pages/Projects-and-Funding.aspx>



## AIRPORT PAVEMENT (PCI) MAP

Another feature on our website is airport pavement maps reporting all the general aviation (GA) airport pavement conditions in a convenient dashboard.

Pavement conditions are expressed in a Pavement Condition Index (PCI). The site consists of several levels of access. The first level is public and shows each airport's pavement condition by section of pavement. The second level of access is for airport boards or managers to log in and see the types of projects that would help improve their PCI.

The PCI Maps webpage can be found here: <https://kdapowerpm.garverbi.com/>

For your specific Airport Login ID and Password, send an email to [KYTC.Aviation@ky.gov](mailto:KYTC.Aviation@ky.gov)



# AIRPORT ZONING COMMISSION



A crane near Capital City Airport, FFT, placing an HVAC unit on the roof of a Commonwealth Credit Union building.

## What is Airport Zoning and What Are Examples of It in KY?

Kentucky Airport Zoning protects the airspace over and around (within 20,000 feet or 3 miles) public-use airports, military airports, and private-use airports with a paved runway over 2,900 feet. The Commission's jurisdiction also includes airspace over the Commonwealth that exceeds 200 feet above ground level (AGL). This is done to prevent obstructions to the safety of air navigation in Kentucky.

This is accomplished by the appointment of an Airport Zoning Commission for the Commonwealth. The Commission is comprised of six Commissioners, one Chairperson, and one Administrator. The Commission reviews applications for permits, known as KYTC form TC 55-2, to construct or alter structures. Once a request is received, an aeronautical

study is completed. The Commission reviews the applications, studies, and other supporting documentation six times a year. At each meeting, Commissioners decide to approve or disapprove the requests.

Airport Zoning derives its authority through KRS 183.861 – 183.873 and 602 KAR 50:060.

Applications are divided into two groups: permanent and temporary. Buildings, communication towers, light poles, bridges, etc. intended to exist for more than four months are examples of permanent structures. Cranes, dump trucks, and other construction equipment which will be in place for four months or less are considered temporary structures. Displayed in the photo to the left is a crane working near the airport. Cranes often reach heights much higher than the buildings or structures they service. This may potentially obstruct landing and departing aircraft.

Airport Zoning requires a permit to be submitted for work such as this so it may be determined if the structure creates an obstruction. If it does create an obstruction, the solution may be publishing a NOTAM (Notice to Air Missions), temporarily closing a runway, or relocating the structure if it poses too great of a risk to the airspace and those in it.

The KY Airport Zoning Commission is not the only government organization looking out for the safety of the Commonwealth's airspace. The FAA also governs and regulates airspace. Based on the location and height of the structure, the FAA may also require a permit and perform aeronautical studies.

If you have specific Airport Zoning questions, email the Airport Zoning Administrator, [AirportZoning@ky.gov](mailto:AirportZoning@ky.gov) or call 502-564-0151.



# AIRPORT INSPECTIONS

Based on the chart below, airports can estimate when our inspectors will visit each year.

2023 INSPECTIONS (April-June)		
Zone 4	Zone 5	Zone 6
April	May	June
Bardstown - BRY	Danville - DVK	Cynthiana - 018
Campbellsville - AAS	Monticello - EKQ	Falmouth - K62
Columbia - I96	Pine Knott - 18I	Flemingsburg - FGX
Glasgow - GLW	Richmond - RGA	Frankfort - FFT
Jamestown - K24	Somerset - SME	Georgetown - 27K
Springfield - 6I2	Williamsburg - BYL	Bowman - LOU
Tompkinsville - TZV		Mt. Sterling - IOB
		Stanton - I50

If you have any questions regarding airport inspections, contact our Airport Inspections Manager, Terry Hancock at 502-564-0371.



**Both state and federal inspections include but are not limited to:**

1. Pavement – all pavement areas (runway, taxiway, aprons, vehicle parking, etc.)
2. Airfield Pavement Markings
3. Runway/Taxiway Edge Lighting Systems
4. Fuel Systems – fire extinguishers, spill kits, filter change dates, grounding cables/clamps, after hours/emergency phone numbers, overall condition, and cleanliness
5. Runway and Taxiway Safety Areas
6. FAA Title 14 CFR Part 77 Approach Slopes
7. Navigational Aids; segmented circle, wind cone, beacon, PAPIs, REILs, etc.
8. Overall aesthetics of the airport to include the condition of the U.S. and Commonwealth flags and installation of the Governor's signage

## NEW TO THE KDA TEAM

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### MEET CHRISTIE

Christie Collier is our newly hired Federal Program Specialist in the Aviation Engineering Branch at KDA. Christie is originally from Cynthiana, KY and began her career as a state government employee in 2009 and has over 14 years of experience. Before Christie accepted her position with KDA, she was employed at the Administrative Office of the Courts, in the Judicial Branch serving as the Real Property Manager and spent nine years with a software design company.

Christie resides in Franklin County, has one daughter, Shelby (26) and a granddaughter, Ramey (3), whom she adores spending time with. Christie also enjoys traveling and attending concerts.

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### MEET ANTHONY

Anthony Adams serves as the Administrator for the Kentucky Airport Zoning Commission. Anthony previously served as the Airport Manager for Capital City Airport, FFT, in Frankfort, Kentucky. Anthony served in the U.S. Army and National Guard for 34 years.

He holds a bachelor's degree in English and Philosophy, and obtained his master's in Strategic Studies from the U.S. Army War College. Before working for Capital City Airport-Division, Anthony worked for the Kentucky Department of Military Affairs.

Married for 31 years to his wife Cordelia, Anthony is the father of four young women, Anne-Spicer (29), Stella (27), Ramsey (25), and Sophia (23). Anthony is a collector of Kentucky bourbon and knives and possesses unique knife-throwing skills.





## NEW TO THE KDA TEAM (CONT.)



### MEET ADAM

Adam Kearney is our new airport manager for Capital City Airport (FFT). A retired Lieutenant Colonel of the Kentucky Army National Guard (KYARNG) Aviation, Adam has over 28 years of service and 3000 hours of total flight time. His last position with KYARNG was the Army Aviation Support Facility Commander.

Adam completed multiple aviation company commands, Battalion/ Brigade Staff positions, and Battalion Command.

In Adam's spare time, he enjoys working out and coaching youth sports such as basketball, baseball, and football. Residing in Scott County, Adam has been married for 21 years to his wife, Kelli, and has two children, a son, Jacob (15), and a daughter Kendall (12).



Photo from [infographicjournal.com](http://infographicjournal.com)

### DRONE SAFETY TIPS

#### DO's

- **Register your drone**
- **Fly your drone below 400 feet and in controlled airspace**
- **Keep your drone within your line of sight**
- **Be aware of FAA airspace restrictions**
- **Respect privacy**

#### DONT's

- **Never fly near other aircraft, especially near airports**
- **Never fly over groups of people, public events, or stadiums full of people**
- **Never fly near emergencies unless in direct coordination with authorities**
- **Never fly under the influence of drugs or alcohol**



**FAADronezone.faa.gov**

Register your aircraft using this website if it weighs more than 0.55 lbs. (250 grams) and less than 55 lbs. (25 kg).

## KENTUCKIANS FOR BETTER TRANSPORTATION HALL OF FAME



Brigadier General John Allen, Bobby Craft, Doug Kreis (KTC)

### BOBBY CRAFT

The Department of Aviation was honored to witness the induction of one of aviation's truest friends and supporters, Cynthiana Chairperson Bobby Craft. Bobby was inducted into the Kentucky Transportation Center's Hall of Fame at the Kentuckians for Better Transportation (KBT) annual conference in January of 2023. Below is a small excerpt of the large impact Bobby Craft has had on Aviation in rural Harrison County. KDA would like to thank the KTC for recognizing Bobby and his life's dedication to moving aviation forward in Kentucky.

Bobby Craft has lived his entire life in the areas in and around Harrison County. Although he did not have the opportunity to leave and chase his dream of aviation, he realized his aviation passion in his own community, at the Cynthiana-Harrison County Airport, where he currently serves as the Airport Board Chairman. Bobby has an infectious personality, a strong work ethic, and an unsurpassed dedication to community involvement. After purchasing a partnership in a Cessna 172, he became a fixture at the airport and fully embraced his passion for flying. In 1997, with the facility flooded and mired in financial turmoil, he was named airport manager. Through his leadership, vision, personality, and quiet perseverance, Bobby repaired the airport's financial and infrastructural ruins to create a vibrant community airport. He has worked with local officials and secured numerous grants to enhance the airport's safety.

Spearheading the construction of a terminal building and hangars outside of the floodplain and completing obstruction removal projects to provide safer operations to the flying public. When the airport and city of Cynthiana flooded, he stepped up to help pilots and community members reach safety.

Beyond his leadership as the Airport Board Chairman, Bobby works tirelessly to educate the next generation of pilots and mechanics and open up alternative career paths to young people. For years, Bobby and his

wife Jeana have organized an annual Young Eagles event where kids from around the Cynthiana area have the chance to take their first flight. Harrison County is a leader in supporting Young Eagles and now has one of the best chapters in the Experimental Aircraft Association. The magic and inspiration of these events have inspired several kids to pursue aviation careers of their own. The airport's flying club has also trained countless new pilots. Bobby and Jeana are perfect examples of unsung heroes who quietly but diligently provide aviation access to smaller communities. This access is crucial for building the future of aviation and critical to many lives in the community.





# CALENDAR & EVENTS

## STAY IN THE KNOW

KDA issues an email blast listing upcoming airport and aviation-oriented events across the state. If you are not already on the email list and want to stay up to date, [click here](#) to be added.

## WANT TO PROMOTE AVIATION NEWS AND EVENTS?

We want to help you get the word out!

Keep us informed on any aviation news and events across the state. Send submissions to

[KYTC.Aviation@ky.gov](mailto:KYTC.Aviation@ky.gov)



**Follow Us on Social Media**

**#KYAviation**

Let's Get Connected for Our Latest News & Updates

- on Twitter @KYTCaviation
- on Facebook: Kentucky Department of Aviation
- on Instagram @KYTCaviation
- [www.transportation.ky.gov/aviation](http://www.transportation.ky.gov/aviation)

90 Airport Road, Frankfort, Kentucky | **TEAM KENTUCKY** TRANSPORTATION CABINET | [kytc.aviation@ky.gov](mailto:kytc.aviation@ky.gov)



**2023 AVIATION NEWS & EVENTS**

[CLICK HERE](#)

Sign up for our events newsletter email blast and other Kentucky aviation news!

Visit our webpage or [CLICK HERE!](#)



# THE RUNWAY



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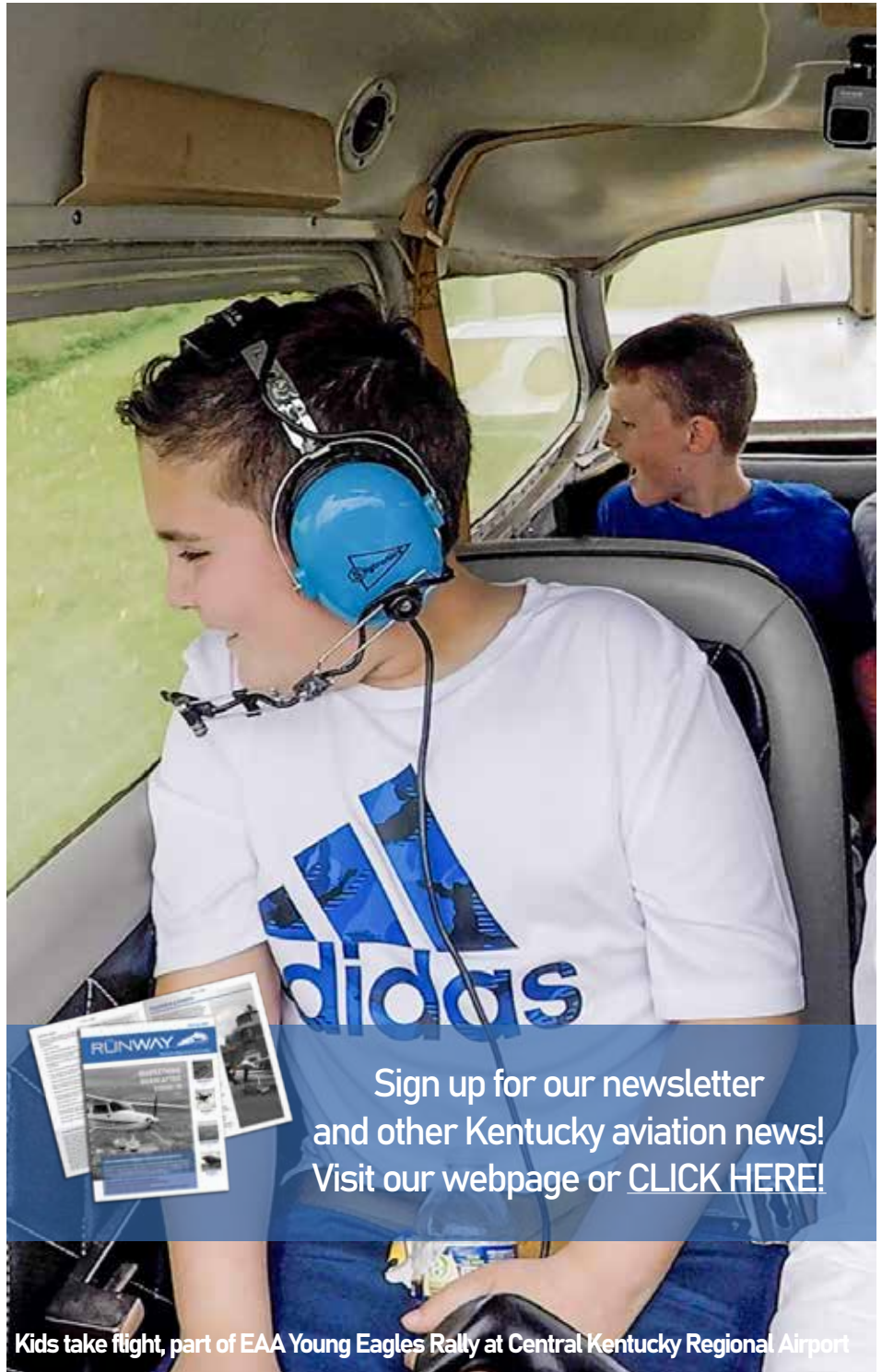
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[transportation.ky.gov/Aviation](http://transportation.ky.gov/Aviation)



Sign up for our newsletter  
and other Kentucky aviation news!  
Visit our webpage or [CLICK HERE!](#)

Kids take flight, part of EAA Young Eagles Rally at Central Kentucky Regional Airport