

Heartland Adult Education Happenings

HARDIN — LARUE — BRECKINRIDGE — HART — GRAYSON



Chris Reed, Director



In this issue:

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- ◆ GED Economic Impact
- ◆ New Name! New Logo!
- ◆ ESL English Immersion

Director's Corner

The Heartland area is undergoing unprecedented economic growth that, according to Gov. Andy Beshear, is "...just the tip of the iceberg." The area has been growing for years, but the touchstone event was the announcement of the impending Blue-Oval SK Battery Plant that will bring 5000 full-time jobs to Hardin County, impacting several surrounding counties. That announcement opened the door for supporting industries like Lotte Aluminum that will create 122 jobs. Advanced Nano Products, ANP-USA, will add an additional 93 openings paying an average of \$40 an hour (wlky.com). Elizabethtown Mayor Jeff Gregory said, "When BlueOval SK was announced last year, it was abundantly clear that ancillary development would soon follow. This announcement from ANP-USA illustrates that, and it further solidifies that our region is experiencing immense growth" (eifky.org/anp-usa).

But, it's more than just those companies who will come to support Ford. The entire region is developmentally and economically on fire. Kruger will add 150 jobs, Lightsource bp has entered a proposal for a solar generation facility that will have 175 positions to fill, Atlas Machine and Supply, Inc. will create 78 well-paying jobs averaging \$39 an hour in Hardinsburg (kpvi.com), Envision AESC battery factory will add 2000 jobs in Bowling Green, and Nucor in Brandenburg will need to fill 400 jobs. Even the whiskey industry is expanding with Bardstown Bourbon adding 29 full-time jobs, the new Whiskey House in Elizabethtown being planned, and Boundary Oak Distillery in Radcliff will also see expansion soon.

The tip of the iceberg, indeed.

All of this growth begs the question – will our workforce be ready? Will potential employees have the credentials they need to fill these thousands and thousands of positions? Many of the new employment opportunities will require documentable



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education and Hardin County alone has over 5000 adults without a high school diploma or its equivalent.

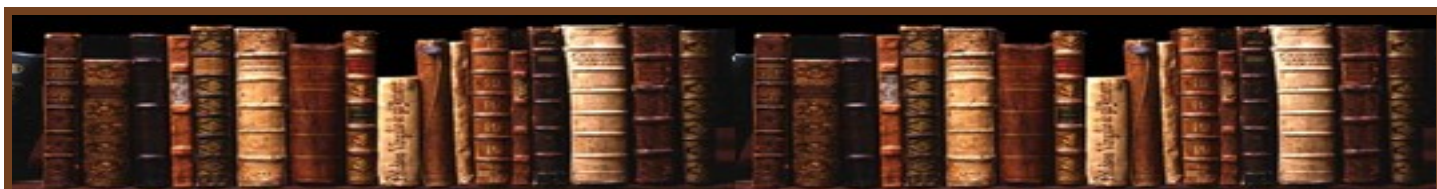
One of Heartland Adult Education's focuses in the coming years will be on strategically partnering with industry and governmental leaders to help ready the workforce before the need presents itself. Students earning their GED will have doors opened for them in the future, whether it is the ability to successfully apply for the new, good-paying jobs or the decision to continue with post-secondary education that will only increase their ability to land those positions. Additionally, the Adult Education Consortium will target workforce development with our regional business partners to support their ongoing need for applicant and employee education.

The problem of a more educated workforce in our area is growing with every new announcement – and are ready and willing to be a part of the solution.



Graduation is SEPTEMBER 23

7:00 pm at the ECTC Campus. RPC Bldg, Rooms 210 and 212
270.769.8866

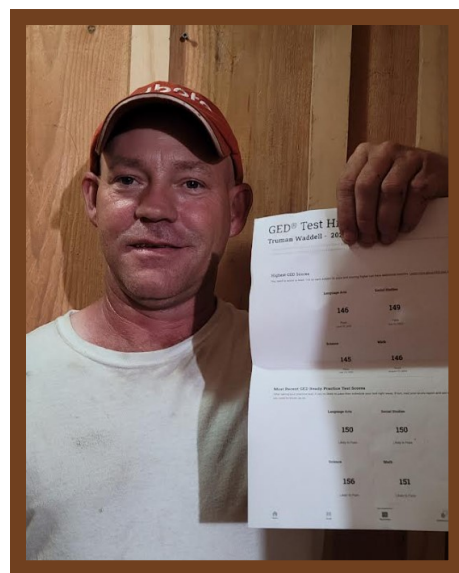


Grayson County's Truman Waddell

August 2022 GED Graduate

I have to admit it wasn't easy. But I pressed on. I have attempted to achieve My GED a few times. I never had anyone explain problems like Laura at Grayson County. She was great.

I still right now couldn't tell you what 9×12 is off the top of my head and algebra was like ancient Greek. But I made it. If I can do it, anyone can —and you can too.



Stem to Stern



dana wolfe

College and Career
Navigator

In this edition, our Director, Chris Reed, mentioned the enormous amount of economic growth that is happening in our region and the need for our workforce to be ready when the job applications arrive. How much of a concern is this and how impactful is the work performed by adult education?

The National Skills Coalition has collected statistics that tell the story. Nationwide, greater than half of the jobs are “middle skill” level where a high school diploma, or greater, is required; however, only 44% of the workers are eligible for these jobs (national-coalition.literacy.org).

In Kentucky, positive strides have already been made in reducing the number of adults without a high school equivalency, but the numbers for the area encompassed by the Heartland Adult Education Consortium (see table, below) makes it clear that a significant segment of the workforce will be shut out of much of the economic development if they do not seek and achieve credentialing (US Census 2020).

Personal economic development will also be affected. Those with a GED can expect to make over a thousand dollars more per month than they would without the credential (US Census).

Percentage without a high school diploma or its equivalent	Aged 18-24	Aged 25+
Hardin	13.4	8.3
Breckinridge	14.8	22.9
Grayson	18.1	17.3
Hart	12.3	13.7
LaRue	10.3	16.3

2020 Census Bureau data: <https://www.ruralhealthinfo.org/charts/65?>

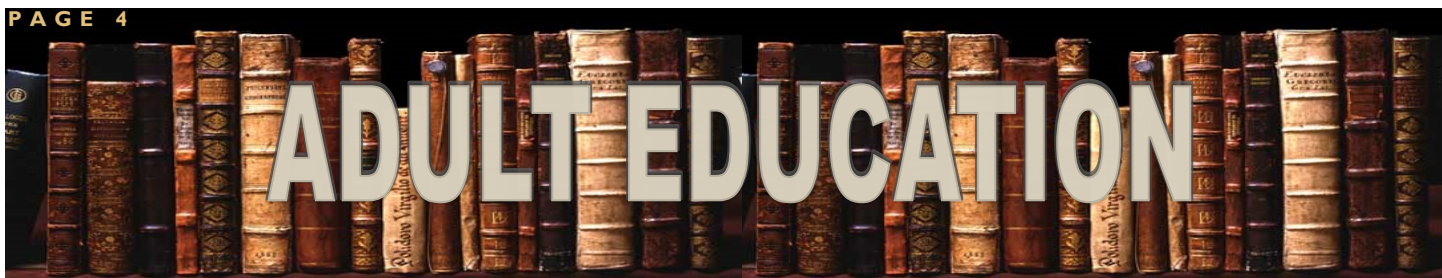
It is apparent that the chasm between the workforce’s current and necessary readiness gap needs bridging and adult education is the vehicle by which that can occur. The implications and positive consequences of a more educated workforce are wide-reaching.

Workers in both age ranges (see chart, left) will be needed to fill the thousands of jobs that are coming — or are already here.

Between the ever increasing need and the inherent rewards, it is obvious that adult education will not only be an important partner in the development that is occurring, but will also need a seat at every table in the process.

We stand ready.

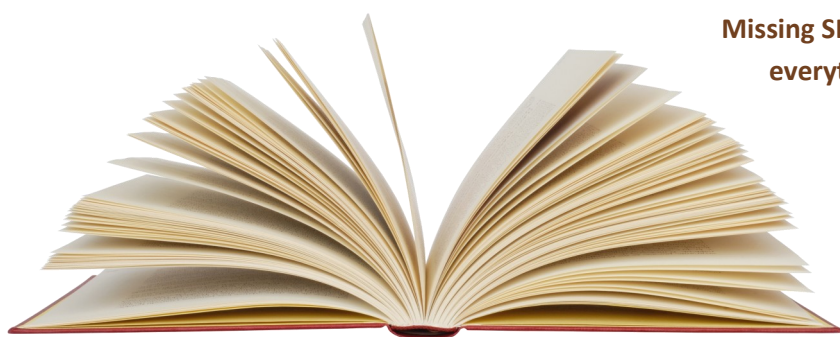




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L	J	N	T	I	T	I	A	A	I	A	N	S	L
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JOBS
MATH
KENTUCKY
SUCCESS
BRECKINRIDGE
LARUE
LEARNING
SOCIAL
EDUCATION
PRIDE
HARDIN
BOOKS
GED
HART
TESTS
GRAYSON
ADULT
ECONOMIC
READING
COLLEGE
SCIENCE
GROWTH
WEEK

HARDIN—LARUE—BRECKINRIDGE—HART—GRAYSON



Missing SKILLS U? We have a new name and a new logo, but everything else, including our services, are the same!



ENGLISH IMMERSION

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No one throws a going away party quite like Sandra Singleton's ESL students!

Yasuka Sumimoto (bottom center in the photo above) is returning to Japan and her classmates went all out to let her know she would be missed.

Sandra used the event as a learning opportunity where the students were encouraged to mingle — and speak only English while doing so.

Education is the key that unlocks the golden door to freedom.

—George Washington Carver



National Adult Education and Family Literacy Week

Sept. 18-24

The Heartland Adult Education Consortium's culminating event to the National Adult Education and Family Literacy Week is our Fall GED graduation that will be held on September 23rd starting at 7 PM.

Please feel free to join us for a very special night!

Heartland Adult Education Consortium Locations

Hardin/LaRue
(270) 769-8866
ECTC Campus
600 College Street Rd.
OTB 300, Room 310
Elizabethtown
(Classes also In Radcliff)

Breckinridge
(270) 756-1730
116 Old Highway 60
Hardinsburg

Grayson
270.259.9038
125 E. White Oak Street
Leitchfield

Hart
(270) 524-1267
230 Interstate Plaza Rd.
Munfordville



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[https://www.facebook.com/
HardinLaRueAdultEducation](https://www.facebook.com/HardinLaRueAdultEducation)

Check out our Facebook page for community resources, Job Fairs, employment opportunities, announcements, and plenty of encouragement! Please like the page and share any posts you think may be helpful for someone else. The more shares, the more people we may be able to help!

Please visit and like our other Consortium Facebook sites.

- ♥ Grayson County Adult Education
- ♥ Hart County Adult Education
- ♥ Breckinridge County Adult Education

