

for the Record

Devoted to Kentucky's State Archives and the Historical Record

Spring/Summer 2012

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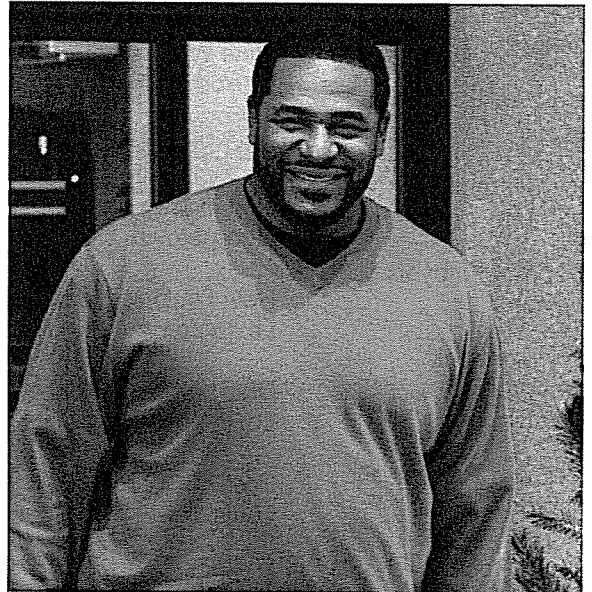
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“Who Do You Think You Are?” Visits the Kentucky State Archives

For the second time in less than a year, the Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives (KDLA) was featured on the NBC-TV program “Who Do You Think You Are?”

The episode aired on March 9, 2012, and followed former National Football League superstar Jerome “The Bus” Bettis to Kentucky as he researched his family history. Bettis visited KDLA on December 1, 2011, and a film crew from the show followed him as he spent the day using the resources of the State Archives to trace his mother’s side of the family. Of particular interest was a Court of Appeals case file which documented his great-great-grandfather’s successful lawsuit against the Illinois Central Railroad. Bettis also visited the McCracken Circuit Clerk’s Office and the Calloway County Clerk’s Office to view original court documents that are held by the State Archives, but had been sent back to the creating agencies for the purpose of filming this episode.



“Who Do You Think You Are?” follows one celebrity per episode on a quest into his or her family history. The celebrity visits archival repositories, libraries, and historic sites to search for genealogical information, often discovering surprising, inspiring, and sometimes tragic stories.

Kentucky native Ashley Judd also explored her family’s heritage at KDLA in an episode that aired in April 2011. “Who Do You Think You Are?” airs Fridays at 8:00 p.m. EDT on NBC. More information on this program and on Jerome Bettis’ research is available at <http://www.nbc.com/who-do-you-think-you-are>. For additional information on genealogical research at KDLA, visit <http://kdla.ky.gov> or call 502-564-8300 ext 350.

“The keeping of the public record of a civilized people is a continuing responsibility where properly the task is never completed. The vigilance necessary to preserve the record is synonymous with that of preserving the freedom of an open and democratic society.” Dr. Thomas D. Clark, former Historian Laureate of Kentucky

Archives Research Room Hours and Closings

The Archives Research Room is open to the public from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m., Monday through Friday. Free parking is provided outside the KDLA building.

Please mark your calendars for these upcoming closures.

May 28	Monday	Memorial Day
June 22	Friday	Archives Institute
July 4	Wednesday	Independence Day
September 3	Monday	Labor Day

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Confederate Pension Applications Available on KDLA Website

The Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives announced that the complete collection of Confederate Pension Application files has been digitized and is now available online in the e-Archives section of the KDLA website <http://kdla.ky.gov/records/e-archives/Pages/default.aspx>

The Confederate Pension Act was passed by the Kentucky General Assembly on March 4, 1912 to provide aid to indigent and disabled Confederate veterans of the Civil War and their widows. (Pensions for Union veterans were funded by the federal government.) In some cases, the application and supporting documents are the only surviving records of a soldier's service. Application information generally includes the applicant's name, address, military service history, and superior officer's name. Supporting documents may include statements of witnesses, affidavits, letters, marriage licenses, memoranda, and other records.

Any Confederate veteran (or widow of a veteran) living in Kentucky in 1912 or thereafter could apply for a pension, regardless of the state in which he resided or the unit in which he served during the war. The application files are searchable by name, unit, and county. The Confederate Pension Applications can provide invaluable information to genealogists and anyone interested in Civil War history, and KDLA is pleased to be able to provide access to this significant collection on its website.

These records were digitized with funding provided by a grant from the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA). Additional collections, including the official records of early Kentucky governors, will be added to the e-Archives soon.

PUBLIC ARCHIVES SYMPOSIUM

Please mark your calendars for the Public Archives Symposium, scheduled for October 25, 2012 at Georgetown College. This year's featured speaker is Dr. Lindsey Apple, who will discuss his recent book, *The Family Legacy of Henry Clay: In the Shadow of a Kentucky Patriarch*. More information on the Symposium will be in the next issue of "For the Record."

*Deceased

Friends of Kentucky Public Archives, Inc. **The Twenty-Eighth Annual Kentucky Archives Institute**

Sponsored by: Friends of Kentucky Public Archives, Inc., and
Public Records Division, Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives
June 22, 2012

Activity Room, Second Floor, Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives

- | | |
|---------------|---|
| 8:30 – 9:00 | Registration/Pastries |
| 9:00 – 9:15 | Welcome |
| 9:15 – 11:15 | The Commonwealth vs. James Jones: Following a Case Through Court (<i>Workshop</i>)
-J. Mark Lowe, CG, FUGA |
| 11:30 – 12:30 | Lunch |
| 12:30 – 1:15 | 1940 U.S. Federal Population Census
-David Kirkpatrick, KDLA |
| 1:15 – 1:30 | Break |
| 1:30 – 2:15 | Kentucky Confederate Pension Applications
-Walter Bowman, KDLA |
| 2:15 – 2:30 | Break |
| 2:30 – 3:15 | Tips on Digitizing and Organizing Family Records
-Mark Myers, KDLA |
| 3:15 – 3:30 | Conclusion |
| 3:30 – 4:00 | Tour of the State Archives (<i>Optional</i>) |

Please clip and mail the form below, along with registration fee(s), by June 15.

Space is limited to 50 attendees.

If you have any questions, please contact Tim Tingle at 502.564.8300 ext. 251 or tim.tingle@ky.gov.

Mail registration form with payment to: Friends of Kentucky Public Archives, Inc.
Kentucky Archives Institute
P.O. Box 4224
Frankfort, KY 40604

Registration fees: \$45 fee covers the cost of all Institute materials and lunch.

\$50 fee covers Institute materials, lunch, and Friends membership for July-Dec., 2012.

Check here to reserve a vegetarian lunch. _____

Check here if you plan to tour the archives. _____

Make checks payable to: Friends of Kentucky Public Archives, Inc. (Fees are non-refundable.)

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ I would like more information about the Friends. _____

Kentucky Archives Month

Planning for Kentucky's annual celebration of Archives Month is well underway. The Archives Month Coordinating Committee, under the direction of the Kentucky State Historical Records Advisory Board, met in January to begin preparations for this year's celebration which will be held October 2012. The theme for this year is Sports, in recognition of Kentucky's rich athletic tradition.

The Kentucky Archives Month web address is <http://archivesmonth.ky.gov>. Please check the website for events that will be held throughout the state, or use the site to submit ideas for your own event. The site also has a Planning Guide. We encourage all Kentucky archival and manuscript repositories to commemorate Archives Month in some way, such as an open house, a workshop, an exhibit or tour, or any other type of special event.

The Committee would like to take this opportunity to thank the Friends of Kentucky Public Archives, Inc. and the Kentucky Council on Archives for their continued support, and we hope that this year's celebration will be the best yet!

PLEASE NOTE: Beginning 2013, new issues of "For the Record" will be available electronically. We know that some readers will prefer to continue to receive the newsletter in paper format, so please watch for future announcements as we update our mail and email lists.

The 1940 Federal Census Now Available

On April 2, the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) released the long-awaited 1940 Federal Census (www.nara.gov). The 1940 Census is especially significant because it provides a snapshot of a nation in transition, as 140 million Americans began to emerge from the economic turmoil of the Great Depression to face the rising threat of war in Europe and Asia.

In addition to name, age, education, place of birth, occupation and salary, the 1940 Census also provides street addresses (if applicable). Significantly, the Census lists the location of each person in 1935, which can help researchers track families who may have moved in search of employment since the previous Census of 1930. A supplemental section at the bottom of each census page provides additional information on approximately five percent of responders.

Only a few states are currently indexed, not including Kentucky, but patient researchers who have some idea of the place of residence of specific individuals can still find those records by reviewing the Enumeration District maps available through the NARA website, or through Ancestry (www.ancestry.com). Recent estimates for the completion of a nationwide index place the project within the 2012 calendar year. Researchers can access the NARA and Ancestry sites through the public use computers in the Archives Research Room, and staff are available to assist as needed.



Film crew from "Who Do You Think You Are?" and KDLA staff in the Archives Research Room following a day of shooting for the Jerome Betis episode.

KDLA's Local Records Staff Assist in Disaster Recovery

On March 2, 2012, an EF-3 tornado struck the small town of West Liberty, Kentucky in Morgan County, packing winds of 140 mph. This tornado was on land for 95 miles -- 60 miles in Kentucky and 35 miles in West Virginia. Another long-track EF-3 tornado with 160 mph winds swept through Salyersville, Kentucky in Magoffin County. There were also other, less-damaging tornados in Kentucky.

The Local Records Program field staff went to Morgan and Magoffin Counties, as soon as permission was given to do so, in order to provide disaster assistance for local government records. In Morgan County, staff met with county, city, and school district officials. Much of the town of West Liberty was completely leveled, including the courthouse, city hall and administration building that housed the county clerk's office.

The records of the county clerk, including land records, probate records, marriage records, tax records and other vital records, were found to be in good condition with no damage. Through grants from the Local Records Program almost all of these records had been microfilmed with security copies maintained at the Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives. Both counties were declared federal disaster areas, and federal funds were readily available for the local governments to bring in professional disaster recovery companies. The Local Records Program staff has been in continuous contact with area administrators and, because most offices are in temporary quarters, will be assisting those offices when they move back into permanent facilities.

Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives Tests Preservation Systems

As a follow-up to completing a test audit based on the recent standard ISO 16363, audit and certification of trustworthy digital repositories, the Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives (KDLA) is conducting a test of preservation systems that are designed to be compliant with the International Standard. Using a list of required functions created by KDLA staff, the test will compare systems with regard to functions handled, relative costs, and compatibility with existing archival systems and architecture. Glen McAninch will present a summary of the study's results, along with other measures KDLA has taken to satisfy the terms of the audit, at the joint meeting of the Council of State Archivists and the National Association of Government Archives and Records Administrators in Santa Fe, New Mexico in July.



Friends of Kentucky Public Archives, Inc.

The Friends of Kentucky Public Archives, Inc. is a not for profit membership organization of private citizens concerned with helping the Public Records Division of Kentucky's Department for Libraries and Archives fulfill its role as a vital information link between people and government. The Friends' organization supports the management, preservation, and use of Kentucky's historic public records and serves as an advocate for the Kentucky State Archives, which the division manages. For further information, contact the Friends at P.O. Box 4224, Frankfort, KY 40604.

Yes, I would like to renew my membership in/become a member of the Friends of Kentucky Public Archives, Inc.

My check for _____ made payable to the Friends of Kentucky Public Archives, Inc. is enclosed. Membership benefits include a biannual newsletter, a membership pin, and invitations to workshops, special events, the Kentucky Archives Institute, the Public Archives Symposium, and the annual meeting. Gifts to the Friends beyond the basic membership are tax deductible.

Name: _____

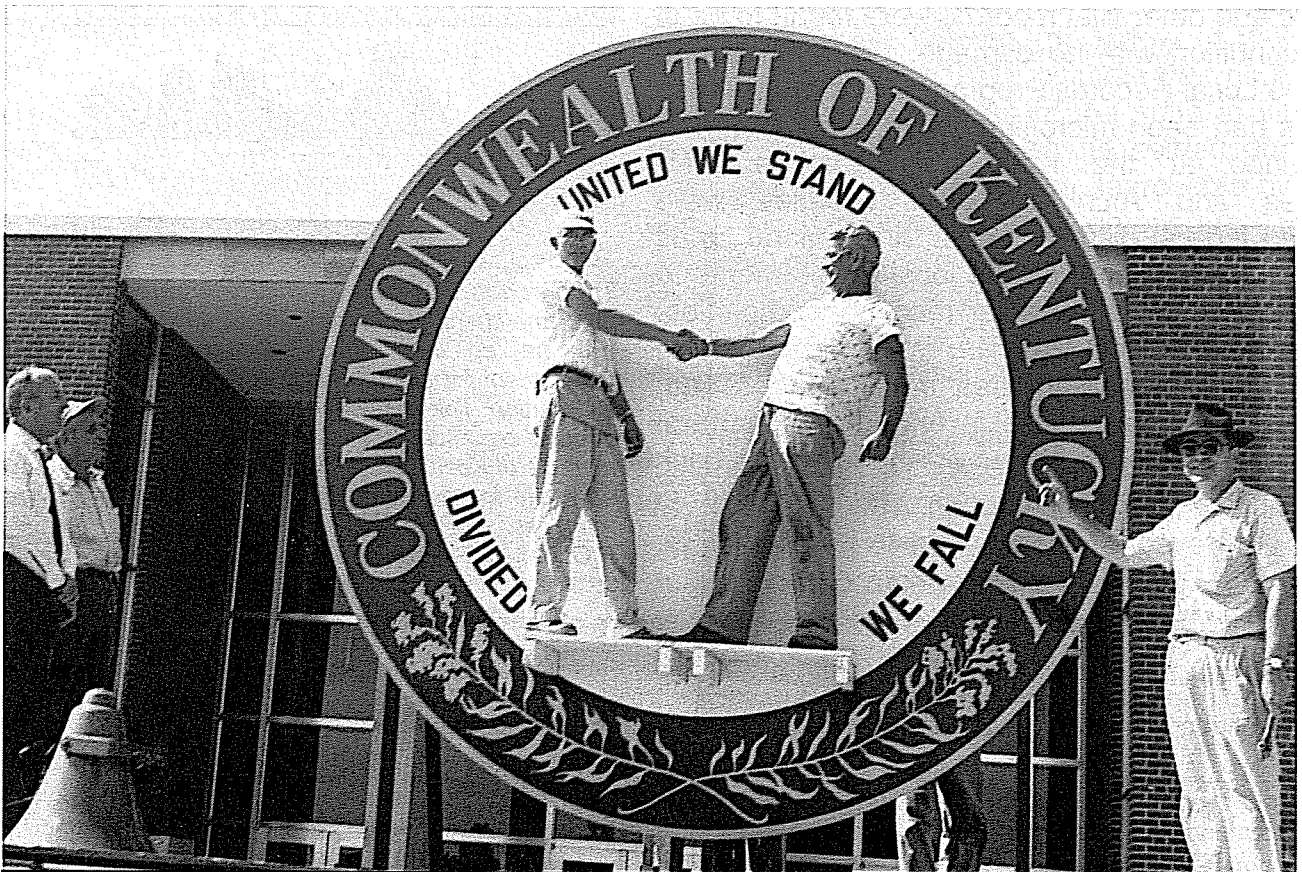
Address: _____ City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____ Telephone: _____ Email Address: _____

Membership levels: _____ \$15 Individual/Family _____ \$25 Libraries, Genealogical and Historical Societies _____ \$250 Life
 _____ \$50 Sustaining _____ \$1,000 Corporate _____ Gift to the Clark Endowment

Please clip and mail to: Friends of Kentucky Public Archives, Inc., P.O. Box 4224, Frankfort, Kentucky 40604 * We appreciate your support.

Friends of Kentucky Public Archives, Inc.
P.O. Box 4224
Frankfort, Kentucky 40604
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



Workmen take a break to have a little fun with a large sign. Source: Public Information Photo Collection, Public Records Division – Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives.