Throughout his career, and particularly at the civil engineering firm Fuller, Mossbarger, Scott and May, Aubrey Donald May put his stamp on numerous buildings, roads, bridges and more throughout Kentucky. Now, following his wishes, his wife, Karen, has established the Aubrey Donald May Scholarship Fund, which will generate scholarships for civil engineering students.

“...Aubrey credited the University of Kentucky for giving him the tools to do what he loved and give him a good life. He wanted to pass that opportunity on to others. This is his legacy.”

– Karen May
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An Equal Opportunity University

Aubrey credited the University of Kentucky for giving him the tools to do what he loved and give him a good life. He wanted to pass that opportunity on to others. This is his legacy.

– Karen May
As I have officially concluded my presidency for the Kentucky Society of Professional Engineers this past week at the annual KSPE Conference, this will be my last opportunity to communicate with the 15,000 professional engineers registered in Kentucky.

Let me begin by thanking all of you who attended the 82nd Annual KSPE Conference held in Covington, Kentucky. We had approximately 240 engineers join us for the educational sessions, informative presentations, and networking opportunities. This year’s conference was very informative and carried out some of the required business of KSPE. We saw the installation of the KSPE officers for 2017-2018. New KSPE Executive Director, Russ Romine, delivered his first Executive Director’s report. We were honored to have in attendance two National Society of Professional Engineers (NSPE) representatives, Shannon Looney, P.E., who is the Southeast Region NSPE Representative and Julia Harrod, P.E., NSPE Treasurer. We also saw the graduation of this year’s class of Leadership PE. This program has been a great success, providing great benefit to the individuals who have participated, to the firms who have sent personnel through the program, and to KSPE as it has proven to be a development ground for future leaders of KSPE.

The KSPE conference is always a great opportunity to acquire the required 15 hours of professional development hours (pdh) by learning about various topics of interest from the numerous presenters at the conference and to hear about the issues affecting our profession, our society, and our licensure board. Of course, there was also time set aside for forming new business relationships and refreshing existing ones. If you were unable to join us this year, or if you have never attended a KSPE Annual Conference, we hope to see you in 2018 at the 83rd annual KSPE Conference.

I want to publicly thank all the KSPE members who volunteer their time to represent and promote the engineering profession in Kentucky. We have numerous members who serve on the KSPE Board of Directors, many of the committees that serve KSPE, as officers and/or active participants at the chapter level, as volunteers in support of KSPE efforts such as MathCounts, Future Cities, Project Lead The Way, etc., and as advocates for our profession every day. You are the reason for the success of KSPE and I want to thank you for your membership and for your willingness to be an active member.

In addition to a strong and active membership base, we are blessed with great personnel at the KSPE office. Russ Romine, Marcie Fisher, and Jennifer Gatewood form a strong association team who are very effective in conducting the business of KSPE. I want to thank these three for all their hard work and dedication to KSPE. The hard work they do makes it easier for the officers of the society to focus on the issues facing the profession.

Let me close by saying thank you to all the members of the Kentucky Society of Professional Engineers. Thank you for seeing the value in being a member of KSPE. Your annual dues and your volunteered time allow KSPE to promote, support, and defend the profession in which we work and there is strength in our numbers. I have been honored and humbled to represent this great association over the last year. I appreciate the opportunity to serve you and look forward to my continued participation in KSPE.

Sincerely,

M. Chad LaRue, P.E.
KSPE President
clarue@kahc.org
502-330-5579
And just like that, we’re almost half way through another beautiful spring in Kentucky. I can’t imagine a more beautiful place on earth to experience the rebirth of nature, as the temperatures rise and the trees and flowers begin to bloom. As home to the most exciting two minutes in sports, the Kentucky Derby always places the Commonwealth in a spotlight for all the world to see. Whether you are into horses, distilled spirits, arts and crafts, food, or the outdoors, Kentucky truly has it all! (Can anyone tell that my wife works for the Kentucky Department of Travel? Nonetheless, as a Kentucky native I’m never shy about promoting the state we all love!)

Coming off a very busy winter season, activities at the Kentucky Engineering Center don’t show any signs of slowing down. Here is a small taste of what’s been going on, plus a quick look at things to come…

2017 Kentucky General Assembly
As I reported in the winter edition of the Kentucky Engineer magazine, the 2017 Regular Session of the Kentucky General Assembly got off to a fast start in January. During the first week of the session, the new Republican Majority in the Kentucky House of Representatives led the charge as final passage was secured on seven priority pieces of legislation. Included in the bills that passed the first week were House Bill 3 (which repealed Kentucky’s prevailing wage laws), and House Bill 1 and Senate Bill 6 (which dealt with right-to-work provisions and union dues collections from non-union members). All three of these bills included emergency clauses and became law upon Governor Bevin’s signature on January 9.

Part II of the 2017 Regular Session began on February 7. In all, there were a record number of bills introduced during this 30-day “short session.” Your KSPE/ACEC-KY joint Legislative and Government Affairs Committee, led by Chairman Ben Edelen, monitored bill introductions and the other actions and activities of both chambers of the Kentucky legislature throughout the session. We worked closely with Tony Sholar – our contract lobbyist with The Rotunda Group – to ensure the integrity of your profession was maintained and that no actions by the legislature would have adverse or unintended consequences.

The 2017 Regular Session came to a close as both chambers adjourned sine die before midnight on March 30. Attention now turns to a likely extraordinary session of the General Assembly to be called later this year by Governor Bevin. Tax reform and public pensions will be the focus of that special session. Stay tuned for more details as they become available.

MATHCOUNTS
This year’s edition of the statewide MathCounts competition was a huge success as we shifted our location to Bowling Green for the first time. Over 159 students, representing 48 schools, came together to compete in the competition this year. Watching these mathletes compete was an amazing and exciting experience. Every year, this competition includes the best and the brightest middle school students from across the Commonwealth, and we were fortunate again to have strong support from the University of Kentucky, the University of Louisville, and Western Kentucky University. We want to thank all of our sponsors and volunteers who helped make this year’s event such a success. A special thank you to Dr. Stacy Wilson and Dr. Julie Ellis from Western Kentucky University for hosting this year’s event and for providing space for Friday evening’s activities.

Representing Kentucky at this year’s national competition will be Lohith Tummala and Dylan Li, both eighth graders from Winburn Middle School in Lexington; Justin Xu, an eighth grader from Meyzeek Middle School in Louisville; and, Nikhil Akula, a seventh grader from Bondurant Middle School in Frankfort. They are an impressive group of kids and are led by Coach Paula Mlinar from Winburn Middle School in Lexington. Congratulations on your success in Bowling Green, and we wish you the very best as you compete in Orlando later this month!!

Read more about this year’s state MathCounts competition in this edition of the Kentucky Engineer magazine.
Leadership PE
Since my report in the last edition of the Kentucky Engineer magazine, the final three sessions for the 19th class of Leadership PE have been held. Participants attended the Professionalism Session at General Butler in late January, the Legislative Session in Frankfort in February, and the Personal Management Session in Bowling Green in March. These sessions capped off a great LPE Program this year. I'm personally grateful to have experienced this program for the first time with this great group of people. The program could not have remained so relevant and successful without the dedication and commitment of our session leaders and all the presenters. Please see page 14 for a full list of this year's session leaders and presenters. Thank you for your commitment and for giving back to your profession and the LPE Program!

Finally, congratulations to the 2016-17 Class of Leadership PE! The following individuals graduated on April 21 at the KSPE Annual Convention in Covington:

- Nancy B. Albright, PE (Kentucky Transportation Center)
- Dusty R. Barrett, PE (American Engineers, Inc.)
- Joshua A. Dickerson, PE (Louisville MSD)
- Leonard S. Harper, PE (Stantec Consulting Services, Inc.)
- Rodney O. Jones, PE (SRC of Lexington)
- Michael J. Kennedy, PE (Energy & Environment Cabinet)
- Ian R. McElhone, PE (AECOM)
- Mason T. Meredith, PE (Burgess & Niple)
- Kyle C. Novak, PE (Hazen and Sawyer)
- Clayton S. Pennington, PE (Stantec Consulting Services, Inc.)
- Nathan A. Roberts, PE (Scotty’s Contracting & Stone)
- Matthew Sipes, PE (HMB Professional Engineers, Inc.)
- Raymond J. Smith, PE (US Army Corps of Engineers)
- Stephen M Weaver, PE (American Engineers, Inc.)
- Matthew V. Williams, PE (HDR Engineering, Inc.)
- Kurt A. Zehnder, PE (GRW Engineers, Inc.)

For those who have participated in the Leadership PE program, you know how impactful the experience can be. For those who haven’t, your opportunity to apply for the next class is here. More information on how to apply can be found on page 15. It’s a milestone year, and we look forward to the start of the 2017-18 Leadership PE program this September… our 20th LPE Class!

2017 KSPE Annual Convention
Thank you to those who participated in this year’s KSPE Annual Convention in Northern Kentucky. Approximately 240 attendees came together to share and learn about the latest issues and topics impacting the engineering and surveying professions. The wide-ranging professional development opportunities, coupled with the networking opportunities and entertainment, made this year’s event a great success. The convention was held at the popular Marriott RiverCenter in downtown Covington on April 19-21. Although the Cincinnati Reds didn’t win, a large group of convention-goers enjoyed a night of food and fellowship at Great American Ballpark on Wednesday night during the convention.

In addition to graduating the latest Leadership PE class, convention participants heard from Boone County Judge Executive Gary Moore during his keynote address at lunch on Friday. Judge Moore has served as County Judge Executive for Boone County since his election in 1998, and has a track record of providing vision and leadership during a strong period of growth and development in the region. Between 2000 and 2015, Boone County’s population increased more than 50%, from 86,000 to nearly 130,000. We appreciated hearing from Judge Moore about all the positive momentum and exciting developments that are occurring all across Boone County. Thank you, Judge Moore, for sharing your time, your thoughts and your enthusiasm with us at this year’s KSPE Annual Convention!

Check out the pictures, and read more about this year’s convention in this edition of the Kentucky Engineer magazine. As we look ahead to next year’s convention, we encourage you to share your feedback from this year’s, and past year’s, convention(s). We always appreciate feedback, and we welcome your suggestions on how we can improve your KSPE Annual Convention experience.

New NSPE Business Model Proposal
As I mentioned in my report at the KSPE Annual Convention, the National Society of Professional Engineers (NSPE) has been working to prepare a new business model. For several weeks now, they've been providing details on the proposal with the state associations, and will ultimately ask for an official vote on whether to adopt or reject the proposal at the upcoming NSPE Annual Convention in Atlanta this summer.

While final details of the new model are not available – and are still subject to change – the premise of the proposal
offers state societies two options for partnership and affiliation with national (NSPE). As described by NSPE, the “integrated partnership” option would create better efficiencies and more effective marketing and operations for all participating state partners. For state societies not choosing the integrated partnership, the administrative, financial, and operational elements will be separated between national and that state society. In other words, the state society would be fully responsible for its own operations within their state.

For a state like Kentucky, the state-only option for membership would no longer exist under the integrated partnership option. It has been discussed and suggested that existing state-only members would be grandfathered-in under the new integrated model.

Additional research, understanding, and information is needed before the KSPE Board of Directors can adequately and appropriately make a decision. As additional information comes from NSPE, it is being shared with our KSPE leadership team. As mentioned, the ultimate decision on whether to accept the new, two-option model will be made by the NSPE House of Delegates in Atlanta this July. The KSPE Board of Directors would then make a decision on which membership option/structure to choose. The timeline for that decision is expected to be between July and December of this year. Please stay tuned for more details.

Kentucky State Board of Licensure for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors
As I also briefly covered in my report at the annual convention, a reorganization of our Board of Licensure is coming. On April 11, I was joined by Lee Czor (KSPE Past President) and Brad Montgomery (ACEC-KY President) for a meeting with Secretary David Dickerson and other senior leadership from the Kentucky Public Protection Cabinet. Also joining us in this meeting were representatives from our existing Board of Licensure, the Kentucky Board of Architects, the Kentucky Board of Landscape Architects, the Kentucky Board of Registration for Professional Geologists, and the respective membership organizations associated with these boards, including the Kentucky Association of Professional Surveyors (KAPS).

This reorganization is part of Governor Bevin’s “Cut the Red Tape” initiative, with all existing boards and commissions being scrutinized and considered for elimination or consolidation. Additionally, a 2015 U.S. Supreme Court decision [North Carolina State Board of Dental Examiners v. Federal Trade Commission, 135 S. Ct. 1101 (2015)] was referenced as a contributing factor in this reorganization decision.

While details aren't final, the new structure would align our new board directly under the supervision and oversight of the newly established Department of Professional Licensing within the Public Protection Cabinet. It is anticipated that the functions and duties of our current Board of Licensure staff would remain the same. Decisions and proposed actions by the board would be forwarded as recommendations to a newly created Executive Director’s position. That position would render final action/decisions and would oversee our board, and three other boards. Those other boards within our “Authority” are expected to include architects, landscape architects, and geologists.

All Executive Branch reorganization actions made outside a legislative session must be ratified during the next regular session of the Kentucky General Assembly, following the issuance of the Executive Order. Additional details will be forthcoming, so please stay tuned.

Looking Ahead
As we shift our focus to things to come, we have a full plate of activities for you to look for in the weeks and months ahead:

• **KSPE Leadership Retreat, June** – President Kelly Meyer has scheduled this year’s retreat for Thursday, June 1. Traditionally a two-day event, this year’s event will be held one-day and will take place at the Kentucky Engineering Center. The agenda is being finalized, but will include an orientation for new and existing KSPE leadership, plus updates on the new NSPE Business Model proposal, and the impending Board of Licensure reorganization.

• **NSPE’s 2017 Professional Engineers Conference, July** – Your KSPE leadership team is making arrangements to attend this summer’s conference in Atlanta at the Marriott Marquis hotel. The conference begins early on Thursday, July 20, and concludes with an all-day House of Delegates meeting on Saturday, July 22. I’m excited to attend this year’s conference and have my first opportunity to meet many of NSPE’s leadership, as well as my counterparts from other state societies.
• 22nd Annual Kentucky Engineers’ Golf Classic, September – Circle your calendar for September 20 for this year’s golf classic to be held at the University Club of Kentucky in Lexington. We had great weather, great participation, and great fun at last year’s event. Make plans to play in this year’s event and help raise money for the KSPE George M. Binder Scholarship and a Project Lead the Way teacher’s scholarship. Check out the Kentucky Engineering Center’s website (www.kyengcenter.org) for more details as we get closer to the event.

• Professional Development Opportunities – As always, regularly check the Kentucky Engineering Center’s calendar of events, located at www.kyengcenter.org, for the latest professional development training opportunities.

Final Thoughts
As I close my report, I would like to take a moment and recognize and thank Chad LaRue for his service and dedication to the Kentucky Society of Professional Engineers as your 2016-17 President. As I began my tenure as executive director on September 1 last year, I could not have been more fortunate to have Chad serving in the position of president for KSPE. As you know, Chad’s “day job” is running another membership organization, the Kentucky Association of Highway Contractors (KAHC). The experience and expertise he has gained over the last several years at KAHC, and his willingness to share advice and impart his wisdom has been immensely valuable to me. Chad is a hard-working, dedicated person who isn’t afraid to take on tough issues and provide his vision and direction. KSPE and the entire engineering profession have been well served with Chad’s guidance and leadership this past year. Thank you for your service, Chad!

As we look toward next year, I’m excited to work alongside 2017-18 President, Kelly Meyer, and the rest of the leadership team. Kelly has been a valued-member of the KSPE leadership team for many years, and he’s committed to leading KSPE in the weeks and months ahead. His energy and enthusiasm are infectious, and we’re excited to roll up our sleeves and get to work!

Indeed, these are exciting times for KSPE… thank you for your involvement and dedication. If you are looking for opportunities to get more involved, or have ideas on how we can improve our membership service to you, please let me know. In the meantime, I wish you all the best!

Sincerely, Russ
Upcoming PE Exam Changes

The Principles & Practice of Engineering exams are in the process of being converted from the pencil-and-paper format to a computer-based format. The Fundamentals of Engineering, Fundamentals of Surveying and the Principles and Practice of Surveying exams have already been converted.

The PE exams will be converted as each discipline is ready so there will be a number of years where some of the exams will be pencil-and-paper format and some computer-based format. The first exams to be converted will be the Chemical exam and the Nuclear exam in 2018. Structural will be the last in 2023, with all others on a draft schedule from 2019-2022.

Wallet Cards

In order to reduce costs, we have stopped issuing wallet cards for firm renewals. In addition, wallet cards will no longer be issued for individual renewals after the upcoming June 30, 2017 renewal cycle. You can print out up to date license and permit information using our searchable roster at:


The roster information is updated nightly so the information provided will be more accurate than wallet cards.

Verifications

If you need your license or exam information verified for another state, please go to http://ncees.org/ and log in to, or create, your MyNCEES Account. From there you can manage your electronic verification requests.

This process is much faster than mail. The second after we complete the electronic form, it is part of your NCEES file and sent to the state you designated.

Continuing Education Tracking

You can now use a free continuing education tracking system where you can enter your continuing education courses, scan and store documents such as completion certificates, and transmit electronically to us if you are selected for audit. It can also be used for other states: http://ncees.org/cpc/

Calendar of Events 2017

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ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS SUMMARY

For The Period

January 14, 2017 – April 14, 2017

RALPH ROBERT SCHENCK, PE

In November 2016, the Board of Licensure opened an investigation of Mr. Ralph Robert Schenck, PE of Valparaiso, Indiana after he failed to respond to an audit of his Continuing Professional Development (CPD) credits. Upon being contacted by the board's enforcement staff, Mr. Schenck expressed his desire to resolve the matter by voluntarily surrendering his Kentucky engineering license. The Board of Licensure accepted the surrender in the form of a Consent Decree on April 14, 2017.

ALEXANDER BARBER, PLS

In 2015 the Board of Licensure received two complaints against Mr. Alexander Barber, PLS of Bowling Green. The complaints contained examples of allegedly deficient work on certain oil well plat surveys and a property survey. Based on a review of the subject plats it was determined that Mr. Barber had committed numerous violations of the surveying Standards of Practice on the property survey and had failed to provide required disclaimer statements on the oil well plat. An expanded review of Mr. Barber’s recent property surveying work revealed a substantial
pattern of violations of the Standards of Practice. The matter was resolved through a Consent Decree wherein Mr. Barber acknowledged the violations and agreed to the following sanctions (1) a $1000 fine, (2) a 90-day suspension of Mr. Barber’s surveying license, (3) a two-year probation of Mr. Barber’s surveying license during which time he will submit to a quarterly review of his work, (4) Mr. Barber shall attend one live Standards of Practice course during the period of his suspension and once more within the next two years. The Board accepted the Consent Decree on April 14, 2017.

JOSHUA MILLER, PLS
In 2013 and 2014 the Board of Licensure received complaints against Mr. Joshua Wayne Miller, PLS of Smiths Grove in Warren County. Based on the investigation, it was determined that Mr. Miller had entered into a business relationship with former licensee Doyle Edward Hardin of Clarkson in Grayson County. It was determined that the structure of that business relationship failed to meet the basic regulatory requirements for proper supervision of unlicensed personnel; and that Miller failed to adequately supervise Hardin on at least two projects. Additionally, it was determined that Miller had failed to maintain adequate records of the two projects, and had continued to operate his firm Bluegrass Precision Surveys, LLC after the firm’s business entity permit had expired. The matter was resolved through a Consent Decree wherein Mr. Miller acknowledged the violations and agreed to the following sanctions (1) a written Reprimand, (2) a $1000 fine, (3) a 90-day suspension of Mr. Miller’s surveying license, (4) Mr. Miller shall complete the New Mexico State University online course in professional ethics, and (5) Mr. Miller agrees to not have any further business relationship with Doyle Hardin. The Board accepted the Consent Decree on April 14, 2017.

TRAVIS C. BURR, PE
In 2015 the Board of Licensure received information which indicated possible irregularities with the business entity permit of 7NT Enterprises, LLC and the licensure status of some of that firm’s personnel. A board investigation determined that Travis C. Burr, PE, Chief Operating Officer and professional engineer in responsible charge at 7NT Enterprises, LLC had violated several provisions of KRS 322.060, including (1) Failed to list the firm’s Louisville Kentucky office on the firm’s business entity permit but did list that office on the firm’s website, (2) listed on the firm’s website that Shawn Heilers is licensed as a professional engineer in Kentucky when he knew, or should have known that Mr. Heilers is not licensed in Kentucky, (3) failed to staff the Louisville office of 7NT Enterprises, LLC with a Kentucky licensed professional engineer in responsible charge, (4) caused the firm to start work on an engineering project before the firm obtained its business entity permit from the Board. Additionally, it was determined that Mr. Burr (5) allowed Shawn Heilers to issue two preliminary engineering reports under the name “7NT Engineering, LLC” and allowed Mr. Heilers to sign the reports using the post nominal letters “PE” and the title “Geotechnical Engineer” even though he knew or should have known that Mr. Heilers is not licensed as a professional engineer in Kentucky and that such actions violate the provisions of KRS 322.020. The matter was resolved through a Consent Decree wherein Mr. Burr acknowledged the violations and agreed to the following sanctions (1) a written Reprimand, (2) a $9000 fine, and (3) Mr. Burr shall complete the Texas Tech University online course in professional ethics. The Board accepted the Consent Decree on April 14, 2017.

ATTENTION!
Kentucky Engineer Magazine
Over the past many years, we’ve been fortunate to enjoy participation in the cost of producing the quarterly Kentucky Engineer Magazine by the Kentucky State Board of Licensure for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors (KBOL). Due to budget constraints, the KBOL must reduce their support for the production of the magazine beginning in fiscal year 2018. As a result, the KSPE Board of Directors has voted to cut production of the printed version of the Kentucky Engineer magazine. Because of advertising commitments, we will continue to produce the printed copy for the fall and winter editions of the magazine this year. Beginning with the spring 2018 edition, we will alternate between an electronic copy and a printed copy, with spring and fall editions being produced and distributed electronically, and summer and winter editions being published and mailed to your home.

As we head in this direction, it is important that we have your current contact information on file. In addition to your home mailing address, we need accurate email addresses so that you will receive our electronic communications in the future. We regret this inconvenience, and appreciate your continued support. You can update your member profile information by accessing our website at www.kyengcenter.org. Or, if you prefer, please contact us at the Kentucky Engineering Center by calling (502) 695-5680.
Be A Part of the 20th Class of Leadership P.E.

Learn More and Apply Online at http://www.kyengcenter.org

Deadline for application submittals for the 2017 - 2018 class is June 30th.

If you know of someone who would benefit from this program, please forward the information.

Leadership P.E. is a leadership development program designed to encourage, strengthen and build the professional careers and the civic involvement of entry- and mid- to upper-level engineers. This will be accomplished through organized career-training sessions and networking with business and community contacts and peers, as well as interactive meetings with community decision makers. It will involve a cross-section of leaders or potential leaders who are active in business, education, the arts, religion, government, community-based organizations and ethnic and minority groups. It will reflect the diversity of the professional engineering community. This unique and positive image- and career-building program is design specifically to benefit persons in the engineering profession. Typically, fifteen individuals are chosen to participate in the Leadership PE program. Participants must be either EITs or PEs. They will be selected to participate in eight specially designed leadership experiences over an eight-month period. The charter class was selected in the summer of 1998. Leadership P.E. follows the concepts developed by Leadership KY and other similar leadership programs. Leadership P.E. is the first of its kind to focus on professional engineers. As such, Leadership P.E. was designed, organized and implemented by members of the Kentucky Society of Professional Engineers (KSPE), the American Council of Engineering Companies of Kentucky (ACEC-KY) and the Kentuckiana Post of the Society of American Military Engineers (SAME).
Brents Dickinson III of Bowling Green, 83, died February 21, 2017. Brents was born on March 23, 1933 in Glasgow, KY. He was a member of Boy Scout Troop 214, reached the Star rank and was a member of the order of the arrow. After graduation from Glasgow High School, he continued his education at Western Kentucky University with a BA in English (1956), University of Kentucky with a BSCE (1961), and the University of Michigan with a Masters in Public Health (1966). While at Western he received a commission as 2nd Lieutenant in the United States Army. After Active duty he served in the Kentucky National Guard for 10 years and reached the rank of Captain.

Brents’ career as a professional engineer (PE) began with the KY State Department of Parks, then transferred to the Department of Health in the Sanitary Engineering Division, followed by 27 years with GRW Engineers Inc. of Lexington, KY. Following retirement, he spent 4 years with Landmark Engineering Inc of Bowling Green. During his professional years he was a member of the Kentucky Society of Professional Engineers (KSPE) where he served on several committees, held several offices and as President in 1995-1996. He received the distinguished Service Award in 1999 for outstanding service to the profession. He was also a member of the KY-TN American Water Works Association and received the 2011 Gold Water Drop Award. The KY-TN Water Environment Association named Brents to the “Hall of Fame” in that society.

He served on the Bowling Green Library Board of Trustees for 8 years including time as Chairman. He was a faithful servant of God and an active member of First Baptist Church of Bowling Green, KY.

He was preceded in death by his parents Brents Dickinson Jr and Gwendolyn Holman Dickinson, and his brother Henry Holman Dickinson. He is survived by his wife of 58 years, Billie Howard Dickinson; sister Lelia Smith; children: Elizabeth Brents Dickinson; Christopher Howard Dickinson (Missy); grandchildren Peyton and Claire; and several extended family members and friends.

James W. “Jim” Carpenter, Jr., 77, husband of Dora Liggett Carpenter, died Saturday, April 8, 2017 at Baptist Health Hospital in Lexington. Born July 19, 1939 in Morgantown, West Virginia he was the son of the late James W. and Mary Bower Carpenter. He was a retired civil engineer for PEH/Strand Engineers and was a member of the Burgin Baptist Church. He was a member of the Mercer Masonic Lodge 777, was a Burgin Baptist Hispanic Sunday School Teacher and enjoyed traveling with his wife and grandchildren. Mr. Carpenter was instrumental in the establishment of the Mercer County Sanitation District, of which he served as Chairman since 2005. Jim utilized his career as a Civil Engineer to guide the District in their efforts to provide public sewer service to the citizens of Mercer County. During his time on the board, he worked closely with the Lake Village Water Association and numerous local, state and federal agencies to secure funding, design and construct sanitary sewer systems resulting in new service to nearly 1,000 households. He worked tirelessly to enhance the public health, environment and overall quality of life for the citizens of Mercer County and was successful in his efforts.

Additional survivors besides his wife include one son: Philip (Donna) Carpenter of Lexington; one daughter: Melissa (Rick) Welman of Shelbyville and two grandchildren: Hannah Carpenter and Jimmy Welman.
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WHAT IS MATHCOUNTS
Developed in 1983, MATHCOUNTS is a program that combines leadership and sponsorship of education, business, government and the technical community for the purpose of encouraging and developing math and science skill in sixth, seventh and eighth grade students. The program teaches mathletes to build math and science skill while maintaining a positive attitude toward advanced mathematics. Through the lively and challenging experience of competitions, mathletes learn problem solving techniques, develop an aptitude for number sense and understand the application of math in real world situations.

On February 18th of 2017, 897 mathletes from 114 schools across the state gathered in their respective chapters to compete in the Kentucky Chapter MATHCOUNTS competitions. Not only were these mathletes competing to advance to the state competition; they were also competing for college scholarships. In 2013, the University of Kentucky began offering one full, four-year in-state tuition scholarship to each of the thirteen chapter competition winners!

Once chapter competitions wrapped up, mathletes moved on to the state competition. For the first time, the Kentucky State MATHCOUNTS Competition was held in Bowling Green. Mathletes began arriving at the hotels on the afternoon of March 24th. Many spent time relaxing and chatting with other competitors, but the evening took them to Western Kentucky University’s College of Engineering for different engineering activities and interaction. Early to rise, competitors started gathering at WKU’s Knicely Center around 7:30 on the morning of March 25th, excited and nervous but ready to compete.

Around 8:30, mathletes were released into the testing room to find their seats. A short introduction to all involved was shared and then parents and coaches were excused.
with only the competitors and proctors remaining to hear instructions for testing. The sprint round, a thirty question written test to be completed in forty minutes, started the competition followed by the target round, where each student was given two problems at a time to be completed in ten minutes for four rounds. This two part testing method is what determined how all individuals placed. Once those two parts were complete, the team round began to determine how each team stacked up against the others. All that intense competition left mathletes looking forward to lunch.

Once all the graders had finished tallying the scores and all the competitors had filled up on chicken tenders and macaroni and cheese, parents, teachers, mathletes and volunteers returned to the testing room for the final leg of the competition: the countdown round. The countdown round is by far the most impressive part of the competition, as mathletes tend to solve the problems and provide their answer before the head proctor even finishes reading the question. A quick recall style tournament, the countdown round took the top 12 finishers and tested their fierce math skills against each other. It was a best of three for each set of mathletes, with the one having the most answered correctly advancing on. Dylan Li, an eighth grader from Winburn Middle School, took away the win for the state countdown round. As the countdown round concluded, it was a quick transition to finding out who would move on to the national competition, representing Kentucky.

The Kentucky National Team will be coached by Paula Mlinar of Winburn Middle School, who's team placed first at the state competition. This will be Paula's second time coaching the national team, as her team previously won state to make her the national team coach in 2014. Paula has been teaching for 22 years, with her first experience with MATHCOUNTS being in 2013. She became involved in MATHCOUNTS because she wanted to help facilitate her students love of math. When asked how she thought MATHCOUNTS benefited her and her students, she said, “MATHCOUNTS shows kids that math is valued and important. It is a great outlet for the kids' natural curiosity and engagement. It allows them to engage in math discourse with like peers.” She plans on preparing the national team by having them do practice tests and having strategy sessions with a past winner of state. We look forward to seeing how our team does at the National Competition in Orlando, Florida on May 14th and 15th.

The fourth place finisher of this year's state competition was Nikhil Akula, 7th grader from Bondurant Middle School in Frankfort. Nikhil enjoys swimming, running, and math. His first experience with MATHCOUNTS was in 2016. When asked who was instrumental in getting him involved in MATHCOUNTS, he said, “Robbie Roberts (his math coach at Bondurant) and his dad, Satish Akula.” What he likes most about MATHCOUNTS is learning new ways to solve math problems. Of course, his favorite subject in school, is math because he likes solving problems and he is also interested in math because it provides many unique job opportunities. In the future, he would like to become a biomedical engineer because it involves math, science and medicine. He told us, when asked where he would like to attend college, “MIT because they have an amazing biomedical program.” At the national competition, he plans to not go too fast or slow and to work hard. He works to prepare for MATHCOUNTS roughly an hour each day.
Nikhil is the youngest team member on the Kentucky National team.

Third place finisher, Justin Xu, enjoys solving the Rubik’s Cube in his spare time. He says he enjoys trying to solve it as fast as he can, with not much success, but it’s still something he really likes to do. Justin is an 8th grader at Meyzeek Middle School in Louisville. When asked what other interests or hobbies he has, he said, “I also enjoy playing the clarinet. In 7th grade, I was 6th chair and not very good. In 8th grade, I am 2nd chair and half way decent.” His first experience with MATHCOUNTS was in 2014 as a 6th grader. Justin said, in regards to who was instrumental in getting him involved in MATHCOUNTS, “My mom was very much instrumental in my involvement with MATHCOUNTS; her name is Xiaoyun Wang. She pushed me to heights I had never imagined and I couldn’t thank her enough.” His fondest experience with MATHCOUNTS was this year at the chapter competition, during the team round; he felt like he bonded and worked well with his teammates. Practicing at school has been his favorite experience with MATHCOUNTS, as he says he has gained many memories and bonded closely with fellow mathletes. Science is his favorite school subject because he enjoys doing the hands-on experiments and learning about how things work. In the future, he would like to pursue something in the medical field because he wants to help people and he enjoys anatomy. He would like to attend MIT because he really likes math, science and technology. When asked to summarize his thoughts on MATHCOUNTS, Justin said, “Overall I really like MATHCOUNTS. I believe it is a wonderful math program and really helped me get better at math. I think MATHCOUNTS has helped inspire many students at my school and hopefully many others.”

8th grader Dylan Li from Winburn Middle School in Lexington placed 2nd at this year’s state competition. Outside of math, Dylan enjoys playing soccer; he even made Kentucky’s Olympic Development Program’s state team. His first experience as a 6th grader was in 2015 where he placed 21st at state. His brother, Austin Li, has been instrumental in Dylan’s participation and success in MATHCOUNTS, according to Dylan. He said that Austin did MATHCOUNTS before him and gave him good suggestions before he could join. Winning this year’s Chapter competition was one of his fondest experiences with MATHCOUNTS. Dylan told us, “Math is my favorite subject because it always has one correct solution. Transformations and manipulations capable in mathematics can be quite beautiful.” He’s unsure of what he wants to do in the future or where he would like to attend college. When comparing MATHCOUNTS to Governor’s Cup math, he says he enjoys MATHCOUNTS more because it’s more complicated. Typically, Dylan studies one to two hours after school each day for MATHCOUNTS. He said, “MATHCOUNTS is a great competition to prepare for and can be quite rewarding.”

Lohith Tummala, an 8th grader from Winburn Middle School in Lexington, placed first at the state competition in March. He likes to study math for upcoming AMC competitions and outside of math, enjoys practicing his clarinet for fun. He first got involved in MATHCOUNTS as a 6th grader in 2015. Tom Cannon and Paula Mlinar were the ones who encouraged Lohith to get involved with MATHCOUNTS because of
his talents. He said, “I loved 2017’s chapter competition, especially the countdown round. It was stressful, but it was fun.” Responding to being asked what his favorite experience had been with MATHCOUNTS, “My favorite experience is the one the happened just now, with me getting 1st in Kentucky.” He enjoys math because it is the most interesting to work on and “there are always problems, different problems.” In his future, Lohith would like to become a cardiologist. He would like to attend MIT because he feels his talents match what their expectations are. When comparing MATHCOUNTS and Governor’s Cup, he said, “Governor’s Cup is great because they have quick recall and written assessment. MATHCOUNTS is better because of the thought behind each problem.” In regards to studying and preparing for MATHCOUNTS, Lohith meets with his team weekly after school and does an hour or two practice at home. When summarizing his thoughts on MATHCOUNTS, in regards to positive impacts on himself or others, he said, “It would help me later in life, giving more than a thousand applications to help me in my future career. It helped me to improve time management and how to work as a team.”

Congratulations goes out to these four amazing mathletes, their parents, their teachers, their coaches, and their national team coach. We look forward to seeing how well our team does this year at National!
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