



MEMO FROM THE MAGISTRATE

A Message from Sherry Sebastian, First District Magistrate

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Persevering into 2021

2020 was quite the year. Our routines were no longer routine. We missed the close bonds of human connection that being in the presence of friends and family gives us. The powerful feelings of grief and loss are deep, raw and real.

Through it all, Franklin County has pulled together to support hometown businesses, our local organizations, and one another. Our health care providers, first responders, and everyone working to keep the wheels of the economy moving are warriors in this battle against an invisible enemy. This spirit of community is part of what makes Franklin County a great place to live, work and prosper.

As we begin 2021 together, I look forward to exploring options to connect with all of you through the year.

Putting my hands to work for you

I keep my eyes and ears open for opportunities to be of service in my district and beyond. These opportunities have created meaningful ways to stay in contact with and work for you during the pandemic.



Feeding Franklin County's most vulnerable. Assembling food boxes at the Capital City Activities Center.

Agriculture students at WHHS and FCHS beautified the Downtown business district with flowers and ornamental plants they'd grown. Their handiwork was on display from spring through fall.





Working the polls in General Election 2020 at Collins Lane Elementary School.

Removing invasive plants, one of the preliminary steps in the early preparation for renovation of Dolly Graham Park.



Hearing from our youth about their desire for the renovation of Dolly Graham Park. They shared their list of requests.



Making Your Streets Safe: Protection, Roadside Maintenance, and Resurfacing

In Franklin County, “Safe Travels” really is more than a slogan. Each month, I crisscross the First District to stay abreast of issues that impact your safety.



The Franklin County Fiscal Court provided funding for body and cruiser cams for the Franklin County Sheriff's Office.



The Franklin County Fiscal Court funded a new ladder truck for the Franklin County Fire Department.



Staying in touch with friends and family has never been more important than during a pandemic. When I discovered this mess, I notified AT&T who came out to repair this smashed telecommunications equipment at the intersection of Lawrenceburg Road and Burlington Lane.

This landslide partially obstructed Old Lawrenceburg Road, an important artery into the Capitol complex and the South Frankfort neighborhood.



I alerted the Franklin County Maintenance road crew at the Kentucky Department of Highways that a serious erosion hazard had occurred in a narrow part of Green Wilson Road – a hole going through to the creek below. They responded promptly, and repaired the hole and underlying infrastructure. On Big Eddy Road, another hole required a huge plate to repair.





I noticed this crack on the Capital Avenue Bridge, knowing it could grow into a substantial structural hazard. The state road crew responded immediately to repair it.



Ditch lines are essential to the structure of every road to ensure water is diverted, to prevent erosion of the roadbed. Road crews reestablished the ditch lines on Old Lawrenceburg Road.

Overgrowth can obstruct your view, especially on winding county roads like this curve on Johnson Road.

Massive jams of hillside runoff on Old Lawrenceburg Road created substantial damage to this box culvert, diminishing its ability to support the road. New box culverts were installed, and the road was repaved and reopened.



Poor conditions of roadways are remedied by repaving them.

Repaving U.S. 127.



Repaving Louisville Road.



Repaving Mills Lane.



Litter is everyone's problem. I joined the South Frankfort Neighborhood Association, Western Hills FFA, Farmdale Baptist Church, and concerned citizens in the fight to keep our neighborhoods clean. These groups donated their time, picking up litter across Franklin County.



When I see trash on the side of the road, I pick it up.

U in CommUnity

Representing you, the residents of the First District, during a pandemic has taken on even more worthwhile and meaningful qualities as I voiced your concerns and fought for transparency while using the new virtual meeting structure at Franklin County Fiscal Court. Passionately expressing the needs of my constituents in a Zoom meeting can be challenging, but I'm up to the task.

My fellow Magistrates and I know our areas better than the other districts, but boundaries lose their significance when someone from another corner of Franklin County has needs and reaches out for our help. Your Magistrates are resourceful, creative, and motivated to building a strong Franklin County.



I joined my fellow Magistrates in saluting the Class of 2020.

Getting my COVID-19 test at the Franklin County Health Department. Looking forward to the vaccine rollout in 2021.



Creative thinking allowed the second Family Movie Night to be held at Lakeview Park in a safe, socially distanced manner.

Let's connect to talk about the Franklin County you want

Do you want to share your voice, your talent and abilities with others working to improve Franklin County? You can put your hands to work by participating in one of the county boards or commissions. Use this link to find out how and apply today: <https://franklincounty.ky.gov/boards/>.

I am honored and privileged to advocate for you as my neighbors in Franklin County. As 2021 gets underway, I will continue to be available to you and serve with integrity. Keep reaching out; I'm just down the road.

Best regards,

Sherry

