



# JEFFERS' BEND NEWS

APRIL, 2011

## Let's Go Fishing!

The North Fork Little River Committee in cooperation with the Pennyryle Resource Conservation & Development (RC&D) Council, Inc., Jeffers' Bend Steering Committee and other sponsors will host the 13<sup>th</sup> annual **Take Kids Fishing Day** on Saturday, May 28, 2011, 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Jeffers' Bend Environmental Center and Botanical Gardens located on Metcalfe Lane in Hopkinsville, Kentucky.

The 2011 fishing event will involve about 850 kids and 750 adults coming together at Jeffers Bend in Hopkinsville for four hours of family fun in which youngsters ages 3 to 15 fish for prizes. The prizes will be awarded in the four age groups of 3-5, 6-8, 9-11 and 12-15 for the smallest, largest and most fish caught. The prizes will include 22 new bicycles, fishing equipment, outdoor chairs, etc.

The event is supported by over 60 sponsors, including businesses, agencies and organizations. Some of those include the Pennyryle RC&D Council, City of Hopkinsville, Roeder Implement Company, Wal-Mart Foundation, Fort Campbell Federal Credit Union, Heritage Bank, Pennyryle Allied Community Services, USDA – Natural Resources Conservation Service, Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resource, Housing Authority of Hopkinsville, Hopkinsville Water Environment Authority, etc.



## Take Kids Fishing Day

Saturday, May 28, 2011 9:00–1:00



## CURRICULUM COMMITTEE

TRACEY WILLIAMS, CHAIR

The Jeffers' Bend Curriculum Committee met in September, 2010, and scheduled ten days for schools in the region to visit Jeffers' Bend for hands-on environmental education activities in 2011, five in the spring and the same number in the fall, to accommodate about 1,000 students.

The 4 to 8 presenters for each session/field day will provide 30 to 40 minutes of educational activities by various professionals, staff and volunteers in the areas of water quality, soil conservation, recycling, wildlife habitat, nature photography, birds, insects, etc.

The spring schedule will include visits from University Heights Academy and Hopkinsville High School where as the fall will entail field trips from Martin Luther King Jr. Elementary, Sinking Fork Elementary, Holiday Elementary and Indian Hills Elementary.

## Gift to Jeffers' Bend from Hopkinsville Optimist Club

After forty years of service (1961-2010) operating under the motto, "*Friend of Youth*", the Hopkinsville Optimist Club disbanded at the close of 2010. The club was active in the community by selling Christmas trees and food at Little River Days. They used these fundraising events to support youth projects such as scholarships, directing youth clubs, sponsoring youth softball and baseball teams, and pumpkin painting contests.

To continue the connection with the youth of Christian County, the Optimist Club voted to secure a 14' by 24' wooden building for Jeffers' Bend to use for classroom activities

## TRAILS COMMITTEE

MARK WITHERS, CHAIR STEERING COMMITTEE

### The Path To Healthier You

Time to shake off those cabin-fever cobwebs brought on by this past winter. Nature is literally "springing" to life all around us, so why not join Mother Nature by calling a few friends and creating a walking club.

Jeffers' Bend has one of the nicest walking trails in our area. It is located in a beautiful setting but easily accessible. It is located just off North Main Street, down Metcalfe Lane next to the Little River. It has a special surface made just for walkers. It is soft enough to be easy on the knees but firm enough to give good footing for "power" walking. It is well drained and surrounded by the well maintained grounds of Jeffers Bend.

For those people into distance walking, an extension of the trail extends up Metcalfe Lane into Riverside Cemetery, providing 2 miles of trail. "It is a sad reality in our fast-paced, busy world that we can't find the time to get enough exercise," noted Mark Withers, Chairman of the Jeffers Bend Trails Committee. He added, "The hardest part seems to be getting a habit started." To do this Withers suggests getting several like-minded friends together and creating a walking club. "Each member can support one another to keep up their interest and also challenge them when they need it," Withers pointed out.

So, join us at Jeffers' Bend and improve yourself and your life.



Former Optimist Club members with the desire to continue services to the youth of Hopkinsville/Christian County, will channel their energy through volunteer work at the center where hands on activities are provided for thousands of students and adults.

## Dinner by the Lake

October 1, 2011

By Maggie Selvidge

The *Dinner by the Lake* event began in June 2008, as a fundraising effort to provide more resources for ongoing operations and maintenance of buildings and grounds at Jeffers' Bend. For 2011, the dinner will be moved to the first Saturday in October.

Be sure to mark your calendar for Saturday, October 1st. when great music, great food and a good time will await you at the fourth annual *Dinner by the Lake* at Jeffers' Bend. Tickets will be available from any Jeffers' Bend Steering Committee members or by calling Maggie Selvidge at 886-8078 or Charles Turner at 885-8692 ext.123.



Purple Martin Nesting Gourds

Purple martins are the largest swallows in North America and an interesting bird to observe. Perhaps early March scouts will lead other purple martins overwintering in Brazil to this new addition to the grounds at Jeffers' Bend. These insect eaters like housing in an open area and near water. This is exactly why the gourd rack was placed in the open field near the lake and wildlife observatory. It is important to provide housing for purple martins since they nest almost exclusively in manmade housing. The open area will help these birds avoid their major predators of hawks, owls, and squirrels. Martins leave our area in September and begin their journey back to Brazil soon after.

By: David Childes

## Garden Committee News

By Susan Chiles

During the past year the Garden Committee and Master Gardeners have maintained an herb garden, rain garden, butterfly garden, children's garden, and several beds with native plantings. The six - week children's garden summer project will continue its fifth season this summer. Valuable gardening lessons and life skills are shared with students from a local daycare. We are not sure who enjoys the time more, the adults or the children.

Master Gardeners meet at Jeffers' Bend several times during the year to maintain the garden beds. Members of the community are welcomed to join us. Bring garden gloves and a favorite weeding tool.



Children's Garden Planting  
with Mr. David Childs

Jeffers' Bend

Work Days for Spring 2011

Saturday, March 26, 2011

Saturday, April 30, 2011

Saturday, September 10, 2011

Saturday, September 24, 2011

8:00- 12:00, Lunch provided

For more information contact David or Susan Childes at [jdchiles@mchsi.com](mailto:jdchiles@mchsi.com) or 270-522-3169.

Master Gardener's

Work Day, April, 2009



Children's Garden Planting



## **JEFFERS' BEND**

Charles Turner  
Pennyrile R C & D  
3237 Eagle Way  
Hopkinsville, KY 42240

### **BECOME A "FRIEND OF THE BEND"**

Would you like to support Jeffers' Bend?

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

Yes, I would like to volunteer at Jeffers' Bend.

Yes, I would like to make a donation to Jeffers' Bend

Please mail your contributions to : Pennyrile RC&D

3237 Eagle Way

Hopkinsville, KY 42240

## *Upcoming Events*

*at Jeffers' Bend*

May 28, 2011

***Take Kids Fishing Day***

September 17, 2011

***NatureFest***

October 1, 2011

***Dinner By the Lake***

Center is open daily from

7:00 am to 7:00 pm