

City Hall, Bowling Green, Ky.



CITY OF BOWLING GREEN

2007 ANNUAL REPORT

♦ Calendar 2008 ♦

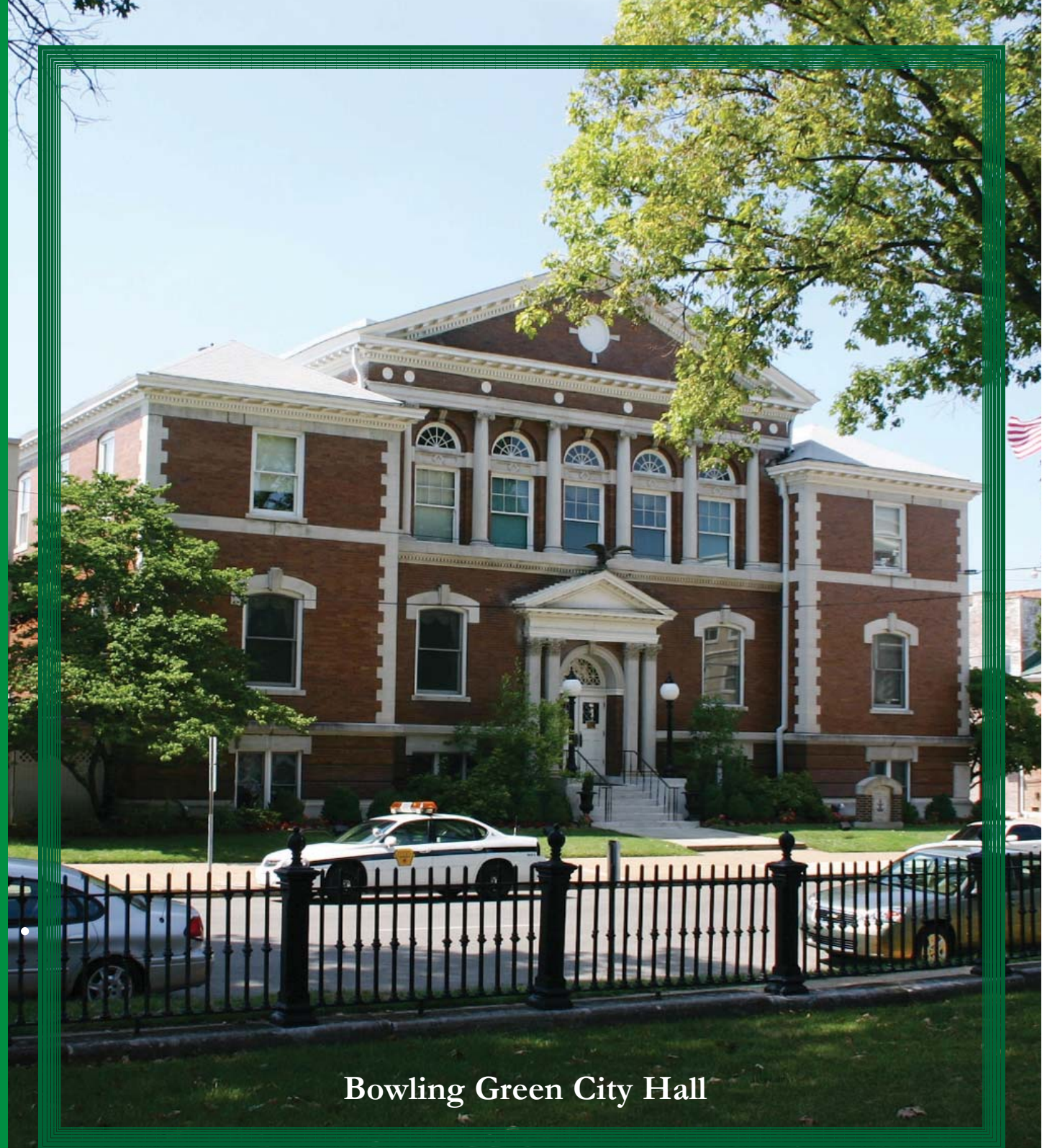
100 Years of City Hall

Under the guidance of Mayor George T. Wilson, the City of Bowling Green began to build its current City Hall in 1907. Bids went out that July to complete the design created by Architect Brinton B. Davis. Many organizations answered the bid requests, but C.H. Smith was chosen to complete the job.

In 1908 the City Hall Building was completed and employees began to move in. The original layout included the Mayor's and City Clerk's offices, which are still in the building today, but also hosted several other offices. Both men's and women's jail cells were located in City Hall as well as the City Physician, Library, Chief of Police, Police Court, and City Engineer to name a few.

Throughout the years, City Hall has seen many changes. The Police Headquarters have long since moved out and there is no longer a library in the building. As City staff grew, so did our property and buildings. Over the years there appear to have been multiple remodels to City Hall.

In 1962 construction opened up additional offices where the jail cells stood. In 1978 City Hall was again renovated; this time the changes included a sound system and more seating in the Commission Chamber and modifications to the basement. City Hall was extensively renovated in 1987, adding an elevator and new restrooms for handicap access and restoring some of the unique original design features that had been lost through modernization.



Bowling Green City Hall



Board of Commissioners Senior Management Team

Board of Commissioners



Left to Right: Commissioner Joe Denning, Commissioner Brian Strow, Mayor Elaine Walker, Commissioner Bruce Wilkerson, and Commissioner Brian “Slim” Nash

Senior Management Team



Front Row, Left to Right: Mike Grubbs (Citizen Information & Assistance), Katie Schaller (Assistant City Manager/City Clerk), Michele Tolbert (Human Resources & Risk Management), Greg Johnson (Fire), Alice Burks (Housing & Community Development), and Deborah Jenkins (Internal Auditor)

Back Row, Left to Right: Jeff Meisel (Finance), Emmett Wood (Public Works), Ernie Gouvas (Parks & Recreation), Lynn Hartley (Information Technology), Doug Hawkins (Police), Gene Harmon (Law), and Kevin D. DeFebbo (City Manager)

City Manager's Letter

Dear Fellow Citizens,

On behalf of the City Commission and our employees, we are proud to present for your review the second Annual City Report.

Reflecting over the ever evolving nature of our great city, we have chosen to try a fresh approach to this report by using a calendar format.

We hope you find this calendar both informative as well as a useful nostalgic pictorial reference to those community icons that make our City, Kentucky's Hometown.

In meeting the trust you have given us, we, as a city government, remain committed to four simple principles of action:

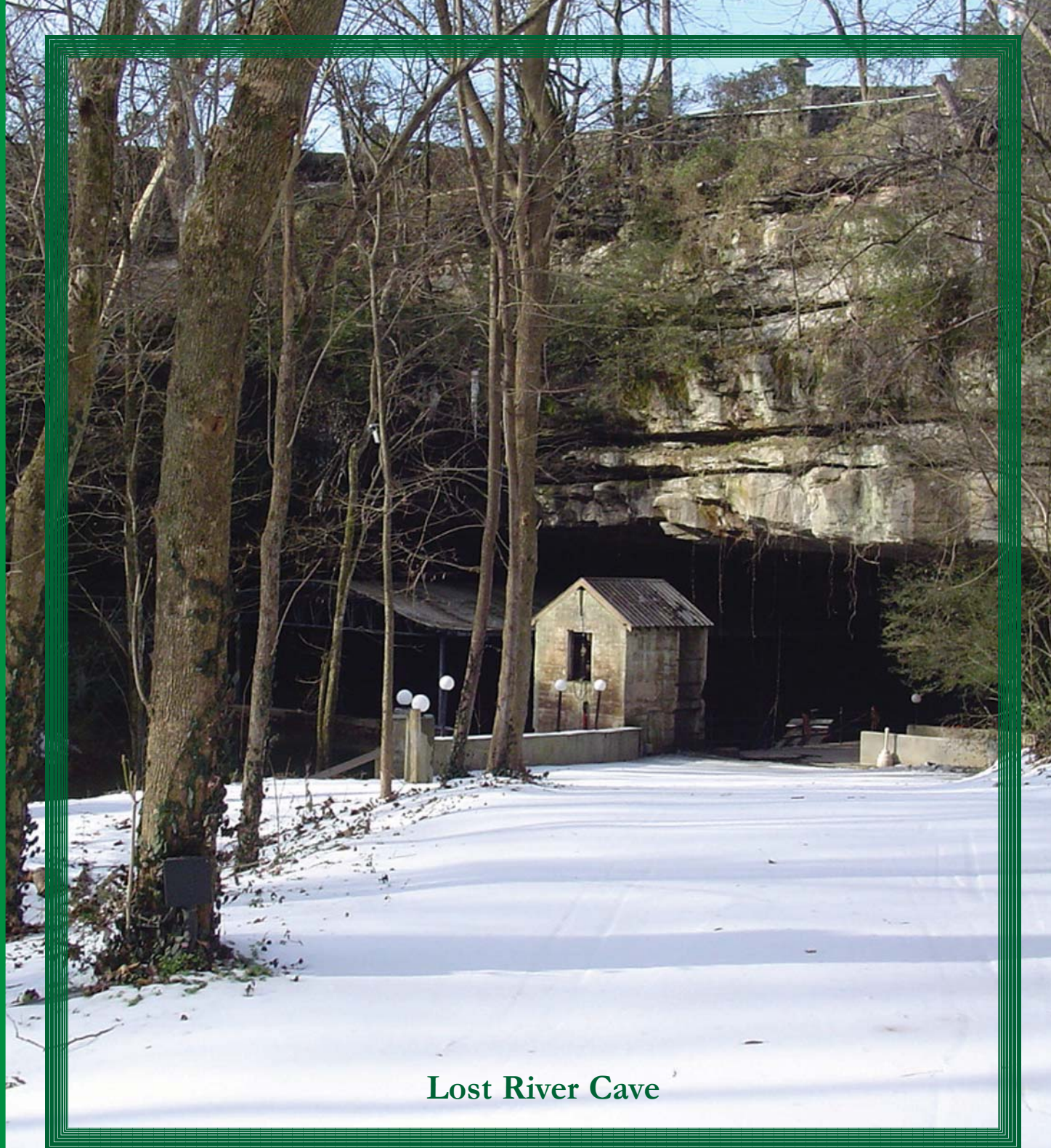
- To provide open, honest and representative government
- To deliver the highest quality of services at the lowest appropriate cost
- To compete economically on a regional, state and national basis
- To improve the quality of life for all residents.

We invite you to explore and rediscover your City.

If you have any ideas that could help us better serve you, we would like to hear from you.

Bowling Green First.

Kevin D. DeFebbo
City Manager
November, 2007



Lost River Cave

VISION

The City of Bowling Green is a dynamic urban center, which is a hometown for families and home of the nationally recognized Western Kentucky University.

It has a vibrant downtown and riverfront and a strong, growing economy.

Our diverse Bowling Green residents have access to top quality education, can enjoy an active lifestyle with cultural, recreational and leisure opportunities and live in safe, livable neighborhoods.

We take pride in our great community.



MISSION

The City of Bowling Green is committed to strengthening our vibrant community by focusing on quality of life, service delivery, fiscal responsibility, public safety, neighborhood revitalization, visionary leadership, and economic development.

January

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 New Year's Day City Offices Closed	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day City Offices Closed	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

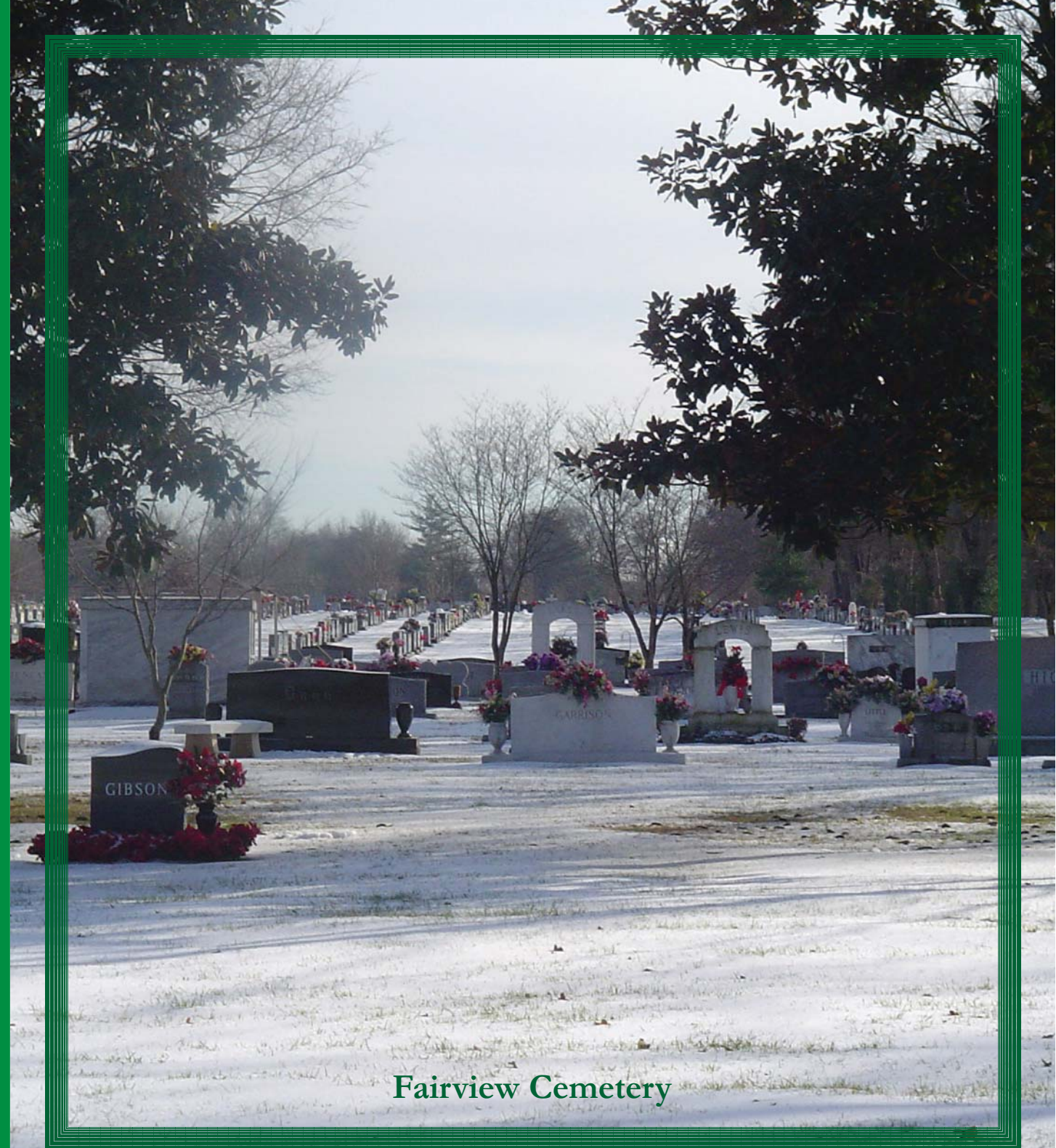
2007: The Year in Review and a Look Ahead

ROADS AND TRANSPORTATION: BETTER WAYS TO GET AROUND TOWN

- City staff developed procedures to prioritize needs and maximize the benefits of \$1.2 million of new sidewalks being constructed starting in 2008.
- An agreement was brokered to realign Westen Avenue improving traffic safety at an estimated cost savings of more than \$500,000.



- The City shared the cost with other agencies and property owners to place utilities underground as Lovers Lane is widened.



Fairview Cemetery

- Planning of the Broadway Entrance Corridor to downtown began with assistance from Downtown Redevelopment Authority.



- Phase II of the Fields Drive Extension was designed and the construction bid awarded.
- The City assisted with funding of the Greenways connection between Lost River Cave and Valley and the new trail head at Hills Bark Park at H.P. Thomas Park.



- The City issued almost \$14.8 million of general obligation bonds to finance multiple projects such as Circus Square, straightening of Broadway curve, and the downtown signalization upgrade.

February

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2 Ground Hog Day
3	4	5	6 Ash Wednesday	7	8	9
10	11	12 Lincoln's Birthday	13	14 Valentine's Day	15	16
17	18 Presidents' Day	19	20	21	22 Washington's Birthday	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	

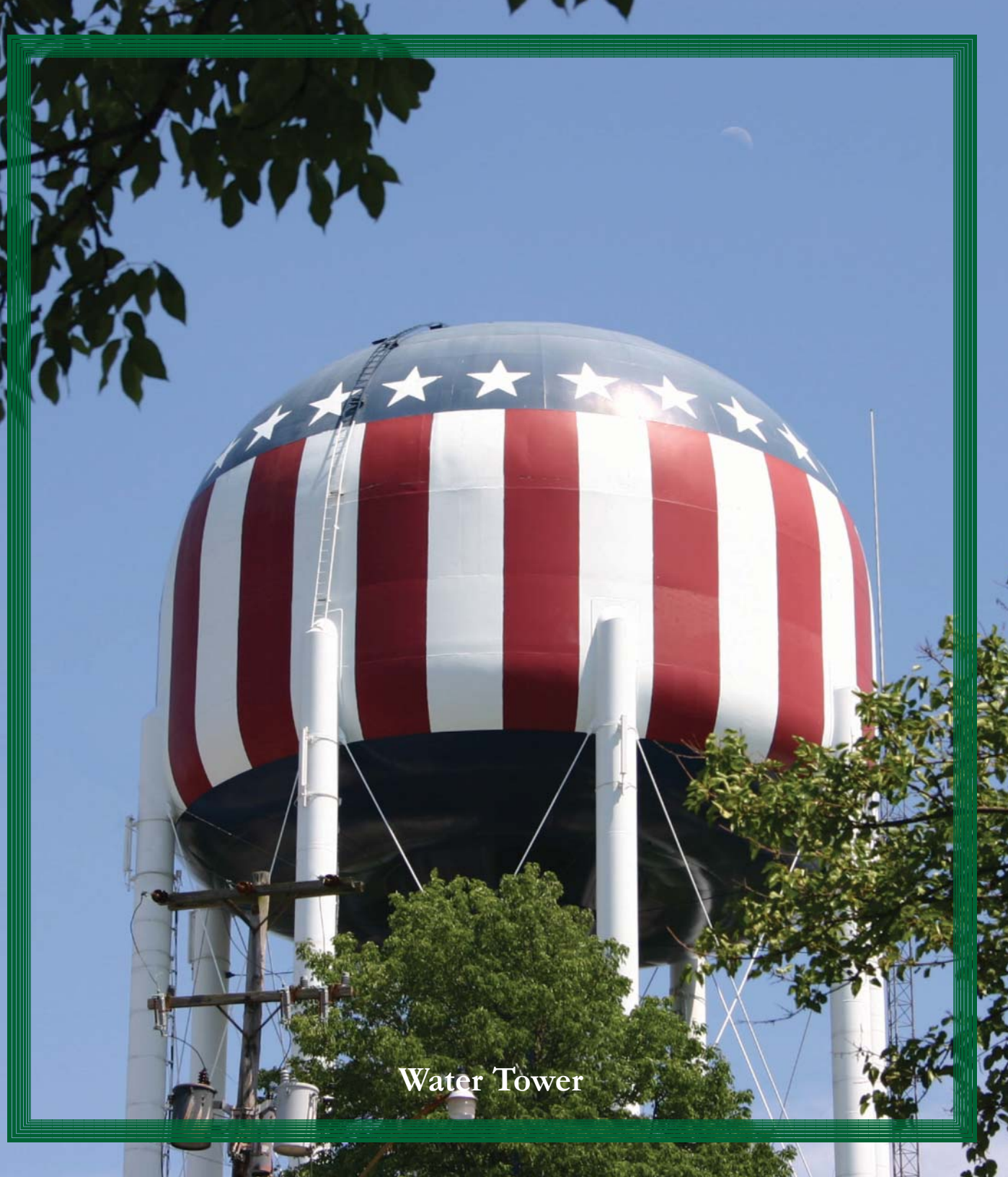
COMING SOON

- Implementation of a wireless infrastructure for public safety communication will begin in early 2008.
- A long-term facilities maintenance plan was implemented for numerous City-owned buildings.



WHERE ELSE WE'RE INVESTING

- The City provided the majority of funding for the new county-wide Strategic Comprehensive Plan. This plan will take up to two years to complete.
- The City helped fund the development of a master plan for Lost River Cave and Valley.
- The City invested \$200,000 in homeownership opportunities through the Westside Housing Initiative.
- The City funded and contracted for roof replacement of the historic Riverview at Hobson Grove.



Water Tower

**STRONG NEIGHBORHOODS: IMPROVING
INFRASTRUCTURE, EMPOWERING PEOPLE**

- Phase I of Lee Square residential development opened with 12 new affordable homes.
- Code Enforcement inspectors increased their number of contacts/inspections from the previous year - 5,632 to 8,584.



- The City facilitated and publicized the Envision Forest Park process to communicate neighborhood input into the redevelopment design for the Old Morgantown Road corridor.
- Housing and Community Development established a Housing Fund satellite office in Bowling Green to provide technical assistance.



March

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9 Daylight Savings Time Begins	10	11	12	13	14	15
16 Palm Sunday	17 St. Patrick's Day	18	19	20 Spring Begins	21 Good Friday	22
					City Offices Closed	
23 Easter	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

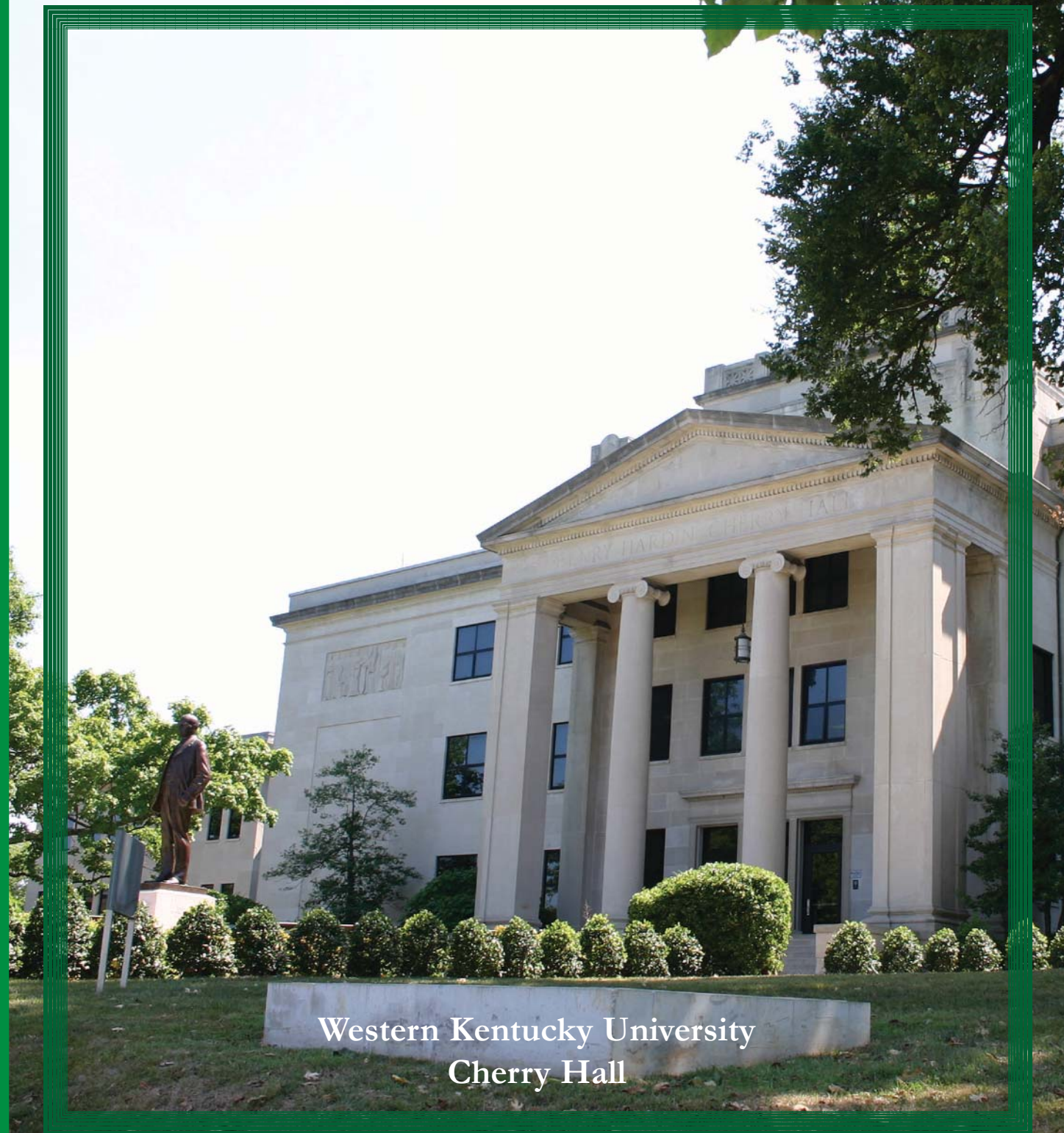
STRONG NEIGHBORHOODS: IMPROVING INFRASTRUCTURE, EMPOWERING PEOPLE

- Financial literacy education was expanded through the "Get the Facts" and "Mayor's Dollarwi\$e Campaign" grants.
- 320 neighbors from five states were hosted at the 2006 Regional Neighborhood Network Conference.
- Fourteen single family homes were rehabilitated through City-sponsored programs.



DOWNTOWN REDEVELOPMENT/RIVERFRONT

- A Signature Tax Increment Financing district was developed which could result in over \$200 million in new development between Sixth Street and the WKU campus.
- The last remaining properties were purchased and cleared for the Circus Square project.
- Rehabilitation of the old Quick Lincoln Mercury building at 601 State Street was initiated.
- \$160,000 was contributed toward the new Bowling Green Area Chamber of Commerce building and parking lot.



Western Kentucky University
Cherry Hall

PUBLIC SAFETY: A SAFER COMMUNITY

- There were no fire related deaths during the past calendar year.
- The Police Department successfully passed the Kentucky Law Enforcement Council's Police Officer Professional Standards audit concerning the department's hiring process.
- Forty-five fire investigations were conducted, resulting in 13 indictments.
- The new animal ordinance was implemented. Appeals are now heard by the Code Enforcement Board and citations and fine payments have been streamlined.
- Four Police Officer and three Firefighter positions were added.



- 15,989 residents received fire safety and related instruction through programs offered by the Fire Prevention and Suppression divisions.
- A fire suppression system was added to the 911 communications center and the uninterrupted power source protection was upgraded.

April

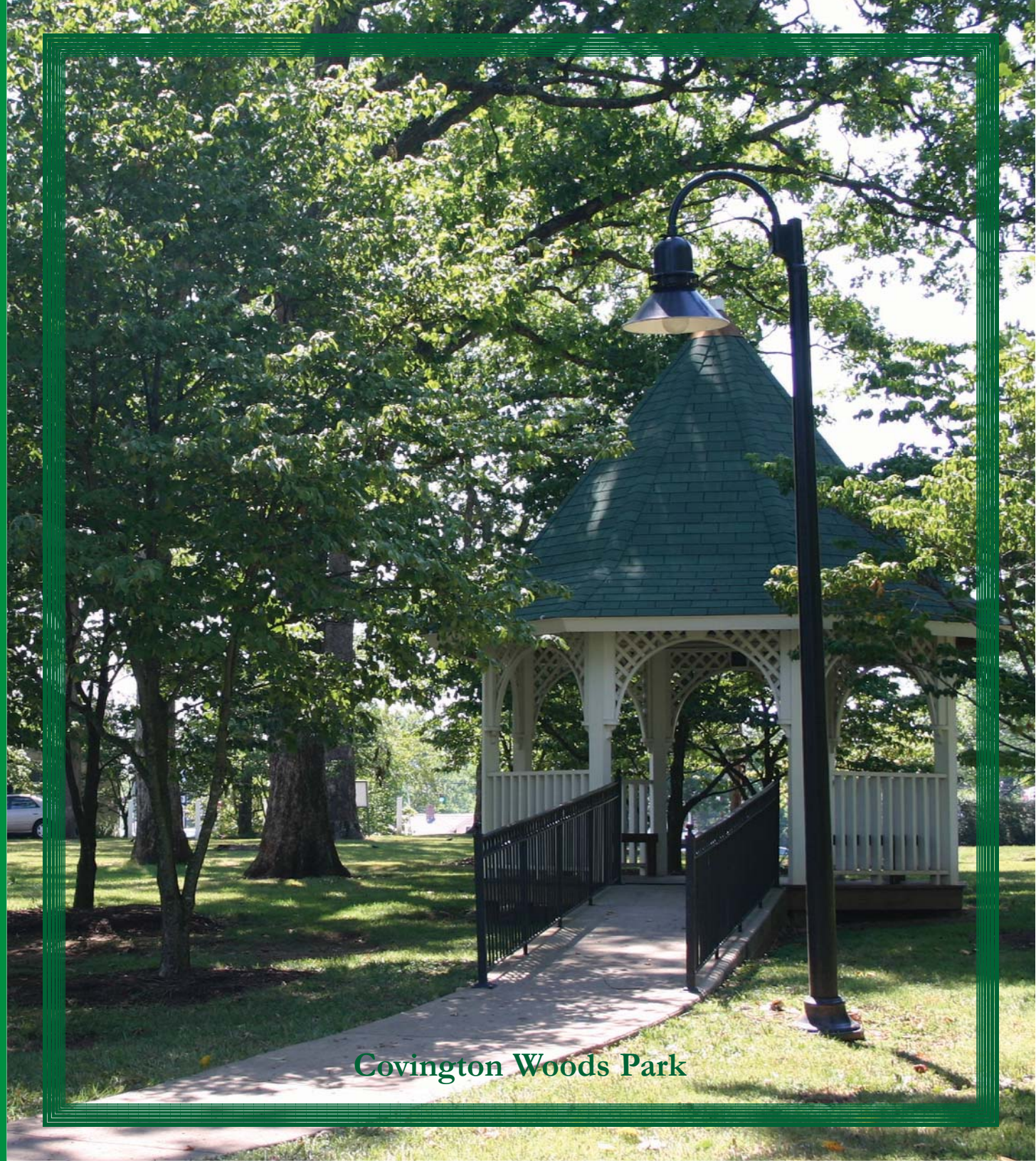
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 April Fool's Day	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19 Passover Begins at Sundown
20 Passover	21	22 Earth Day	23 Administrative Professional's Day	24	25 Arbor Day	26
27	28	29	30			

PARKS AND RECREATION: NEW AND IMPROVED FACILITIES

- The Bowling Green Skate Park opened at Roland Bland Park.
- The Kummer/Little Recreation Center opened with a two-court gym, indoor track, classroom and office space.



- The number of rounds of golf played at the City's three golf courses increased by 4% despite national averages being down.
- Pedigo Park received multiple updates such as new baseball field lighting, new dugouts and water fountains, and newly constructed scorer buildings.
- The Crossings Neighborhood Park opened off of Cave Mill Road.
- HP Thomas Park received new playground equipment and Hills Bark Park received additional access from Cave Mill Road.



Covington Woods Park

- Over 1.1 million participants enjoyed parks services - an all time record.



WAYS WE'RE SAVING MONEY

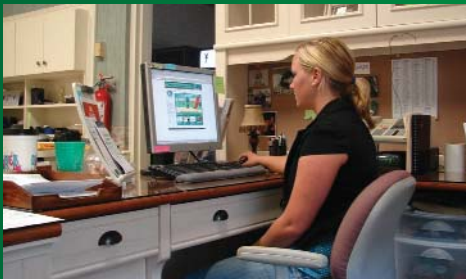
- The City paid off over \$1.2 million of debt early in FY2007, which resulted in interest savings of \$257,000.
- City employee's workers' compensation claims were down 23% over the prior three-year average resulting in an estimated savings of \$148,000.
- An estimated \$75,000 was saved on workers' compensation premiums while \$27,000 was saved by increasing the City's deductible for general liability claims.
- Fleet Management received authorization from General Motors to perform in-house warranty repair on the City's GM vehicles, saving time and money.
- All cables for telephones and other equipment for the Kummer/Little Recreation Center were installed in-house by the IT Department, saving a significant amount of money.

May

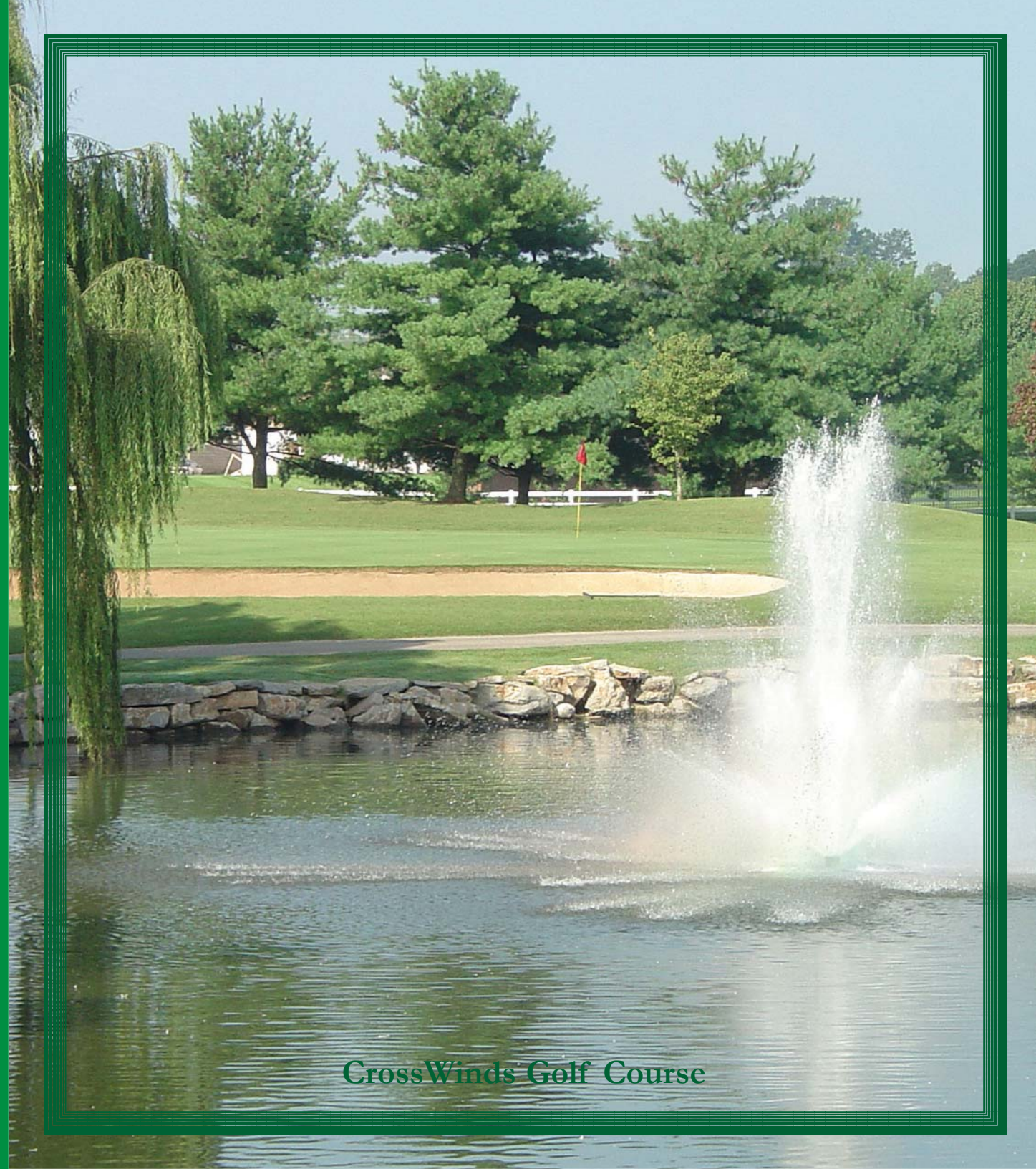
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11 Mother's Day	12	13	14	15	16	17 Armed Forces Day
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26 Memorial Day City Offices Closed	27	28	29	30	31

BETTER WAYS OF WORKING

- All City-owned computers were replaced and upgraded.
- Code Enforcement procedures were streamlined for fire-damaged structures, reducing the standing time before repairs or demolition is completed.
- GPS-based survey equipment is used to shorten response time for Public Works and to minimize the size of the crew.
- Fleet Management outfitted or re-outfitted 48 police cars in four months, 17 more than the previous year.
- BGMU was selected as the City's new internet service provider, doubling the City's bandwidth at only a slight increase in cost.



- The Operations Division began using salt brine to improve efficiency of snow and ice clearing.
- A career-path program for Public Works Operations maintenance technicians was put into place to provide job-specific training.
- New software was selected for improved data integration.



CrossWinds Golf Course

BETTER SECURITY

- An internal audit committee of qualified residents was established to examine, review and analyze internal controls of City operations.
- A second bank lockbox system was implemented for occupational withholding revenues. Funds now go directly from the payer to the bank.

BETTER PRICE TAG

- The new occupational license fee of 1.85% on employee withholdings was implemented. This is down from the previous 2%.

DISTINCTIVE

- The Finance Department received the Government Finance Officers of America's Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Reporting for the FY2006 audit.



- The City partnered with Bowling Green Technical College for the second year in a row to compete in the National Cans for Cash competition.
- The BGPD assisted in hosting the Senior Crime College, which provides information to elderly residents in the BRADD area.

June

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14 Flag Day
15 Father's Day	16	17	18	19	20	21 Summer Begins
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

DISTINCTIVE

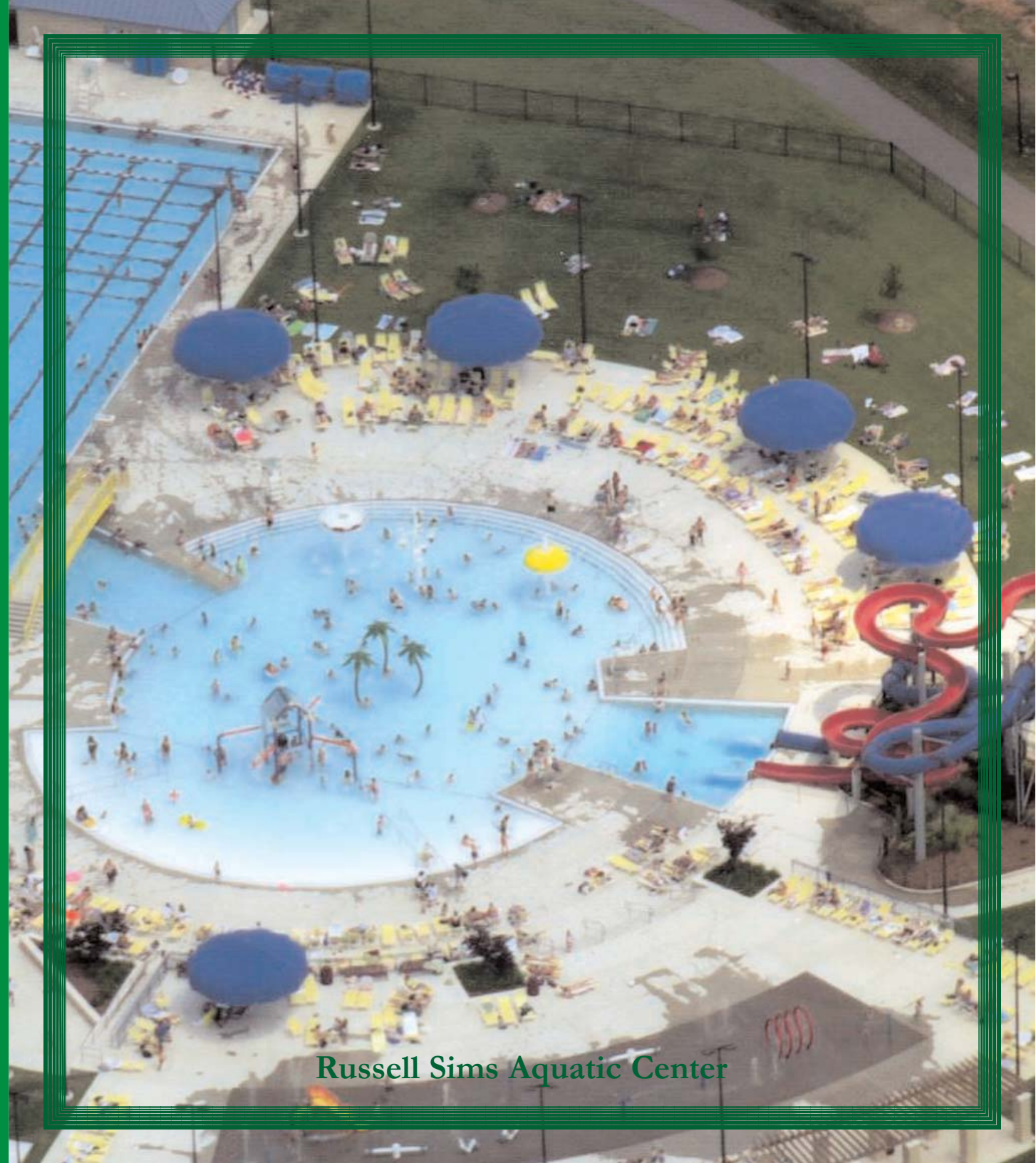
- The BGPD hosted the fall 2006 Kentucky Women in Law Enforcement Network and provided guest speakers and presenters.

OUTSTANDING

- The Public Works Department achieved accreditation by the American Public Works Association. Bowling Green is the first agency in Kentucky to receive this accreditation.
- The City was awarded the Robert J. Woodson Jr. Award by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development for its efforts in affordable housing.
- The Parks and Recreation Department is Kentucky's Outstanding Parks and Recreation Department for the third time in five years, as named by the Kentucky Recreation and Parks Society.



- Parks and Recreation has been honored with a 2007 Art and Humanities Program award for its support of the Kaleidoscope program.
- The City's Housing Initiative received the 2007 Enterprise City Achievement Award from the Kentucky League of Cities for taking a comprehensive approach to addressing housing issues.



Russell Sims Aquatic Center

HIGH PERFORMING

- The Fire Department received the City's annual safety award for recording only four injuries during FY2007.
- For the fourth consecutive year, Public Works' Fleet Division received the Blue Seal of Excellence. Public Works is the only Kentucky public agency with this achievement.
- The City received a Risk Management Award in recognition of a 100% score on the Kentucky League of Cities Insurance Services Workers' Compensation Scorecard Evaluation.
- The Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher program was recognized by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development as a High Performer agency.
- The 2006 Veterans Day Parade and luncheon was coordinated by City Central with a 25% increase in participation.



- The U.S. Department of Justice Community Oriented Policing Services considered the Bowling Green Police Department as a "model for others to emulate."

July

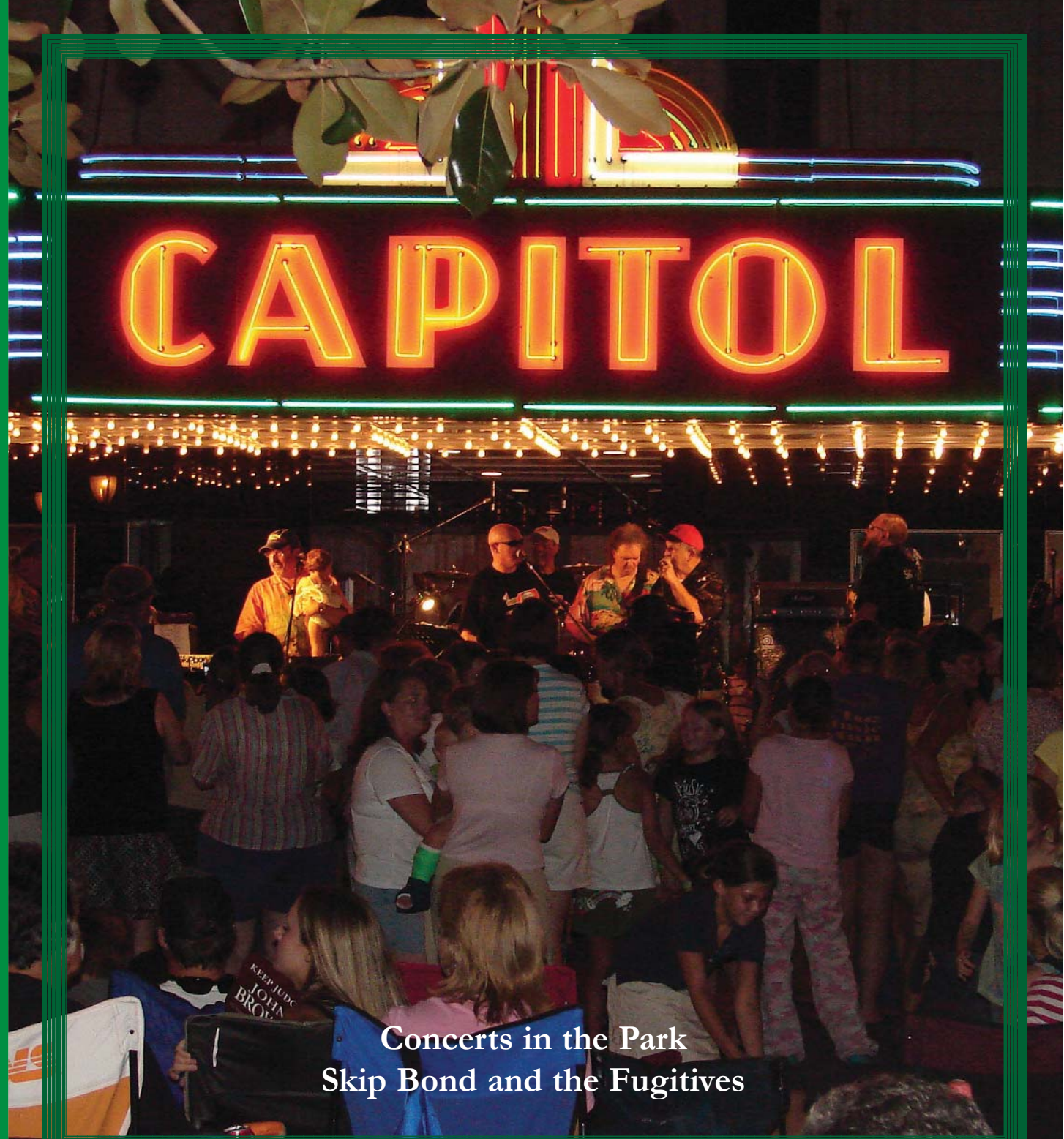
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4 Independence Day City Offices Closed	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

INNOVATIVE

- The Workforce Diversity Program direct mail poster and DVD won a Professional Marketing Association "Markie Award."
- Parks and Recreation received the Alliance Award from the Kelly Autism Society.
- City Hall in the Mall was initiated, bringing city government to the community eight Saturdays per year.



- The 21st session of the Citizen's Police Academy and second session of the Junior Police Academy was conducted.
- The Keep it Clean Bowling Green anti-litter and stormwater campaigns continued to excel with 50 classroom visits and the placement of trash cans in College Hill Historic District.



Concerts in the Park
Skip Bond and the Fugitives

FISCAL YEAR 2008 KEY BUDGET
RECOMMENDATIONS

- The entire City budget only increased by \$323,000, and the General Fund budget only increased by \$155,400 over the previous year. Both increases represent growth of less than half of one percent.
- Debt on two Fire Department projects was retired early to save on future interest payments. No new General Fund bonds will be issued for FY2008 capital projects.



- A General Fund reserve balance of 15% of revenues will be maintained in accordance with adopted policy.
- \$2.6 million of unencumbered fund balance is being used to pay for a portion of this year's capital improvement plan and special projects.



August

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

FISCAL YEAR 2008 KEY BUDGET RECOMMENDATIONS

- The total adopted Capital Improvement Program, including debt, is \$25.5 million.
- \$1.2 million in local funds will be used to pave approximately three miles of new sidewalks.



- Over \$7 million will be invested in new and renovated fire stations, including a sixth fire station to serve the Greenwood area.
- Almost \$1 million will be spent on new and replacement equipment for the Police Department, including in-car cameras and mobile data terminals.



Lovers Lane Soccer Complex

Did You Know?

294 Potholes Repaired

50 Anti-Litter
Presentations/Events



20,777 Tax Bills Sent Out

937 Fire Inspections

8,584 Code Inspections

2,505 Job Applicants



September

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Labor Day	2	3	4	5	6
	City Offices Closed					
7	8	9	10	11 Patriot Day	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22 Autumn Begins	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

480 Computer Users Supported
(Including Planning
Commission, etc.)

64,490 Rounds of Golf Played



54,294 911 Service Calls

2,196 Feet of Sidewalks Replaced

84 Neighborhood Meetings
Attended by City Staff



1,072 Business Registrations

234 Fire Education/Prevention
Classes/Events



Riverview at Hobson Grove

2,400

Building Permits Issued

147

Positions Filled (Including Temporary/Seasonal)

845,618

Participants in Athletics & Fitness Programs

3,990

Animal Control Calls/Response



17.64

Miles of Street Repaved

2,475

Fire Runs



724

Building Plan Reviews Completed

October						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13 Columbus Day Observed	14	15	16 National Boss Day	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24 United Nations Day	25
26	27	28	29	30	31 Halloween	

3,536 Computer Help Desk Requests

970.41 Acres of Park Maintained

10,061 Criminal Charges Filed
(includes drug charges)



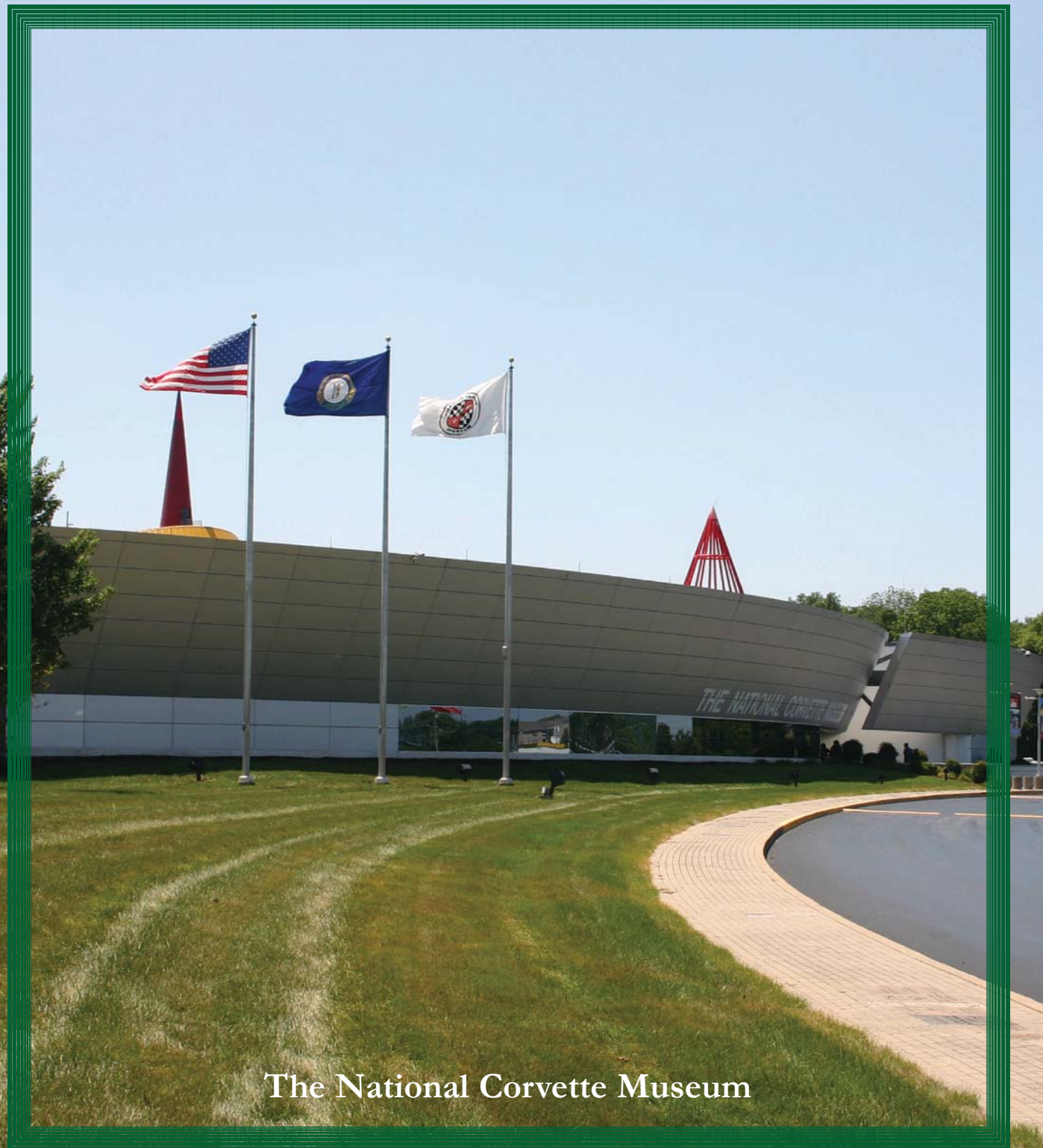
1,403 Tons of Leaves Picked Up &
Recycled (Oct. 06 to Jan. 07)

874 Fire First Responder Runs



579 Households Receiving Rental
Assistance

298,315 Visits to Bowling Green
Community Center



The National Corvette Museum

808

DUI Arrests

41

Neighborhood Groups
Participating in Neighborhood
Watch



1,907

New Jobs Created Through the
City's Job Development
Incentive Program

53

Board of Commissioners
Meetings, Including Work
Sessions and Special Meetings

534

Fire Accident Runs

6,873

Building/Electrical Inspections

688

Computers, Printers, and Other
Hardware Supported



November

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 Daylight Savings Time Ends	3	4 Election Day	5	6	7	8
9	10	11 Veterans Day	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27 Thanksgiving	28	29
30				City Offices Closed	City Offices Closed	

21,755 Special Populations
Participants

525 Citizen's Police Academy
Alumni

235 Miles of Streets Maintained/
Cleaned



\$173,402,903 Value of Building
Permits Issued

3,148 Traffic Collisions

30 Stormwater Presentations/
Events

14,066 Traffic Stops

13,869 Citations (19,214 Charges)

50 Ordinances Considered

376 Municipal Orders Considered



Fountain Square Park

IMPORTANT CITY TELEPHONE NUMBERS

POLICE/FIRE/EMS EMERGENCY ONLY: 911

Public Works After Hours Emergency: 393-4244

Police - to Report Non-Emergency Police Incident:
393-4000

Police - Information: 393-BGPD

Fire Non-Emergency Dispatch: 393-4831

City Main Number/Switchboard
(weekdays 7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.): 393-3000

Hearing Impaired - Toll Free: 1-800-648-6056

City Central (Complaints/Information about
City Services): 393-3444

Public Works Information Hotline: 393-3333

Power Outage/Problem:
BGMU 782-4302 WRECC 843-9710

Building Inspections: 393-3615

Electrical Inspections: 393-3676

Business Licenses: 393-3000

Contractors Licensing: 781-3530

Employment Opportunities (City): 393-3689

Garbage Pickup (Scott Waste): 783-4016

Neighborhood Action Office: 393-3674

Parks & Recreation Main Office: 393-3249

Planning & Zoning (City-County): 842-1953



December

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7 Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21 Winter Begins	22 Hanukkah	23	24 Christmas Eve	25 Christmas Day	26	27
			City Offices Closed	City Offices Closed		
28	29	30	31 New Year's Eve			



**THE CITY OF
BOWLING GREEN**



**Many Faces
Many Talents
One Purpose**

Brought to you by the Department of
Citizen Information and Assistance

Live Monthly Meetings Schedule on Bowling Green Government Access Channel 4

City Commission Meeting: 1st & 3rd Tuesday

Planning & Zoning Meeting: 1st & 3rd Thursday

BGMU Meeting: 2nd Monday

Enterprise Community Meeting: 3rd Wednesday

Board of Adjustments Meeting: 4th Thursday

City Code Enforcement Meeting: 4th Tuesday

View the entire Channel 4 schedule at www.bgky.org
and click on Channel 4 Government Access
under Featured Links.

Sign up for E-News by going to www.bgky.org and
clicking on the News Updates link in the top right
corner of the page.

City of Bowling Green

1001 College Street • Bowling Green, KY 42101
270-393-3000 • www.bgky.org