

# TRANSFORMING THE HARLAN COUNTY KY. ECONOMY



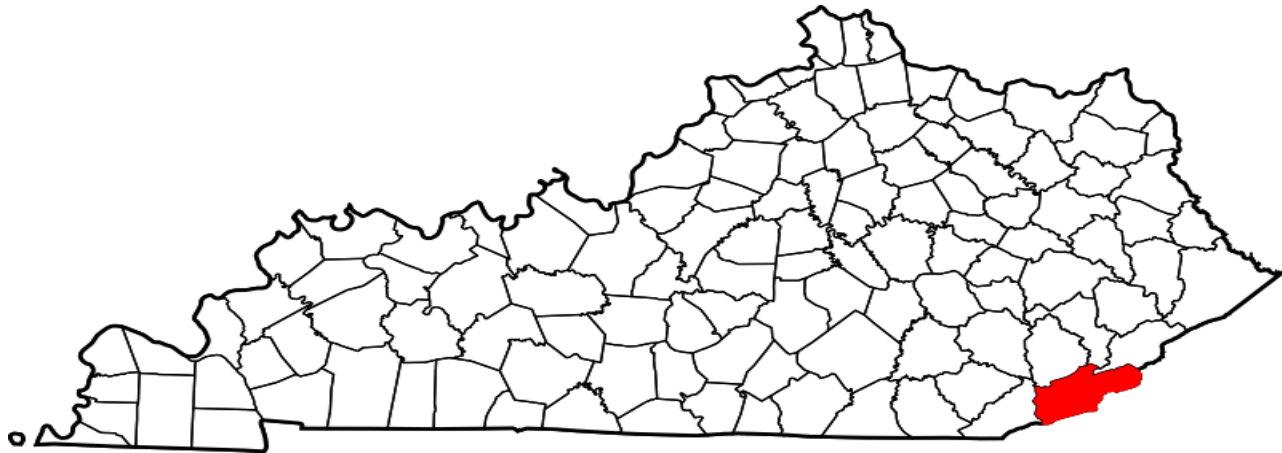
DAN MOSLEY  
HARLAN COUNTY  
JUDGE EXECUTIVE

# **HARLAN COUNTY**

**POPULATION-29,012**

**MEDIAN AGE-40.8**

**MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME-\$25,906**



# WHAT WERE THE PROBLEMS?

- **COAL WAS EVERYTHING IN OUR ECONOMY**
- **NO BACKUP INDUSTRY**
- **“EGGS IN ONE BASKET”**
- **NO LOCAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT EFFORTS**
- **EVERYONE WAS AFRAID TO HAVE THE CONVERSATION OF “DIVERSIFICATION”**
- **CONCERN ABOUT COULD THE WORKFORCE DO SOMETHING ELSE?**



# **STRATEGY TO MOVE FORWARD**

- **MAKE IT LOUD AND CLEAR, DIVERSIFICATION WAS NOT AN OPTION...IT WAS A MANDATE!!!**
- **FOCUS ON OUR STRENGTHS**
- **1.DEPENDABLE WORKFORCE**
- **2.BEAUTY OF AREA**
- **3.UNITED LEADERSHIP**



# **WHAT STEPS HAVE WE TAKEN?**

- **ESTABLISHED AN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (11 PERSON PANEL WITH INDIVIDUALS OF DIVERSE BACKGROUNDS)**
- **ESTABLISHED A COUNTY TOURISM COMMISSION TO GENERATE A REVENUE STREAM TO PROMOTE AREA BETTER**
- **PUT EMPHASIS ON TARGETING SUCCESSFUL PEOPLE WHO HAD ROOTS IN THE AREA.**

# **ADDITIONAL STEPS TAKEN**

- **HIRED A DEPUTY JUDGE EXECUTIVE WITH A MASTERS OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION DEGREE, WHO IS AGGRESSIVELY PURSUING GRANTS.**
- **COLLABORATING WITH SHAPING OUR APPALACHIAN REGION (SOAR), PROMISE ZONE, CUMBERLAND VALLEY AREA DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT (CVADD), EASTERN KENTUCKY CONCENTRATED EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM (EKCEP), APPALACHIAN REGION COMMISSION (ARC)**

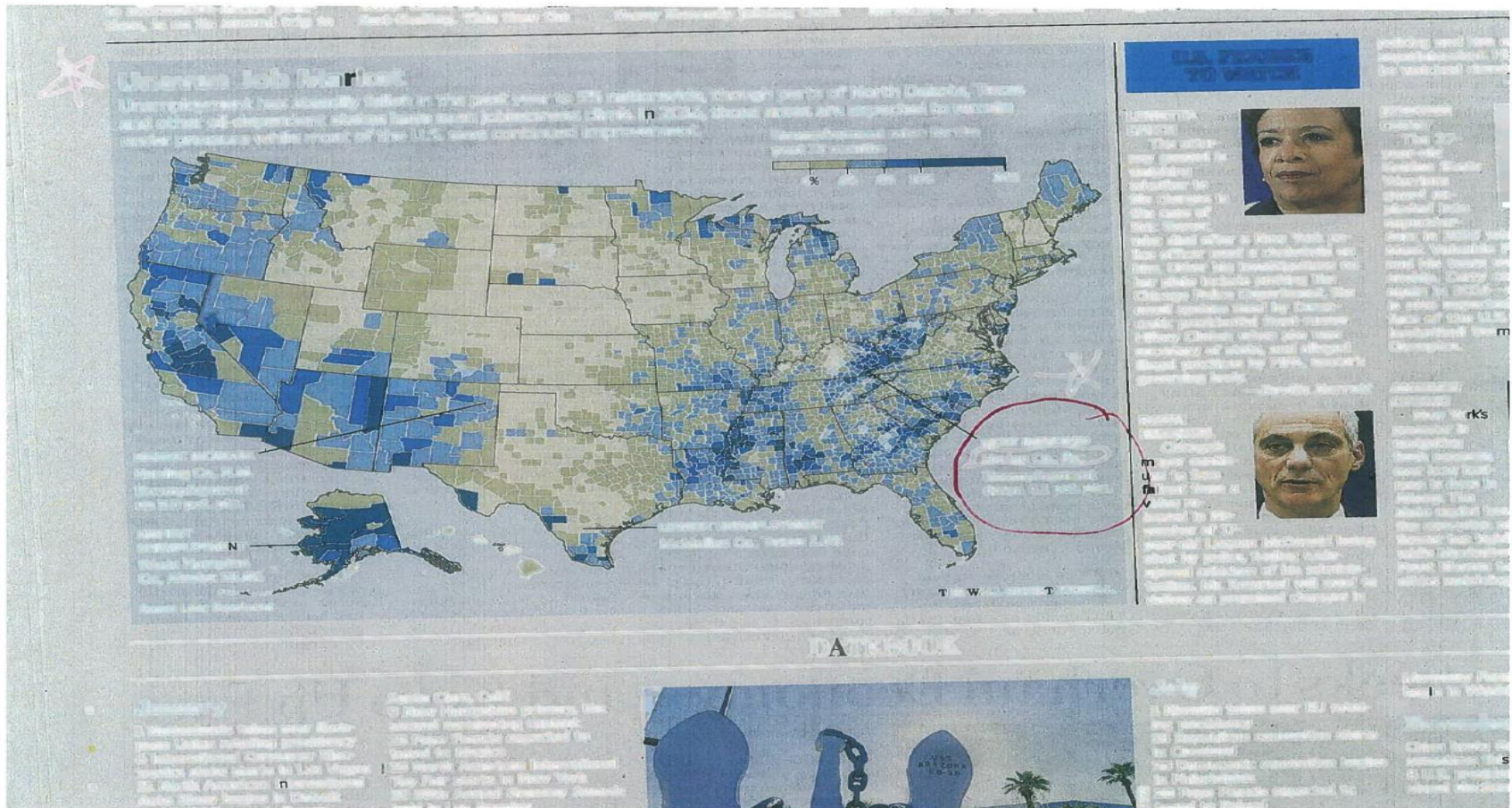
# **RESULTS IN ONE YEAR**

- **TELEWORKS USA HUB ANNOUNCEMENT, OPENING DOORS IN MARCH, ANTICIPATE 120+ JOBS IN ONE YEAR**
- **KITTS CREEK FIREWOOD BUSINESS OPEN EMPLOYING 6 PEOPLE**
- **PLANS MOVING FORWARD FOR A WOOD PELLET MANUFACTURING FACILITY WHICH WILL EMPLOY 50 PEOPLE**
- **\$152,000 AWARDED IN ILLEGAL DUMP GRANT FUNDS TO CLEANUP AND BEAUTIFY AREA.**
- **COUNTY TOURISM AD HITS THE TELEVISION AIRWAVES THIS WEEK TO A REGIONAL AUDIENCE**

# WALL STREET JOURNAL GRAPHIC

## SOURCE: LABOR DEPARTMENT

### JANUARY, 2016



# **WHAT IS NEXT FOR HARLAN COUNTY?**

- **HIRE AN ECONOMIC DEVELOPER THROUGH GRANT FUNDS**
- **CONTINUE TO DEVELOP DATABASE OF PROPERTIES THROUGH STATEBOOK INTERNATIONAL**
- **FOCUS ON GROWING ECONOMY 1 JOB AT A TIME**
- **PROVIDE EXISTING BUSINESS A MARKET ANALYSIS TO SHOW THEM HOW TO DIVERSIFY THEIR BUSINESS AND SELL TO THE WORLD**
- **EXPAND TOURISM OFFERINGS TO INCLUDE ACTIVITIES THAT WILL ENCOURAGE VISITORS TO STAY LONGER THAN A DAY**
- **UTILIZE ABANDONED MINE LAND FUNDS TO DEVELOP SITES FOR FURTHER ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM USES.**

# PROVIDE OPPORTUNITIES FOR OUR CHILDREN IN HARLAN COUNTY TO HAVE A FUTURE WITHOUT HAVING TO LEAVE!

