

Danville

Having seen the signs of decay in cities across the United States due to businesses and residents moving out of urban centers, **the citizens of Danville have been fighting hard to preserve their historic downtown area.**

So when the United States Postal Service (USPS) announced plans to move from the downtown area to the bypass in a nearby suburb, the residents of Danville appealed asking the city to help formulate a plan to keep the post office downtown. The city of Danville in collaboration with the Chamber of Commerce, the Main Street Revitalization program, the Kentucky Renaissance Alliance, and the Kentucky Heritage Council created the Danville Central City United States Post Office Retention Project.

For the next two years, the groups worked to devise strategies to keep the post office downtown. The city, with the help of many downtown businesses and organizations, met with USPS to discuss why downtown Danville was a viable location for the new post office. In awe of the community support for the post office, the USPS soon after purchased property on Main Street for the new \$3.5 million post office.

The results have expanded far beyond the retention of the downtown post office. Seeing the success of the partnerships created, the Boyle County Community Development Council was formed to continue to provide resources and funding for other community projects.



Dawson Springs

What's on your agenda today? Taking in a ball game? Planning a hiking trip? Seeing a concert? Well, you can do it all at Pennyriple-Tradewater Riverside Park Trail & Development located in the city of Dawson Springs.

At the turn of the 20th century, the springs put Dawson Springs on the map as one of the most popular spa destinations in the United States. Even professional baseball teams like the Pittsburgh Pirates and the Boston Red Sox held their spring practice in Dawson Springs in hopes of reaping the benefits of the springs.

The Pennyriple-Tradewater Riverside Park Trail & Development is a tourism attraction that reflects the many things that make Dawsons Springs great. It contains a 13-mile nature trail, a historic canoe trail, and a baseball stadium located on the site where spring training was held a century before.

The stadium, which is made entirely of wood, is home to the new baseball team, the Tradewater Pirates.

The plan cannot be described as anything but a true community effort. In order to reduce costs and make the project a reality, residents volunteered to write project grants, business owners provided the needed resources, local families donated parcels of land, and local agencies assisted with the labor.

Since its opening, the park has had more than 15,000 visitors and a three percent increase in grocery store receipts. Businesses, such as restaurants and canoe rentals, are opening throughout the city. The development is part of a five-year plan which will continue to increase tourism to the Tradewater region.

