

Broadband From Front

Communications in Kentucky, addressed county officials about the completed project and plans for additional expansion.

Campbell said the company invested \$5.1 million in private capital alongside \$3.7 million secured through Kentucky's broadband grant program. The project required construction of more than 100 miles of fiber infrastructure and approximately 1,300 utility pole attachments, reflecting the challenges of extending broadband access into rural communities.

"I'm pleased to say that we have completed our state broadband grant project," Campbell told the court. "So I'm here to celebrate that milestone here in this community."

The completed expansion makes gigabit symmetrical internet service available to more than 900 homes and businesses in the designated project areas. Symmetrical service provides comparable upload and download speeds, a feature particularly valuable for remote workers, businesses, educational activities and other applications requiring substantial data transmission.

Campbell emphasized that the newly served areas now have access to internet speeds comparable to those available in major metropolitan areas.

"These areas now have access to speeds as fast as you will find as anywhere in the country," Campbell said, comparing the service capabilities to those available in cities such as New York, Chicago and Dallas.

The project represents part of a broader statewide broadband initiative involving Charter Communications and the Commonwealth of Kentucky. According to Campbell, Spectrum has undertaken expansion projects in more than 51 Kentucky counties, targeting communities that previously lacked adequate high-speed internet service.

Campbell also recognized Kentucky House Speaker Pro Tempore David Meade for his involvement in securing state funding for broadband infrastructure.

He explained that early legislative discussions focused on an investment of approximately \$50 million before lawmakers expanded the initiative to \$300 million using federal funding made available through the American Rescue Plan Act.

Campbell credited Meade and his legislative colleagues with helping establish the financial foundation for projects such as the Garrard County expansion.

"Speaker Meade was influential in taking that \$50 million idea into \$300 million," Campbell said, referring to the initial statewide broadband investment.

Beyond the completed project, Spectrum is preparing for another round of construction through the federal Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment program, commonly known as BEAD.

Campbell announced that the next phase is expected to bring an additional \$1.5 million in broadband investment to Garrard County and extend Spectrum's fiber network to approximately 250 additional homes.

The company is currently reviewing contracts with Kentucky's state broadband office and expects those agreements to be finalized in the coming weeks.

Once completed, the additional project would bring the total number of Garrard County homes and businesses reached through the two announced phases to approximately 1,150.

However, Campbell cautioned that construction sched-

ules for the next phase remain dependent on the contracting and implementation process.

Under federal program guidelines, participating providers generally have approximately four years to complete their assigned broadband construction projects.

Campbell said the company intends to move forward as the necessary agreements are finalized, although he did not provide a specific construction start date or completion schedule for the additional Garrard County connections.

While county officials welcomed the broadband expansion, the discussion also highlighted concerns about the conduct of contractors working on private property during the initial construction phase.

Magistrate Wayne Day raised complaints from residents who experienced problems with construction crews, particularly regarding communication and respect for landowners.

"I'm glad y'all are here, but some of the contractors that come through, people have no respect," Day said, asking whether better communication could be established during future construction.

Campbell acknowledged that the company had received complaints and that some concerns had taken longer than expected to resolve.

He explained that Spectrum's statewide expansion has required construction crews from several states, including Alabama, Georgia and Tennessee, to assist with infrastructure installation across Kentucky.

The large number of contractors and simultaneous projects, he said, created opportunities for communication problems and inconsistencies in construction practices.

Campbell assured the court that Spectrum would work to improve its response to complaints during the upcoming expansion.

He offered to provide magistrates with his personal cell-phone number and email address so constituent concerns could be forwarded directly to him and escalated to the company's field operations and construction services teams.

"We're under no illusion that we do things perfectly or that everything goes according to plan," Campbell said, acknowledging the difficulties associated with extensive infrastructure construction.

Judge-Executive Chris Elleman confirmed that county officials had previously met with Spectrum representatives to address construction complaints and establish a dedicated email contact for residents.

According to Elleman, the county shared that contact information through its website or social media channels, but response times remained a concern.

"I think the response time was a little delayed, and that's where we're seeing some of the concerns," Elleman said.

One of the most significant issues involved contractors entering agricultural property and failing to properly secure gates, creating the possibility of livestock escaping.

Elleman said the county had received several complaints involving cattle and unsecured farm gates.

"I think one of the biggest issues I know you have was, especially with cattle, when they get on farms and gates not closed and cattle getting out," Elleman said.

Magistrate Day expressed additional frustration, saying some contractors had entered farms without adequately communicating with property owners and had driven through areas without sufficient regard for landowners' concerns.

Campbell said Spectrum had

addressed reported incidents through its field operations leadership and had reinforced company procedures with construction crews.

He identified Heather Day, an associate vice president with Spectrum's field operations team, as a point of escalation for complaints involving property access, contractor conduct and construction-related problems.

Campbell said the company would continue working with county officials to resolve issues and improve communication before the next phase begins.

The discussion also turned to the importance of reliable broadband service for Garrard County's continued residential and economic growth.

Elleman said inadequate internet access had been a long-standing problem for the county, particularly as more residents began working remotely following the COVID-19 pandemic.

He noted that reliable broadband infrastructure has become increasingly important as the county attracts new residents and experiences population growth.

"We never had good internet," Elleman said. "We've seen people move in here, especially that works remote, especially after COVID."

Elleman estimated that the county's population had increased from slightly more than 16,500 to approximately 17,500, describing the expansion of high-speed internet as an important part of accommodating that growth. Those population figures were presented as the judge-executive's estimates during the meeting.

"This county is growing," Elleman said. "Obviously, people's going to need high-speed internet to operate."

Campbell similarly emphasized that broadband availability affects economic development, education, health care, public safety and overall quality of life.

He said the company's objective is to bring reliable service to rural communities that have historically lacked the same communications infrastructure available in larger cities.

Questions also emerged about whether additional portions of Garrard County, particularly areas outside Spectrum's current service footprint, might receive broadband infrastructure through future projects.

Magistrate Geldan Barker asked about plans for further expansion in the county.

Campbell said he could confirm the approximately 250 additional connections planned through the BEAD program but did not have specific information about potential construction beyond that commitment.

He explained that broadband grant territories are determined through state-administered programs and that different internet providers may receive awards to serve different geographic areas.

As a result, some locations not included in Spectrum's expansion plans could eventually receive service from another company.

Elleman specifically questioned whether existing provider territories, including areas served by Windstream, influence how broadband expansion projects are assigned.

Campbell explained that the completed project areas were defined through the state's grant process and that BEAD awards operate under a similar geographic framework.

"There may be another provider that may be covering that portion," Campbell said.

He noted that other companies could have received BEAD awards for areas not reflected on Spectrum's existing project maps.

Campbell committed to reviewing state broadband maps

evening celebration provides families with an opportunity to participate in holiday activities without the constraints of a typical school-night schedule.

Organizers have expressed enthusiasm about the upcoming event, sharing a message with residents that HalloweenFest is quickly approaching and that they look forward to seeing the community's costumes.

The fourth annual HalloweenFest will take place Saturday, October 31, from 5 p.m. until 8 p.m. at 308 W. Maple Avenue in Lancaster.

Residents planning to attend can look forward to an evening featuring food trucks, inflatable attractions, Halloween costumes and plenty of candy as Lancaster celebrates the holiday with its community.

and consulting with the company's construction and operations teams to determine whether additional areas of Garrard County are included in upcoming projects.

He also promised to follow up directly with county officials regarding the locations of future construction and any available information about projects awarded to competing providers.

The distinction is significant for residents who remain without reliable high-speed internet access, as the completion of Spectrum's initial project does not mean every home or business in Garrard County now has access to fiber service.

The announced expansion covers specific designated areas, and the next phase will target another group of eligible locations.

County officials did not receive a comprehensive schedule identifying when all remaining unserved areas might receive broadband access.

Despite the concerns raised about contractor conduct and remaining service gaps, Elleman thanked Spectrum for its investment and recognized the logistical challenges involved in completing the initial project.

He noted that much of the work required to install fiber infrastructure, secure pole attachment agreements and obtain necessary permissions occurs outside public view.

"I know it's been a lot of work and a lot of behind-the-scenes stuff that people really don't know what goes on as far as running the lines and getting that done," Elleman said.

Campbell expressed appreciation for the county's cooperation and said the company values its relationships with local governments as it continues expanding its Kentucky network.

He reiterated that residents and magistrates should contact the company when construction-related concerns arise, emphasizing that complaints would be directed to appropriate personnel.

With the first \$8.8 million project completed and another \$1.5 million expansion planned, Spectrum's combined announced investment in Garrard County stands at approximately \$10.3 million.

The next phase is expected to expand broadband availability to additional rural households, while questions remain about the precise construction timetable, coverage of other unserved areas and improvements in contractor communication.



garrardlibrary.org

859-792-3424



GARRARD COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY

The Garrard County Public Library hours: Monday-Friday, 9:00 a.m.-6:30 p.m. and Saturday, 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

Story Time. Join us for stories, crafts and lots of fun on Wednesday mornings at 10:00. The first Wednesday of each month, we will be joined by the Garrard County Extension Office for **Laugh and Learn**, a kindergarten readiness program which will include story time, snacks, crafts and activities. **Ages 0-5.**

Pokemon Club. Join the Pokemon Club for battles, activities and snacks. Open to all school age kids, newcomers will receive a beginner's card kit. Bring a friend and get ready to catch 'em all! Thursday, October 29, 3:30-5:00. **Grades K-12.**

Llamas in Pajamas. Looking for a cozy way to spend your Saturday? Join us at the library for a very special Story Time. We'll read the book **Llama Llama Red Pajama** and provide some cozy snacks. Afterwards, you'll get a chance to meet our special guests: real llamas from foggy Bottom Farm wearing their fanciest pajamas! Get you cameras ready and prepare to make some lasting memories. Saturday, November 7, 11:00-12:00. **All ages.**

Kid's Crafternoon: Fall Suncatchers. Suncatchers aren't only for spring. We're providing some fun fall-themed suncatchers for you to paint and hang in your windows. You'll even be able to decorate their strings with colorful beads. All materials will be provided. Monday, November 9, 3:30-5:00. **K-5th Grades.**

Lego Club. Join us for our new monthly Lego Club, where you can spend an hour building whatever your imagination allows. Participate in optional monthly challenges or build your own custom creations. We'll provide the bricks, you provide the creativity. Thursday, November 12, 3:30-5:00. **Grades K-8.**

Anime Fan Meetup for Teens. Do you enjoy anime? Come to the library to meet other fans, try Japanese snacks, and test your knowledge with quizzes. Friday, November 6, 3:30-4:30. **Grades 6-12.**

Teen Cupcake Decorating. Indulge your sweet tooth and unleash your inner artist at our Cupcake Decorating Class. Guided by our fantastic Adult Librarian Emily, you will learn fun techniques to transform simple cupcakes into beautifully decorated treats. We provide all the supplies, so just bring your creativity. Wednesday, November 11, 3:30-4:30. Registration is required so stop by or call the library to sign up. **Grades 6-12.**

Thursday Book Club. The November selection is **The Midnight Library** by Matt Haig. Thursday, November 19, 2:45-3:45. **Ages 18 and up.**

Early Bird Book Club. Spend the morning with a good book and great friends. The November selection is **The Rules of Magic** by Alice Hoffman. **Tuesday, November 17, 8:00 a.m.**

Cupcake Decorating Class for Adults. Learn basic piping skills by decorating cupcakes. Each participant will create three autumnal cupcake designs which they will be able to take home. Wednesday, November 11, 5:00-6:00. **Registration is required** so stop by or call the library to sign up. **Ages 18 and up.** We love children but in order to cut down on distractions, we strongly suggest that you not bring them to this program

Haunted House. Step into the dark corners of the library for our Haunted House if you dare. All ages are welcome to enter but mysterious shadows and sudden jump scares lurk around every stack. Parents are advised to us discretion for younger participants. Thursday, October 29, 5:00-7:00. **All ages.**

Faxing is digital and self-serve. **Notary services** (free), **copying** and **printing** (ask library staff for cost) are available. **Print jobs may also be emailed to garrardlibprint@gmail.com.** We also offer **Mobile Printing** which allows you to print directly from your phone.

Garrard Central Record		LEGAL NOTICE
		LEGAL NOTICE
Classifieds		Due to a lien on the Ford Flex, owned by Elvis Buford, Highway Haulers, 264 Bryantsville Road, Lancaster, KY 40444, 859-265-1779 is seeing application for title of the Ford Flex. Application to be filed on November 14 2026.
FOR RENT	CLASSIC CARS	UPHOLSTERY
FOR RENT: 2 bedroom, 1 bath house; 2 bedroom 1-1/2 bath duplex; and 1 bedroom apartment, utilities furnished. Call 606-669-1020 or 859-339-0452.	BUYING CLASSIC CARS - Cash paid for 1930's, 40's, 50's, 60's and 70's - running or not. We will be in your area. CALL NOW 513-403-7386.	FELDMAN UPHOLSTERY Custom Truck, Car, Boat, Interior Repairs, REPAIR HEADLINERS. Bryantsville. 859-339-5122

POSTED We positively will not permit fixed hunting of any character, fishing, dogs or trespassing on our farms/properties. Any violations will be prosecuted. First Property Listing \$2.00 per week or \$51 per year for posted list. Addition Property Listings \$1.00 per week or \$10.00 per year	• Duncantown Cemetery, Waterworks Road • Sam Bass Farm, 482 Leavell Ridge Road • Michael & Dana Carrier, 2539 Kelly Ridge Road • Danny & Judy Browning's property at end of Conn's Lane • Carolyn Sparks property at 5252 Lexington Road • Paul Black Farms, Hwy. 1355 (Sugar Creek Road) • Paul And Suzanne Wells at 4129 White Lick Road, Paint Lick • Tammy Fowler, 749 Nina Ridge Road • Mike and Pam Fathergill, 111 Lynnwood Drive • Chris and Joy Fathergill, 317 Richmond Street • Mary Alice (Paul) Drew, 810 Carry Nation Road Property • Kathy Tuggle & Paula Tudor - Jim Clark Road • David M. and Rose Walker, 1163 Wolf Trail Road • The Kenton Property, 795 and 719 C Valley Drive, Berea • Grover Drew Farm, Carry Nation Road. • Doug and Anna Graves, 319 Richmond Road, Loop 2 • The Brenda Farms, 4870 Harmons Lick Rd & Hamilton Valley Rd • Vockery property on Polly's Bend Road • Hugh and Amy Johnson, 6198 Lexington Road • Dale Marie Hellard - Barbara French & William Randall Causey Farms at 2178 Hamilton Valley Road, 2636 Hamilton Valley Road And 1454 Hamilton Valley Road • Frank and Altheia Rice, 390 Leavell Ridge Road, 372 Leavell Ridge Road and Rice Farm at Three Forks, • Norma McFadden Property, 9700 Nicholasville Road • Deborah Kelly property at 472 Hobert Estes Road
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