

Web site gives RFK in EKY schedule

ROBERT BAIRD
STAFF WRITER

The Robert F. Kennedy Performance Project will be held Sept. 8-11 in sites spanning eastern Kentucky.

The schedule for this week's RFK in EKY performance project is available on the project's Internet site and at stops in eastern Kentucky. Using the Web site, you can download a newspaper broadsheet containing the schedule, map of the route, characters and cast, plus much more. The Web address is www.appalshop.org/kennedy

All times on the program are approximate and depend on circumstances and travel conditions. Here's a rough outline of when and where RFK in EKY will stop:

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 8

This day's events take place in Lexington, Ky. Orientation for journalists, acting journalists and entourage actors begins at 3 p.m. at the University of Kentucky Main Student Center, rooms 113 and 115.

At 7:30 p.m., an evening with Peter Edelman will be featured. The topic is "Searching for America's Heart: RFK and the Renewal of Hope." This event takes place in the UK Student Center Annex, Room 230. A reception will follow.

THURSDAY, SEPT. 9

This is the first day of events reenacting Kennedy's 1968 tour of eastern Kentucky. Stops are:

- ▶ 9 a.m. — Wolfe County Senior Citizens Center in Campton;
- ▶ 11 a.m. — Vortex Community Church;
- ▶ 12:30 p.m. — Barwick School;
- ▶ 3 p.m. — Liberty Street in Hazard;
- ▶ 4:30 p.m. — Strip mine site in Knott County; and
- ▶ 5:30 p.m. — Alice Lloyd College in Pippa Passes. The rest of this day's events, including a dinner and public discussion, will be held in the evening at the college.

FRIDAY, SEPT. 10

This is the second day of the reenactment. Stops are:

- ▶ 9 a.m. — Appalshop in Whitesburg;
- ▶ 10 a.m. — Letcher County courthouse in Whitesburg;
- ▶ 11 a.m. — Fleming-Neon High School gymnasium; and
- ▶ 4:30 p.m. — Floyd County Fiscal Court in Prestonsburg.

SATURDAY, SEPT. 11

RFK in EKY will have a booth open all day during the Neon Days Festival where memorabilia from the performance project will be available. The festival, in Neon, Ky., is part county fair, part heritage and music showcase and part midway.

At 1 p.m., during the festival, a discussion will be held on the legacy of the "Maximum Feasible Participation of the Poor" programs. At 3:30 p.m., during the festival, an artist talk will be held with director John Malpede, Harrell Fletcher, RFK in EKY cast and staff. ▲

RFK in EKY logistics, contacts

All events associated with the Robert F. Kennedy Performance Project are free and open to the public. Breakfast and lunch will be served at different points along the route, with proceeds helping community organizations.

If at any time you get lost or need to know where to meet up with the RFK in EKY caravan, call Appalshop at 606.633.0108. All times on the program are approximate and depend, as did Kennedy's original schedule, on circumstance and travel conditions.

Some needed numbers:

- ▶ Campton Senior Citizens Center, 606.668.3954
- ▶ Hazard City Hall, 606.436.3252
- ▶ Alice Lloyd College, 888.280.4252
- ▶ Hindman Settlement School, 606.785.5475
- ▶ Fleming-Neon High School, 606.855.7597
- ▶ Floyd County Fiscal Court, 606.886.9193
- ▶ Emergency at any site, dial 911

Visit www.appalshop.org/kennedy for a complete schedule of events, project history, telephone numbers for area hotels and a map of the route. ▲

Wise Diva **PAGEANT**

The 2nd Annual Miss Wise Diva Pageant will be held at Mountain Empire Community College on September 25, 2004.

There will be 8 different categories ages birth to 21 years old. Miss Virginia Teen Natasha Hickman will be the honored guest.

For more information, call 276-796-4002 or 276-865-4434 or visit our sponsors:

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Kennedy performance project this week in eastern Kentucky

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STAFF WRITER

This week, Appalshop and director John Malpede will present "RFK in EKY," a real-time, multi-stop reenactment of Robert F. Kennedy's 1968 tour of eastern Kentucky.

RFK in EKY will be performed at the original sites visited by Kennedy, according to the project's Internet site.

Most of the actors and actresses hail from eastern Kentucky, although the role of former U.S. Rep. Carl D. Perkins will be played by Frank Taylor, who grew up in Wise and Norton. Hazard attorney Jack Faust will play the role of Robert F. Kennedy.

RFK in EKY activities and events are scheduled for Wednesday, Sept. 8, through Saturday, Sept. 11. Kennedy's tour will be reenacted on Sept. 9 and 10.

If you can't attend, the entire tour will also be broadcast live on Appalshop's WMMT radio station, found at 88.7 on the FM dial. For more information, visit www.appalshop.org/wmmt.

Also, WMMT's "Mountain Talk" radio program will feature a discussion about Kennedy's tour of eastern Kentucky. The show airs tonight at 7 p.m. Guests include Peter Edelman, aide to Kennedy in 1968.

Kennedy toured eastern Kentucky on Feb. 13-14, 1968, landing at Lexington's Bluegrass Airport and traveling more than 200 miles before ending the tour at Prestonsburg. Kennedy's purpose in touring eastern Kentucky was



◀ Shown in this photograph taken Feb. 14, 1968, Robert F. Kennedy conducts a field hearing of the U.S. Senate Subcommittee on Manpower, Employment and Poverty at the Fleming-Neon (Ky.) High School gymnasium. Kennedy is sitting at the center table, with his hand raised. The photo was taken by Steve Cawood. This hearing will be reenacted during 'RFK in EKY,' a real-time re-creation of Kennedy's 1968 tour of eastern Kentucky. The committee hearing will be reenacted Friday, Sept. 10, at 11 a.m., in the Fleming-Neon High School gym. For more information, visit www.appalshop.org on the Internet.

architects.

In 1985 Malpede formed the Los Angeles Poverty Department, or LAPD, the nation's first performance group comprised primarily of homeless people. He has been working with Appalshop for three years in the research, development and production of RFK in EKY, according to the press kit.

For more information about the Robert F. Kennedy Performance Project, visit www.appalshop.org/kennedy on the Internet. ▲

ing hearings in Vortex and Fleming-Neon. Kennedy took testimony that would be entered into the Congressional Record. Kennedy also visited homes, schoolhouses and even a strip mine site, according to the Web site, a media kit and other project documents.

Initiated and led by Malpede, RFK in EKY is a project of Appalshop Inc. in Whitesburg, Ky.

Malpede is a renowned director, actor and writer who has collaborated with dancers, poets, videographers, painters and

to examine the outcomes of the first wave of "war on poverty" legislation with the people most affected, according to the RFK in EKY Web site.

Conducted as part of a U.S. Senate Subcommittee on Manpower, Employment and Poverty examination of the war on poverty, the 1968 tour occurred just before Kennedy announced his candidacy for president and about four months before he was assassinated.

While in eastern Kentucky, Kennedy conducted field hearings for the subcommittee — conven-

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