

Courtesy Office of the Governor

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> Groundbreaking Ceremony for Greenup Veterans Cemetery Fourth state

> veterans cemetery to open in 2010 GREENUP, Ky. (Sept. 18, 2009) -

> Governor Steve Beshear ceremonially broke ground today on the Commonwealths fourth state veterans cemetery in Greenup County.

> I am honored to be here to break ground for the Kentucky Veterans

> Cemetery North East in Greenup, said Gov. Beshear. Today, we remember the brave men and women who have served our country in the armed forces, and we are also grateful for the hard work to the legislature and the Kentucky Department of Veterans Affairs for locating this property and obtaining the federal grant for this cemetery. Governor Beshear also accepted a \$6.1 million check from Frank Salvas Sr., director of the State Cemeteries Grant Service of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, for construction of Kentucky Veterans Cemetery North East (KVCNE).

> Other speakers at the ceremony included Rep. Tanya Pullin, D-South Shore, and Senator Robin Webb, D-Grayson.

> I have worked for six years on this project and it is very exciting

> to have this ceremony to commemorate the beginning of construction and

> I look forward to watching the construction over the next year. said Rep.

Pullin. The veterans of our area will have a dignified resting place and a tribute to their service when this cemetery opens next year. I, along with Rep. Pullin and our regional delegation worked diligently to provide support for this project, said Sen Webb. And today, I feel privileged to break ground on what I know will serve as a distinguished and honorable memorial for the laudable veterans of our Commonwealth. The cemetery will serve veterans and their families from northeastern Kentucky as well as those from southeastern Ohio and western West Virginia. It thus serves the federal goal of ensuring that a national or state veterans cemetery is no further than 75 miles from veterans families. KDVA is currently seeking land for its fifth state veterans cemetery in Leslie County in southeastern Kentucky.

> The Kentucky Department of Veterans Affairs began construction on KVCNE in August 2009. KVCNE will be located on approximately 75 acres on East Park Drive off Highway 67 and Industrial Parkway in Greenup County, approximately one half-mile north of U.S. Highway 64 at the Boyd, Carter and Greenup County border. The Commonwealth of Kentucky purchased the land for the cemetery, the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs will reimburse the state for construction, and the state will pay the operating costs.

> KVCNE is Kentucky s fourth State Veterans Cemetery. Kentucky Veterans Cemetery West in Hopkinsville has interred more than 1,200 veterans and dependents since opening in 2004, Kentucky Veterans Cemetery Central in Radcliff has interred more than 950 veterans and dependents since opening in 2007, and Kentucky Veterans Cemetery North in Williamstown has interred more than 130 veterans and dependents since opening in 2008.

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