

Big Ol' Breck.

Breckinridge County is the 6th largest county in area in the Commonwealth of Kentucky. It lies 70 miles east of Louisville (the state's largest city), along the great Ohio River.

Breckinridge County is centrally located and is roughly within a 75 minute drive from Bowling Green, Owensboro, Elizabethtown and Louisville. The county boasts the longest riverfront of any county in the state yet the entire bank remains untouched by industry or tourism. Why you might ask? That is a question we need to ask our current leadership.

Breckinridge County's greatest strength is also it's greatest weakness, it's massive area. With communities spread to the outer edges, the sense of unity is lost. The county seat, Hardinsburg is located directly in the center of the county, yet remains farther away from the 3 primary things that can help drive an area's economy; river frontage, interstate and railway. So my question to you is, "Why should we elect officials that aren't trying to lure industry and small businesses into Breckinridge County?"

To me, the answer is very simple. It is more about having a vision, strategic plan and using taxpayer dollars efficiently for Breckinridge County. Looking back on lost ventures will not help the future of our great county, but we can learn from industry that has invested elsewhere. As a leader of a family owned business for 18 years, I have experienced the highs and lows, success and failure. To thrive in a rural area I have had to rely on my passion, work ethic and self driven nature to achieve success. Everything that I have ever tried has not always worked but I have learned many valuable lessons along the way. I did not turn our family owned business into the largest parts

provider in the Commonwealth (tripling the size of the business) without hard work. What I offer to tax paying residents of Breckinridge County is hard work and a passion to turn this county into a mixture of small business and industry while remaining a charming farming community. The size of the county alone will keep the farms in tact but the potential for development in certain areas can help impact our waning economy and turn it into a place of growth.

How am I qualified to help with this endeavor? As a salesman in a market that deals with conservative farmers on a daily basis, I am better prepared than most could ever be. By selling my vision and convincing investors of the ample opportunities in this area and fostering relationships with Frankfort, we can make Breckinridge County the place to be. We train some of the very best skilled laborers at our Area Technology School however, 80-90% of them leave the county for work. Why not make the industry come to us? We can showcase that this is an area that is committed long term to keeping their labor needs filled and that we offer lower property taxes, rail and river transport. I pride myself on my ability to sell about anything. Selling investors on this area will be my primary objective.

Although my platform is filled with many lofty goals, I will set my plans into motion on day one. I can't do this overnight but what I can do is change the mindset of this area and promote the vision of expansion. In November, please vote for a brighter future by voting for me, Kevin Bruce Drane, for Breckinridge County Judge Executive.