Monroe County Bicentennial receives AT&T grant

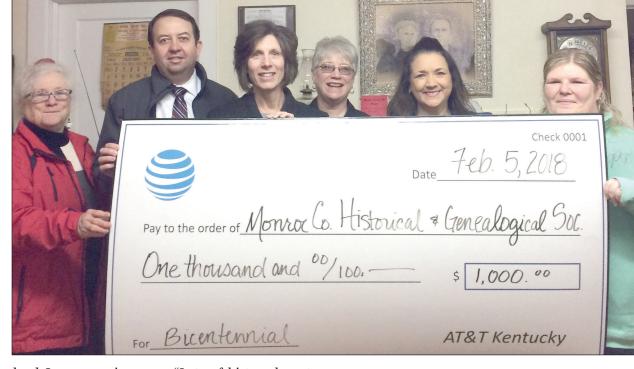
Special to the MONROE CITIZEN

On Monday, February 5, AT&T Kentucky External Affairs Manager Holland B. Spade came to Tompkinsville and presented Bicentennial planners with a check for \$1000, important seed money as the committee sets plans in motion for an unforgettable 2020 celebration.

Holland told the group that AT&T is happy to support grassroots efforts throughout the Commonwealth, and that since they don't have a physical presence in these rural communities, they rely on state representatives to direct them toward deserving groups. "I regularly call on Rep. Rowland and his counterparts to direct me toward prospective recipients in their counties. They are out in the field and know where there is a need," she said. Once a recipient organization is identified and a contact person established, the process is swift and simple. In this instance, Rowland contacted Old Mulkey State Historic Site Director and Bicentennial Committee member Sheila Rush and asked if the Bicentennial Planning Committee would be interested in the grant.

Rush didn't need to call a special meeting and take a vote; it was a matter of saying, "Yes, thanks" and agreeing to serve as the contact person. Rowland put her in touch with Spade to get the paperwork done. "It was a very simple process," said Rush. "I bet it didn't take 20 minutes".

"I'm very happy to have played a role in obtaining these funds for the Bicentennial," said Rowland, noting that his family business, Row-



land Insurance, is one of the oldest continually operated businesses in Tompkinsville. "We may have changed names over the years," he said, "but the business was continual."

"Lots of history here to celebrate!" Spade remarked on Twitter.

To help with Bicentennial plans or make suggestions, please contact the Monroe County Historical and Genealogical So-

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Photographer Tom Craig captures the beauty of Monroe County

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