

In Kentucky, Ivanka Trump touts 'booming' economy

BY WILL WRIGHT
wwright@herald-leader.com

MOREHEAD

Following a tour Friday of workforce development programs in Eastern Kentucky, Ivanka Trump touted what she called a "booming" economy and praised Gov. Matt Bevin for his efforts to diversify economic opportunity across the region.

Trump, the president's daughter and an adviser to the White House, visited an advanced manufacturing training center in Paintsville, the Big Sandy Community and Technical College in Prestonsburg and the Space Science Center at Morehead State University.

Speaking from the Space Center, Trump praised the workforce development sites she visited and credited deregulation, tax cuts and a "climate of optimism" for economic growth across the nation.

"This is a wonderful and hospitable climate for business," Trump said of Kentucky.

In much of Eastern Kentucky, though, a sharp decline of the coal industry has left an economy that is anything but booming. Coal jobs in Eastern Kentucky have plummeted from 14,619 in 2011 to 3,909 in the second quarter of this



MARCUS DORSEY mdorsey@herald-leader.com

Ivanka Trump and Kentucky Gov. Matt Bevin speak at Morehead State University's Space Science Center after Trump toured the facility and two other workforce development programs in Eastern Kentucky on Friday. The region's economy has struggled with the sharp decline in the coal industry.

year, according to the Kentucky Energy and Environment Cabinet.

Per capita market income in Appalachian Kentucky fell to \$19,022 in 2016, compared to a national average that grew to \$40,679, according to a recent report from the Appalachian Regional Commission.

Many of the Kentucky coun-

ties struggling with high unemployment rates are in the eastern part of the state. Magoffin County held the highest rate in September, at 11.3 percent. It was followed by Carter County at 8.2 percent, Elliott County at 7.8 percent, and Harlan County at 7.2 percent.

“
**THIS IS A
WONDERFUL AND
HOSPITABLE CLIMATE
FOR BUSINESS.**

SEE TRUMP, 2A *Ivanka Trump*

CITATION (TURABIAN STYLE)

Lexington Herald-Leader (KY) (Lexington, Kentucky), October 27, 2018: 1. NewsBank: America's News. <https://infoweb.newsbank.com/apps/news/document-view?p=NewsBank&docref=image/v2:1652098DD7407BF0@NewsBank-16F507981A7960DA@2458419-16F507A2EE41AABE@0-16F507A2EE41AABE@>.