

Look for
Library, Parks &
Recreation and
Extension Service
class listings
inside!

WHAT'S

Happening!

in Kenton County, Kentucky

Winter/Spring 2012

Try TANK to avoid winter weather driving



Don't spend your winter scraping, shoveling and chipping ice and snow from your car ... Try TANK!

If you're like many people, the thought of winter weather driving is what you dread most about seeing snowflakes.

Do you enjoy filling the gas tank in freezing temps? Scraping layer

after layer of ice and snow off of your car window? Shoveling the car out of the driveway?

Unless you answered YES! to any of these questions, maybe you should try something new this year.

Visit the Google Trip-Planner at www.tankbus.org and trade in your gas card for a bus pass. Pile on an extra layer of clothing and a pair of snow boots and head to the nearest bus stop with that book you've been

planning to read. Let a professional do the driving – you'll be glad you did!



TANK in Kenton County

Routes:

- 1 Florence (travels Dixie Hwy.)
- 3 Ludlow/Bromley
- 5 Holman
- 7 Rosedale/Latonia
- 9 Taylor Mill/Independence
- 17X Villa Hills Express
- 18X Edgewood Express
- 19X Beechgrove Express
- 30X Independence Express
- 33 St. Elizabeth South/TANK P&R/
Crestview Hills Town Center
Southbank Shuttle Trolley

Park & Ride Locations:

- Buttermilk Park and Ride (17X)
- Hands Pike Park & Ride (30X)
- TANK P&R (5, 8, 30X, 33)
- Independence P&R (30X)

Call 331-TANK
or visit
www.tankbus.org
for schedule and
route information.

Service updates

Fare increase

Effective January 1 some of TANK's fares have increased. Details are available at www.tankbus.org.

To summarize the changes:

- Express route fare is now \$2
- RAMP service fare is now \$2.50
- Day/Tripper fare is now \$4
- Transfers are now \$0.25 and must be requested and purchased at the time of boarding the bus.

U-Pass program

Students that are currently registered and taking classes at either Northern Kentucky University or Gateway Community and Technical College may ride any TANK route free! Thanks to a contractual arrangement between TANK and both schools, students get this valuable benefit! When you board the TANK bus, just swipe your valid student ID card in the farebox on the bus — it's easy!

Free events, programs and classes: Winter 2012

* Please call to register.

Tutoring Grades K-12

Tuesdays, 4-5:30 pm

Get the help you need on homework, test prep and studying skills.

Covington Branch

GED Classes

*Mondays and Wednesdays,
5:30-8 pm*

Free classes are offered by Gateway Community & Technical College and the Kenton County Adult Education Program. Call 859/442-1615 for more information. William E. Durr Branch

Chess Club Grades 1-12

Tuesdays, 3:30-5:30 pm

Thirty minutes of chess instruction for beginners will be offered from 3:30-4 pm. Open play will be available from 4-5:30 pm.

Erlanger Branch

Make it Take it Friday Crafts

Ages 3-12 years

Fridays, 4-5 pm

Drop by on Fridays to make and take easy crafts. Covington Branch

Open Lab For e-Readers*

Thursday, February 9, 1:30-3 pm

Bring your e-reader to class and ask any questions that you might have. William E. Durr Branch

Arting Around Grades K-6

Saturdays, 11 am -noon

Create your own masterpiece with different art materials.

Feb. 11 - Textured Paper Picture

Feb. 18 - Polar Bears

Feb. 25 - Oodles of Doodles

William E. Durr Branch

Valentine Party

Sunday, February 12, 2 pm

Enjoy entertainment and crafts.

Co-sponsored by Erlanger Parks and Recreation Department. Erlanger Branch

Winter Bird Feeders*

*Thursday, February 16,
7-8:30 pm*

Learn about different types of feeders, seed recommendations and what birds you can expect to attract. Make an easy feeder to take home. Kids in the 1-5 grades must have a registered adult to help with the craft. William E. Durr Branch

Microsoft PowerPoint*

Part 1-Thursday, February 16, 10 am

Part 2- Thursday, February 23, 10 am
Covington Branch.

Writers' Workshop: Some Write, Some Wrong *

Thursday, February 16, 6:30 pm

Learn the crazy-making pitfalls and how to avoid them from Patricia McLinn, an award-winning and best-selling author of more than 26 novels. Erlanger Branch

Puppy Tales Grades 1-6 & a parent

Join us for Puppy Tales and you can read to a dog at the library! We will supply the dogs, you bring the children!

- *Sunday, February 19, 2-4 pm*
- Erlanger Branch
- *Sunday, March 4, 1-3 pm*
- Covington Branch

SpongeBob SquarePants Grades 6-12

Monday, February 20, 6-8 pm

Let's go visit that pineapple under the sea! Watch Mr. Squarepants and his buddies, make crafts and have snacks. William E. Durr Branch

Online Program - Homework Help: Science Projects and More

Tuesday, February 21, noon-1 pm

Learn about the online resources available to help you or your kids finish homework projects from home. We have many e-books, science projects, online encyclopedias and more. www.kentonlibrary.org/ events to register.

Cloud Computing*

Tuesday, February 21, 6:30 pm

Learn how you can use Google Docs and Microsoft SkyDrive for all your Cloud Computing needs. Erlanger Branch

Legendary Locals of Greater Cincinnati*

Thursday, February 23, 7 pm

Discover the stories of Barney Kroger, Pete Rose, Joseph Strauss and more in this fascinating local history presentation with Kevin Grace, author of "Legendary Locals of Cincinnati." After the program, books will be available for sale and signing. Erlanger Branch

Kentucky Symphony Orchestra's Newport Ragtime Band*

Saturday, February 25, 2 pm

Live and in concert at your Library: the Kentucky Symphony Orchestra's Newport Ragtime Band! Erlanger Branch

Congenealogy

*Monday, February 27,
6:30-8:30 pm*

Join other "congenial genealogists" for an informal evening of lively discussion, resource sharing, and guest speakers. Held at Baker-Hunt during Covington Branch renovation.



Kenton County Public Library



Mary Ann Mongan Library

502 Scott Street
Covington, KY 41011
859/962-4060

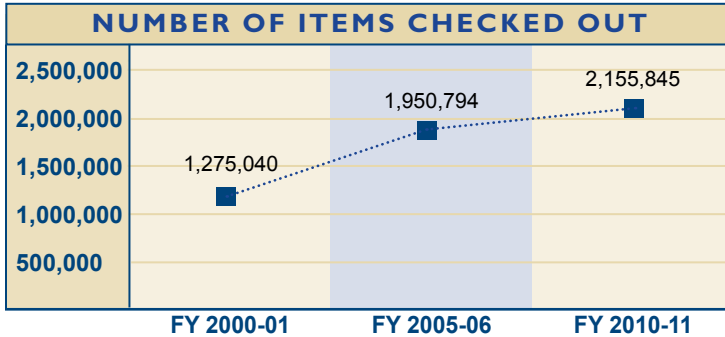
Durr Branch Library

1992 Walton-Nicholson Rd.
Independence, KY 41051
859/962-4030

Erlanger Branch Library

401 Kenton Lands Rd.
Erlanger, KY 41018
859/962-4000

Library's report to the community



LIBRARY PROGRAMS AND ATTENDANCE

	Number of Programs	Attendance
Total FY 10-11	5,633	123,222
Total FY 05-06	4,084	93,552
Total FY 00-01	1,568	37,990

LIBRARY VISITS

fiscal year 2010-2011	962,183
fiscal year 2000-2001	897,044

NUMBER OF REGISTERED BORROWERS

Fiscal Year	Covington	Durr	Erlanger	Total
10-11	51,228	23,747	65,554	140,529
09-10	51,526	23,018	65,033	139,577
08-09	50,480	20,933	61,517	132,930
07-08	44,765	18,704	57,059	120,528
06-07	44,691	16,799	54,323	115,813
05-06	43,376	15,360	52,874	111,610

This year's highlights

The Covington Renovation and Expansion project kicked off in April 2011 with a groundbreaking ceremony. Since opening in 1974 the Covington library building has undergone only minor cosmetic renovations.

Children's librarian Amy Schardein was named Librarian of the Year by SouthWest Ohio and Neighboring Libraries. The organization also named the Erlanger Branch Library as Library of the Year. Public relations director Robin Klaene received the Public Relations and Marketing award from the Kentucky Library Association. U.S. Bank, presenting sponsor for the Library Foundation's 5k, received a state award for their partnership with the Library.

The Erlanger Branch hosted a free Thanksgiving lunch for seniors. More than 125 seniors enjoyed an afternoon of library history and camaraderie. City officials, fire and police staff from the city of Erlanger, along with Library staff, served the meal courtesy of Colonial Cottage.

E-book use is on the rise with usage of the Library's e-books up 127%. The Library offers more than 10,000 e-books for those who use e-readers.

The Kenton County Public Library was first in the state to achieve exemplary status from the Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives.

REFERENCE TRANSACTIONS:
fiscal year 2010-11: 259,760

NUMBER OF PEOPLE ACCESSING ELECTRONIC RESOURCES:
fiscal year 2010-11: 359,816



Access the Library's over 40 online databases!

The Library has over 40 online databases to help you with just about anything! Visit www.kentonlibrary.org/databases for a complete listing and access.

Most databases can be accessed from home with a Library card. If asked for your PIN number, it is the last four digits of your phone number. Library cards are free.

If you like to travel try:

- Mango or Little Pim to learn a language
- Culturegrams to learn about different parts of the world

To save money:

- Consumer Reports online
- Weiss (bank ratings)
- EBSCO (magazine articles)
- Freegal (free music downloads)

- Chilton's Auto Repair
- E-books/Overdrive

To research your family tree:

- Ancestry.com (in the library only)
- geNKY - Northern Kentucky Genealogy Database
- Faces & Places online local historical photos

Looking for something new to read:

- Overdrive for e-books

- Novelist (reading suggestions)
- Disney Digital Books and Tumblebooks for kids

Help with school work:

- Learning Express (ACT/SAT prep tests and 4th grade skills building)
- Culturegrams
- Northern Kentucky Newspaper Index
- WorldBook Encyclopedia Online

Message from Dr. Saddler: *Don't let winter put a chill on your family's efforts to be healthy*



Dr. Lynne Saddler

I came to Northern Kentucky last year from central Florida. I am proud to call Kentucky my new home, but

for someone used to the mild winters in the Sunshine State, the short days, cloudy skies and frigid temperatures take some getting used to.

Whatever the weather, it's important for families to keep their children healthy year-round, preventing illness, encouraging play and eating right.

Colds, flu and other communicable diseases are more common in winter months, mainly because we spend more time indoors, in close proximity to others. Keep those germs away by washing your hands often, avoiding people who are sick, and—if you haven't already—getting a flu shot. Flu vaccine is free at the Health Department.

Do your kids have cabin fever yet? On our milder winter days, get the whole family moving outside. Kids can comfortably play outdoors if the temperature is at 32 or above, as long as the wind speed is below 15 mph and they are dressed appropriately. But, remember to check on kids regularly to make sure they aren't too cold. Always keep those hands, feet and heads warm, too!

For the days when playing outdoors isn't possible, look for indoor sports, such as basketball, indoor soccer, indoor flag football, or volleyball.

Eating healthy can be tough in winter, particularly when fresh produce is not in season. Stock your freezer with a variety of frozen vegetables. They are cheap and just as healthy as fresh vegetables because they are frozen when they are at their peak nutrition state. Having them on hand makes it easy to add lots of veggies to soups, casseroles and slow cooker meals that we tend to eat more often in the winter time. A bowl of soup is a great snack after playing outside. Just make sure it's not cream-based and watch out for sodium.

And when winter seems to be at its worst, consider planning your spring or summer vacation to some place sunny and warm! I'm sure my former neighbors in Florida would be happy to have you vacation there.



Kids can comfortably play outdoors if the temperature is at 32 degrees or above, as long as the wind speed is below 15 mph and they are dressed appropriately.

Annual report details year filled with success amid significant challenges

The hurdles faced by the Health Department staff and Board during its 2011 fiscal year were immense — increased need for services due to difficult economic times, budget cuts from the state and federal level, rising costs for employee benefits and lower reimbursement for services, among others. The fiscal year 2010-2011 annual report addresses these issues, and how the Health Department continues to face difficulties head on and provide quality public health services to Northern Kentucky.

Highlights include:

- The hiring of Lynne M. Saddler, MD, MPH, as District Director of Health in July 2010
- Continued demand for clinical services, with 5,000 more clients seeking care at the Health Department's four county health centers compared to the previous year



- Education about and enforcement of the Kenton County smoking ordinance
- Response to simultaneous outbreaks of Shigella and Cryptosporidiosis
- Rising costs and declining revenues leading to a budget deficit of more than \$1 million

To read the report, please visit our website at <http://www.nkyhealth.org/annualreport>

Northern Kentucky Health Department

James A. Dressman Kenton County Health Center

2002 Madison Ave.
Covington, KY 41014
phone: 859/431-3345
fax: 859/655-6374

District Administrative Office

610 Medical Village Dr.
Edgewood, KY 41017
phone: 859/341-4264
fax: 859/578-3689



NORTHERN KENTUCKY
INDEPENDENT DISTRICT
HEALTH DEPARTMENT



Connect with us on Twitter!

Follow @nkyhealth for the latest public health information.

Outdoor warning siren policy

Purpose of the system

The purpose of the Outdoor Warning Siren System is to alert persons involved in outdoor activities that an emergency situation exists. Persons hearing the outdoor warning sirens should seek shelter, obtain additional information from NOAA Weather Radio, commercial radio or television and take appropriate action for their safety. When the sirens sound the public should — Take Cover, Tune In, Take Action.

There are 34 sirens in the Kenton County Outdoor Warning Siren system. There are three activation sites for the system. The primary activation site is located at the Kenton County Communications Center (KCCC). Secondary activation sites exist at the Covington Communications Center and Erlanger Communications Center.

The Outdoor Warning Siren System will be activated for a complete

system test on the first Wednesday of each month at 12 Noon year round.

When to activate for severe weather

KCCC shall monitor NOAA Weather Radio at all times. Local commercial television and/or radio shall also be monitored when there is a forecast for potential severe weather.

The Outdoor Warning Sirens shall be activated for Severe Weather under the following circumstances:

1. A Tornado Warning issued for Kenton County by the National Weather Service.

If during the warning period an active funnel cloud or tornado is sighted by a credible and accountable source, the outdoor warning sirens shall be activated once again. Credible and accountable sources include those persons known to be trained public safety personnel, city or county officials.

In the event that a previously issued tornado warning expires, and the NWS issues another tornado warning, the warning system will be activated again in response to the new warning.

2. Upon receiving a report of a funnel cloud or tornado from credible and accountable source.

The call taker or dispatcher should immediately advise the Communications Center shift supervisor or dispatcher in charge of the information they have received. The Supervisor may then authorize the immediate sounding of the sirens or contact the on-call Emergency Management official if there is any doubt as to whether the sirens should be activated. During this time, additional confirmation should be sought via the National Weather Service, commercial media outlets and units in the field.

Should a report of a funnel cloud or tornado be received from

a source not meeting the “credible and accountable” criteria above the following steps should be taken. 1) Seek information from the closest law enforcement unit in an attempt to confirm; 2) Contact the on call Emergency Management official; and 3) During this time further information and if possible confirmation should be sought by calling the National Weather Service, monitoring NOAA Weather Radio and commercial media outlets.

Activation for other emergencies

Community emergencies other than severe weather may result in the need to utilize the Outdoor Warning Sirens (i.e. hazardous materials emergency). The activation may be for all siren sites or only specific sites. In such cases, the siren(s) shall be activated only at the direction of Emergency Management.

Kenton County Fiscal Court

Covington:
303 Court St.

Independence:
Courthouse and Annex

Judge/Executive:
Steve Arlinghaus

Commissioners:
Beth Sewell, 1st District
Jon Draud, 2nd District

Kris A. Knochelmann,
3rd District

Deputy Judge/Executive:
Mark Kreimborg

Kenton County Attorney:
Garry Edmondson

Kenton County Clerk:
phone: 392-1600 (Covington) or
392-1680 (Independence)

Animal Shelter News

With the winter season upon us, The Kenton County Animal Shelter would like to give you a few reminders to keep your pets warm and safe throughout the cold weather months.

Don't leave your pets outside when the temperature drops. If it's too cold for you, then it's likely too cold for your pet. If you must leave your pet outside for a short time, it is important to make sure they have protection from the elements. A dog house with hay will provide warmth and allow your dog a place to seek protection from the chilly winter wind. It's also important to provide food and water that is drinkable and not frozen. Puppies, cats, and elderly dogs should never be left outside unattended.

Microchipping is an important part of responsible pet ownership and we would like to encourage county residents to microchip their pets. For a limited time, the shelter is offering microchipping for \$15. Whether you have a dog or a cat, the shelter can microchip your pet in a matter of minutes, no appointment necessary. All you need is to come in during normal business hours with your proof of an up to date rabies vaccine. When you microchip your dog at the shelter, you are also buying a Kenton County license and registering your pet with us and a national database.

Volunteering is a wonderful way to give back to your community, so if you have a few hours a week to devote to our four legged friends stop by the shel-



ter and pick up an application today. We are always looking for help in our Adoption Center. For more information, contact the shelter at 859/356-7400.

The Kenton County Animal Shelter Supporters are sponsoring \$10 spay and neuters for cats. For more information or to schedule an appointment, call 513/871-0185.

Engineering Minds in the 21st Century Classroom

The Kenton County School District proudly presents the Academies of Innovation and Technology! Each fall, we welcome over 4,000 high school students into our three high schools - three high schools that in the past have been fierce rivals and competitors. Under the new academy structure, rivals will become teammates working toward common goals in 21st century classrooms. Our three high schools are collaborating to ready their students to compete in today's complex, growing global market.

For maximum efficiency and effectiveness, the physical structure of the academies permits our school district to maximize our resources without compromising the needed resources for each academy. For example, a student enrolled at Simon Kenton High School might travel to Dixie Heights High School to attend the Media Arts Academy. In the recent past, such a concept seemed foreign. However, our 21st century learners welcome the opportunity to participate in a learning climate that facilitates their growth and potential in their career field of interest, giving them the competitive edge post graduation.

The 21st century landscape of our school district will still feature Simon Kenton Pioneers, Dixie Colonels, and Scott Eagles continuing to compete on the athletic field. However, as a united front, our three high schools will team up with business and industry professionals in the classroom to learn how to compete together in a global economy.

Sincerely,
Dr. Terri Cox-Cruey
Superintendent



The Kenton County
Academies
of Innovation & Technology



Interested in applying into one of the Kenton County Academies?

Applications can be found online at www.kenton.kyschools.us. For more info, contact your school counselor.

The 6 Academies of Innovation and Technology

- Biomedical Sciences Academy
- Sustainable Energy Technology Engineering Academy
- High Performance Production Technology Academy
- Engineering Academy
- Media Arts Academy
- Informatics Academy

The Kenton County School District Fast Facts

- Total number of schools: 18
- Enrollment: 14,676
- 3rd Largest Employer in Kenton County
- 10th Largest Employer in Northern Kentucky
- 5th Largest School District in the Commonwealth
- Consecutive 15-Year Recipient of the National What Parents Want Award

Developing Our Students

Five years ago, the Kenton County School District restructured its high schools into Schools of Study to make learning more relevant and provide career exploration opportunities for students. The Academies, born out of our Schools of Study, take career exploration to a deeper level of career implementation. Designed for students who know their career pathway, the academies provide a seamless pipeline for students to advance their education and ultimately, their employability.

Developing Our Region

The six academies were strategically implemented using the expertise of an advisory team consisting of educators, administrators, industry experts, and post-secondary institutions. Utilizing anticipated job growth projection data for our region, the six academies were deemed a priority as our region will realize the largest job growth in these areas over the next few decades.

Developing Our Partnerships

Under the academy structure, students will have the opportunity to attend a half-day program, potentially off their school campus. The senior year results in a post-secondary, personalized learning plan that may feature apprenticeships, job shadows, project-based learning, and internships. Each academy provides an opportunity for students to receive dual credits at a post-secondary institution. Additionally, each academy boasts a business or industry partner who provides our students frequent interaction with industry experts and professionals.

Academy Partners



Planners get input on new comprehensive plan

Direction 2030: Your Voice. Your Choice.

The Kenton County Planning Commission and its NKAPC staff are engaged in an 18-month planning effort designated Direction 2030: Your Voice. Your Choice. The final product will be a new comprehensive plan that will guide Kenton County development over the next 20 years. Direction 2030 provides the framework within which citizens may voice their thoughts and hopes for the plan's foundation.

Planning Commission and staff began the effort late last year by collecting information from the public regarding their thoughts and visions for the next 20 years. Round 1 included four meetings conducted to garner public input and to get participants thinking about the future; over 200 citizens attended. Information from these meetings is being incorporated now into goals and objectives which will guide the plan's preparation starting late this year.

For the sake of analysis, information from these initial sessions is being considered within the context of the county's four main generational groups: the "Silents" (1927 - 1945); the "Baby Boomers" (1946 - 1964); the "Gen Xers" (1965 - 1981); and, the "Millennials" (1982 - ???). This corresponds with data being collected from other parts of the country. The challenge was to begin determining how Kenton County residents' thoughts compare to national figures.

Meetings were scheduled at various locations throughout the county to get the perspective of people in different community types; urban; older suburban; newer suburban; and rural. Some subtle



Residents discuss their visions for Kenton County's future during the Round 1 forum at the Cooperative Extension Service office.

differences were noted in these different communities.

What attendees said

A few major themes were expressed across the county, the most frequent of which was that of jobs and employment. Citizens used keypads during the meetings to reveal that approximately 55 percent felt that employment / jobs needed the most improvement locally over other options including education (15 percent), outdoor recreation (14 percent), shops and entertainment (8 percent), and housing (8 percent).

Attendees stated that having good employment options was critical to the county's future and that more needed to be done to attract big companies and more jobs. They also suggested that more employment options would help the county retain younger workers who often move elsewhere to find the jobs and lifestyles they seek.

Other suggestions included the need for road and water and sewer service improvements. Better telecommunications in the form of cellular service and broadband

Internet was also vocalized. Attendees felt strongly that the airport needs to be improved and revitalized as it is a critical piece of infrastructure that impacts the success of the region directly.

Differing viewpoints were also expressed regarding the need for these services, the use of tax dollars for improvements, and why a new plan is needed. The size and role of government was also questioned.

Planning Commission members and staff received valuable input from those who attended these meetings. Analysis showed that 69 percent of those attending were from the two oldest generations (Silents and Baby Boomers) and 31 percent were Gen Xers and Millennials. This breakdown compares the county's actual generational breakdowns

The second round of public meetings is set to begin in late February/early March 2012 and will be announced on nkapc.org, [facebook.com/nkapc](https://www.facebook.com/nkapc), and direction2030.org.

Future opportunities to be heard

This initial feedback sets the stage for future opportunities to comment and help guide Kenton County's future development.

The second round of public meetings is set to begin in late February/early March 2012 and will be announced on nkapc.org, [facebook.com/nkapc](https://www.facebook.com/nkapc), and direction2030.org. Visit any of these online resources for results from Round 1 meetings, to stay up to date on future rounds of meetings, and to provide comments on Direction 2030.

EXTENSION Today

IN KENTON COUNTY

Winter/Spring 2012

Your Kenton County Extension Service provides research-based educational programs in the areas of Family and Consumer Sciences, Agriculture, Horticulture, 4-H Youth Development and Community Development.

KENTON COUNTY EXTENSION CLASS SCHEDULE Winter/Spring 2012

For more detailed information on the following classes, please refer to our county website at www.kentoncountyextension.com. Look under "County Links" then "on-line class registration." You may register on-line, in person, or by phone at (859) 356-3155. Registration required for all classes.

Hobby Greenhouses and Hoop House Workshop

Thurs., Feb. 9, 10 am-2 pm, Durr Center

Personality Perks

Thurs., Feb. 9, 10 am, Durr Annex

Relatives Raising Relatives Monthly Support

Fri., Feb. 10, 12-1 pm, Durr Annex

Never Say Diet Again - 8 Weeks to a Healthier You (\$20 for 8 weeks)

Tues., Feb. 14, 21, 28; March 6, 13, 20, 27; April 3
10-11:30 am, Durr Annex

Beginner Farming Workshop

Wed. and Thurs, Feb. 15 and 16, 9 am-4 pm, Campbell Co. Extension

Pasture Renovation

Sat., Feb. 18, 10 am-1 pm, Durr Center

4-H Pillowcase Project

Mon., Feb. 20, 10 am-2 pm, Durr Annex

Building School Gardens Educators' Workshop I: Youth Horticulture Programs

Mon., Feb. 20, 10 am-2 pm, Durr Center OEC

Basic Computer (4-week class)

Feb. 28; March 6, 13, 20
2-3:30 pm, **OR** 6-7:30 pm, Durr Annex

Beginning Sewing (\$5 class fee)

Wednesdays, 5:30-8:30 pm
Feb. 22, 29; March 7, 14, 21, 28; Durr Annex

Keep Warm with Homemade Soups

Thurs., Feb. 23, 6 pm, Durr Annex

Raising Pigs for Home Harvest

Tues., Feb. 28, 7 pm, Durr Center

Farmscaping

Thurs., March 1, 7 pm, Durr Center

Public Workers' Tree Care Seminar

Thurs., March 8, 7 am-3 pm, Ft. Thomas Armory

Relatives Raising Relatives Monthly Support

Fri., March 9, 12-1 pm, Durr Annex

Family Cooking: Breakfast Together (\$5 fee per family)

Tues., March 13, 6 pm, Durr Center

Pasture Poultry

Thurs., March 15, 7 pm, Durr Center

4-H Pillowcase Project

Fri., March 16, 10 am-2 pm, Durr Center

Sell This House!

Tues., March 20, 6:30 pm, Durr Center

Creative Yard Art

Thurs., March 22, 10 am, Durr Center

Creative Yard Art (repeated)

Thurs., March 22, 6 pm, Durr Annex

Veggie Gardener's Toolbox Part I: Veggie Garden Basics! (4-part series)

Thurs., March 22, 6 pm-8 pm, Durr Center

Family Cooking: Healthy Pizza Party (\$5 fee per family)

Tues., March 27, 6 pm, Durr Center



Join us for a Family
Cooking class!

(© 2007 Jupiter Images
Corporation)

We're expanding to several new locations this spring. Please call our office for details or with questions.

Registration required for all classes. Some classes may require a fee.

Note: all checks payable to "Kenton Co. Extension District Board"

Visit our web site at kentoncountyextension.org for complete details.



Visit us on Facebook!

KENTON COUNTY EXTENSION HAS TWO CONVENIENT LOCATIONS:

Main Office - Durr Center, 10990 Marshall Road, Covington, KY • Satellite Classrooms - Durr Annex, 3099 Dixie Highway, Edgewood, KY.

KENTON COUNTY COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICE WINTER/SPRING 2012 CLASSES, CONT.

First Time Home Buyer

Tues., March 27, 6:30 pm, Durr Center

First Time Home Buyer (repeated)

Tues., April 24, 1 pm, Durr Annex

Transferring Photos using Technology

Tues., March 27 and April 3, 2-3:30 pm **OR** 6-7:30 pm, Durr Annex

Let the Consumer Beware: In Tough Economic Times

Thurs., March 29, 10-11:30 am, Durr Annex **OR** 6-7:30 pm, Durr Center

Veggie Gardener's Toolbox Part II: Spring Gardens (4-part series)

Thurs., March 29, 6-8 pm, Durr Center

Reforest Northern Kentucky 2012

Sat., March 31, 9:30 am-12:30 pm, Twenbofel Elementary

Meditation, Breathing and Stretching Exercise for Stress Release and Flexibility

Thurs., April 5, 10 am, Durr Annex

Little Sprouts: Make and Take Natural Dye Egg Basket

Fri., April 6, 1-2 pm, Durr Annex

Landscaping for Curb Appeal

Thurs., April 12, 6-8 pm, Holmes High School

Pond Management

Thurs., April 12, 7 pm, Durr Center

Relatives Raising Relatives Monthly Support

Fri., April 13, 12-1 pm, Durr Annex

Money Talk: A Financial Guide for Women

April 16, 23, 30; May 7, 14, 6-8:30 pm, Durr Annex

Surviving Your Adolescents

Tues., April 17, 6:30 pm, Durr Center

Surviving Your Adolescents (repeated)

Thurs., April 19, 9:30 am, Durr Annex

Sewing Expo

April 17-18, General Butler State Park, Carrollton, KY

Veggie Gardener's Toolbox Part III: Summer Gardens (4-part series)

Tues., April 24, 6-8 pm, Durr Center OEC

Using Your Serger

(\$5 class fee)

Wed., April 25, 9 am- 2 pm, Durr Annex

Horticulture Fair: Horticulture Vendors & Gardening Products

Thurs., April 26, 9 am-12 pm, Durr Center OEC

Understanding Generational Differences

Thurs., April 26, 10 am, Durr Center

Our First Farm (2-part class)

Thurs., April 26 and May 3, 7 pm, Durr Center

Container Gardens

Thurs., May 3, 9-11 am, Jackson's Florist

Urban Raised Bed Veggie Gardens

Thurs., May 10, 6-9 pm, Center for Great Neighborhoods

Relatives Raising Relatives Monthly Support

Fri., May 11, 12-1 pm, Durr Annex

Little Sprouts: Make & Take Bird Buffet

Tues., May 22, 1-2 pm, Durr Center OEC

Little Sprouts: Strawberry Jammin'

Tues., June 12, 1-2 pm, Durr Center OEC

Composting and Vermiculture

Thurs., June 14, 6- 8 pm, Durr Annex

Rain Barrels and Rain Gardens

Thurs., June 21, 10 am, Durr Center OEC

Building School Gardens Educators' Workshop II: Hands-on Tour of Extension's Outdoor Education Center Gardens

Thurs., July 12, 10 am.-2 pm, Durr Center OEC

Hands-on Food Preservation (\$10 fee)

Tues., July 24, 9 am-3 pm, Durr Center

Youth Horticulture Camp

Tues., July 24–Thurs., July 26, 10 am-2 pm, Durr Center OEC/Park

Veggie Gardener's Toolbox IV: Fall Veggie Gardens (4-part series)

Thurs., August 2, 6-8 pm, Durr Center OEC

Little Sprouts: Make & Take Floral Ice Cream Cones

Mon., August 6, 11 am-12 pm, Durr Center OEC

Be sure to register for all classes at kentoncountyextension.com



Kenton County Cooperative Extension Service



Main Office — Durr Center

10990 Marshall Road, Covington, KY
phone: 356-3155 • fax: 356-0363
e-mail: DL_CES_KENTON@EMAIL.UKY.EDU

• Durr Center OEC – Outdoor Education Center,
10990 Marshall Road, Covington, KY

Satellite Classrooms —

Durr Annex, 3099 Dixie Highway, Edgewood, KY

Kenton County Cooperative Extension Agents

Dan Allen, Agriculture and Natural Resources	Joan Bowling, Family and Consumer Sciences	Kathy R. Byrnes, Family and Consumer Sciences	Andrea Dee, Horticulture
Mary S. Averbeck, 4-H Youth Development	Linda Brown-Price, Family and Consumer Sciences	Denise Donahue, 4-H Youth Development	Diane T. Kelley, 4-H Youth Development

The Cooperative Extension Service is an educational organization that links the University of Kentucky College of Agriculture and Kentucky State University with area residents. They provide university resources, programming and expertise in community and economic development, agriculture, horticulture, food science and safety, family and consumer sciences, and 4-H youth development.

Please help us plan our education programs to serve you better!

Kenton County Cooperative Extension Service is part of the University of Kentucky and Kentucky State University off-campus information network. We deliver information, education, and solutions. We grow ideas into better communities, stronger local economies, and healthier lives. Our mission, simply stated, is to make a difference in the lives of Kentucky citizens through research-based education. We take the University to the people in their local communities, addressing issues of importance to all Kentuckians.

We are currently engaged in planning for the next four years and request your input. Please help us by completing this survey by March 16, 2012. To save postage and paper you may complete this survey by visiting our website at www.kentoncountyextension.com.

DEMOGRAPHICS

Please tell us your age: less than 18 19-29 30-45 46-60 61 and older

Please tell us your gender: Male Female

Please list the name of the public school nearest to you: _____

How long have you lived in Kenton County? Less than 1 year 1-5 years 6 - 10 years 11 or more years

Are you? White Black or African American Native American or Alaskan Indian Asian Other race

Are you Hispanic? Yes No

How would you describe your current situation? Check all that apply:

- Homemaker Student Disabled Retired Married Single Widow or Widower Farmer Unemployed
 Currently employed or self-employed Have children living in your home under the age of 18
 Have children living in your home over the age of 18

HOW THE EXTENSION SERVICE SERVES YOU

The Extension Service is proud to serve all citizens of Kenton County. Family & Consumer Sciences staff provide information on improving diet, increasing physical activity, preserving and preparing safe food. Classes also cover financial management, home care, practical living skills, communications, job skills and family relationships including a support group for relatives raising children. Horticulture staff teach citizens how to grow fruits, vegetables and low maintenance landscapes. Staff also identify plant and insect problems. Extension supports farmers' markets and community garden programs. Agriculture and Natural Resources programs provide information on topics like: livestock operations, hay, pasture and row crop production, forestry, soil and water quality and other outdoor environmental issues. 4-H is a community of young people across America who are learning leadership, citizenship and life skills. Youth in 4-H go to camp, protect the environment, learn to sew, give a speech, hatch an egg, and more. 4-H youth can participate in community clubs, project groups, school clubs, and individual projects.

What is your current involvement in the Kenton County Extension Service? Check all that apply:

- Never participated in an extension program
 Have occasionally participated in an extension program
 Attend 6 or more programs in a year
 Youth have participated in 4-H programs
 Collaborating Agency (Health Dept., Family Resource Center, Library, etc.)

Kenton County Cooperative Extension Service

FUTURE NEEDS AND ISSUES

Please check those programs in which Kenton County Cooperative Extension should be more engaged in the future:

- Programs about safety for children staying home alone
- Afterschool creative arts programs for underprivileged youth
- Environmental education and Natural Resource Programs for youth
- Drug awareness programs for parents
- Financial education programs for high school age youth
- Lifestyle programs to promote healthy aging
- Safe homes that promote family well-being
- School age self-esteem and anti-bullying awareness
- Community garden and urban agriculture development
- Eating locally grown foods
- Basic cooking skills for adults
- New agriculture enterprises
- Meal preparation to decrease chronic disease
- Other — List suggestions for educational programming:

PROGRAM DELIVERY PREFERENCES

Our world is changing. Give us your perspective on how we should deliver our programs. Check those that would meet your needs.

- Face-to-face at our Durr Center – 10990 Marshall Road
- Face-to-face at our Durr Annex – 3099 Dixie Highway
- Kenton County Cooperative Extension Service website
- On-line self-study
- Electronic newsletter
- You-tube
- Facebook
- Twitter
- Web-based lessons
- U.S. mail
- Other community locations like schools, libraries, churches, etc.

The day of the week to avoid scheduling programs is (check no more than two):

- Sunday
- Monday
- Tuesday
- Wednesday
- Thursday
- Friday
- Saturday

The best time of day for meetings or educational programs is:

- Weekday mornings
- Weekday afternoons
- Weekday evenings
- Weekends
- During the day when school is not in session

For direct link to survey, scan this code.



THANK YOU!

Thank you for your time and input. Please complete the survey by **March 16, 2012**.
Surveys not completed on-line can be returned to Kenton County Extension, 10090 Marshall Road, Covington, KY 41015.
For a listing of current classes visit our website at www.kentoncountyextension.org.



Kenton County Parks and Recreation Programs/Activities/Events — Winter/Spring 2012

Our goal is to provide high quality recreational activities for our residents and community. We are excited to offer a wide variety of programs and events for people of all ages and abilities. For more information about any of these activities or events, please visit www.kentoncounty.org and click on County Services, then on Parks & Recreation.

Shelterhouse reservations

We will begin accepting reservations on Monday, February 6 for the 2012 season for all shelterhouses in the parks maintained by Kenton County Fiscal Court, which include those located in Lincoln Ridge, Middleton-Mills, Richardson Road, and Pioneer parks.

Our eight shelterhouses are available by advance reservation with payment of a non-refundable permit fee — either \$65 or \$80, depending upon the shelterhouse. A permit entitles you to exclusive use of the shelterhouse from 9 am until dusk. Call 859/525-PLAY (7529) for shelterhouse availability.

Online calendar of programs, activities and events

KCP&R offers many award-winning programs, activities, and events and we hope you will enjoy them all! Visit www.kentoncounty.org and click on County Services, then on Parks & Recreation to view our Events Calendar. You're sure to see something you and your family will want to try! We'll continue to update and add events as the season unfolds.

Sugar Camp — Makin' Maple Syrup

Enjoy the fun and excitement involved in the making of maple syrup. Using the man-powered and donkey-driven 'technology' of the 1850's, experience the wonder of Nature at its best-tasting best!

When the sap starts runnin' right around the end of February, Sugar Camp will begin. Make weekday reservations for your visit to Sugar Camp. AND, we'll operate right through Saturday — no reservations required on Saturday — so you city folk can come out and enjoy Sugar Camp, too.

Call 525-PLAY (7529). We're taking reservations NOW!

Wild Wednesdays!

Discover the fascinating world of wildlife! From May 16 to August 15, join us for our 13th season of Wild Wednesdays! presented by Toyota. The free programs are held rain or shine at Middleton-Mills Park in Shelterhouse 2, begin at 10 am, and last about an hour. Scheduled guests include: Cincinnati Zoo, Sunrock Farm, Eagle Bend Alpacas, Field Programs on Fowler Creek, Farmer Joan and the Equine Show, Mr. Cowpie's Party Animals, Kentucky Down Under, Critters in the Classroom, and Raptor, Inc. No reservations required but arrive early for best seating. Don't miss a single adventure!

(Almost) Every Other Thursday Science

Whoever said 'Science is boring' had to be kidding. These programs are interactive and educational. And FUN! Programs are held in Shelterhouse 1 at Pioneer Park rain or shine and begin at 10 am on each of the scheduled dates. The free programs are delivered in 1-hour theatrical assembly presentations. Guests will include: Cincinnati Museum Center, Crystal Clear Science, Behringer Crawford Museum, and Out of Control Wildlife, and COSI On Wheels). No reservations are required but arrive early for best seats.

Just so you know and you don't miss a single opportunity, most of the scheduled featured programs for Wild Wednesdays! and (Almost) Every Other Thursday Science will begin at 10 am but it's best to check the on-line calendar guide where we'll announce the many pre-program guests yet to be scheduled.



Pre-programs will begin at 9:30 or 9:45 am, depending upon the topic and our guest.

Northern Kentucky Senior Games — May 7-11

Playing in the Northern Kentucky Senior Games, presented by the Community Foundation of Northern Kentucky, is a fun way to stay active, can really benefit your health, and greatly add to your enjoyment of life. If you are 50 or better, we invite you to come and compete in a wide variety of events at various northern Kentucky venues. Age divisions allow participants to compete with others in the same approximate age groups. The competition is friendly, gets you moving, gives you an opportunity to try new activities, and meet new, like-minded people. Come join in the fun!

The Games will begin on Monday, May 7 and end on Friday, May 11. There is something for everyone, and we mean, everyone! Shuffleboard, Basketball Spot Shooting, Basketball Free Throws, Pop-A-Shot, 9-hole Miniature Golf, Billiards, Snag Golf, Corn Hole Toss, Washer Toss, and Skittles at the Armory in Ft. Thomas. 9-hole Golf at World of Sports. Bowling — Men's & Women's Doubles, Mixed Doubles, and Singles. Tennis — Men's & Women's Doubles and Mixed Doubles at Five Seasons. 18-hole Golf at Boone Links. And, Bocce Ball, Golf Chipping, Softball Hitting, Softball Throw, Horseshoe Toss, Football Toss, Frisbee Toss, 3-hole Disc Golf, and Spin Casting at Boone Woods in Burlington.

You are encouraged to pre-register when the entry fee is just \$10. Entry fee includes two lunches. What are YOU waitin' for? Call NKY Area Development District today at (859) 283-1885 for details, or visit the Northern Kentucky Senior Games web site at www.ftthomas.org and click on Recreation, then on Seniors.

And we offer so much more!

We hope you will participate and enjoy the other programs Kenton County Parks & Recreation offers. Check into Pitch, Hit & Run, Adult Recreational Softball Leagues, World's Biggest Disc Golf Weekend, High School Disc Golf Championships, and Punt, Pass & Kick. Enjoy Star Gazes with the Cincinnati Observatory Center, Kids Fishing Derby, Kick-Off To Summer Party, Haunted Halloween Trail, Great Pumpkin Races, and Letters To Santa — Letters From Santa. And, don't forget our environmental commitments: Great Backyard Bird Count, Great American Clean-Up at Doe Run Lake and Nature Trail, Reforest NKY, Banklick Creek Clean-Up, and our cooperative ventures with the Great Outdoor Weekend.

We collect donations

Nearly all of our programs, activities, and events are free for you to attend and enjoy. We do, however, collect donations of non-perishable food and personal care items for those less fortunate. Please remember to bring a little something to share. Your donation will go a long, long way right here in our community.

Dorothy Mullen Arts & Humanities Award winner

KCP&R's program titled *Sugar Camp — Makin' Maple Syrup* was the recipient of the Kentucky Recreation and Parks Society 2011 Dorothy Mullen Arts and Humanities — Class III Award and will compete for national notoriety in 2012. Steve Trauger, Recreation Programs Coordinator, accepted the award during the annual KRPS Conference in Bowling Green.



KRPS President Trace Stevens presents Kenton County's Steve Trauger with the 2011 Dorothy Mullen Arts and Humanities Award.

One of the largest and finest golf facilities in the US!

General information

The Golf Courses at Kenton County opened in 1968 offering 18-hole play on what is known today as The Pioneer golf course. In 1976, 9 holes were added making Kenton County the largest golf facility in the state of KY. Expansion continued in 1981 with the addition of 9 more holes. The second 18 holes are now known as The Willows golf course.

In 1988, a new state-of-the-art clubhouse was opened with a pro-shop area, snack bar, dining facility accommodating up to 140 people, and storage for 160 golf carts. The old fireplace is all that remains from the original clubhouse where now sit two large practice greens.

In May of 1992, the third 18-hole course, Fox Run, opened to the public. Fox Run was designed by world-renowned architect Arthur Hills and is rated as one of the most difficult courses in the state of Kentucky. With three quality 18-hole golf courses, The Golf Courses of Kenton County is one of the largest and finest public golf facilities in the United States.

We cordially invite you to consider The Golf Courses at Kenton County as the venue for your next golf outing. Whether yours is a corporate event, charity fundraiser, or a neighborhood get-together, we will help you plan a fantastic day for your group. The priority of our PGA Professional staff is to meet all your needs so that your event will be memorable and successful. With three golf courses to choose from, let our staff customize an event that works best for you. Whether it's an 18-hole shotgun or a one of a kind 9-hole event, we would love to host your event! Call James today at 859-371-3200 or james.boyer@kentoncounty.org for availability and pricing.

The friendly folks at KC's Grill Catering provide the best in food and beverage and will help you plan a fun day of pre or post golf activities for your event. Our Banquet Hall is a great place to hold a corporate meeting, or host a private, business, or a social party. Book your party now, the facility is open year round which is perfect for a Holiday party. Ask for

James @ 859-371-3200 or james.boyer@kentoncounty.org.

Professional Services Provided

- Beverage Cart
- Full food and beverage service
- Fully stocked Professional Golf Shop
- Player registration assistance
- Personalized cart signs
- Hole sponsor setup
- Hole assignments
- Proximity Markers
- P.A. System
- Pairings List
- Rules Sheets
- Tournament Scoring Capability

Golf leagues at KCGC

Are you looking for a course for your company or organization's golf league? We offer league rotations playing the Willows and Pioneer courses or our championship course, Fox Run, designed by renowned architect Arthur Hills. Call Jason at 859-371-3200 or email jason.laible@kentoncounty.org for 2012 availability and pricing.

By adding the back nine of the Willows golf course into our rotation, we will be able to provide opportunities for new league play and offer a tremendous variety for existing leagues on The Willows and Pioneer rotations.

Golf leagues playing Fox Run will receive a discounted rate!!!!!!!

Season pass promotion

January 15 – March 15 (\$50 Gift Card)

Sign up for a season pass at The Golf Courses at Kenton County and gain access to three fantastic 18-hole golf courses with rolling hills and picturesque holes. Pass-holders enjoy playing privileges seven days a week along with merchandise discounts, USGA handicap service discount and other benefits. The passes are valid one year from date of purchase. Playing privileges will begin immediately upon purchase of season pass. Hurry and sign up now for the best "bang" for your golfing buck in the area!

The Golf Courses at Kenton County

**Pioneer
Willows
Fox Run**

We've Got Your Game!

3908 Richardson Road
Independence, KY 4151
Clubhouse: 859/371-3200
www.kentoncounty.org

Season Pass	County Resident	Non-Resident
Platinum	\$ 850	\$ 950
Senior (60 or older)	\$ 600	\$ 700
Junior (17 or younger)	\$ 300	\$ 350
Platinum Couple	\$1,400	\$1,600
Senior Couple	\$1,000	\$1,200

Cart fee required if riding; Couple pass to receive one \$50 gift card or two \$25 gift cards

Playing Privileges

April 1-September 31 — Monday through Friday anytime, Weekends/Holidays after 11 am; October 1-March 31: Anytime —provided course is open

From the desk of the County Judge/Executive Steve Arlinghaus

The year in review

When I took office in January of 2011, I talked about “Tackling the Budget Deficit” as the primary issue facing Kenton County the next four years. I believe I have wrapped up a successful calendar year that began looking like doom and gloom. We were facing a number of challenges that threatened our overall success. I will focus on arguably the top four challenges and how we have done.

1 Working relationships between the elected officials of Kenton County and cities within Kenton County was viewed by many to be at an all time low, and merger discussions of 911 services was heading nowhere.

I and Deputy Judge/Executive Mark Kreimborg immediately engaged ourselves in working closely with the Mayors throughout Kenton County. We have developed good working relationships that have laid the foundation to exploring ways of sharing services to lessen the burden on the residents of the county. We are engaged in identifying the requirements and cost to establishing a single 911 dispatch center for Kenton County, in addition to a modern day 911 technology communications service that could be shared with Boone, Kenton and Campbell counties.

Also, with the support of the mayors, in particular Paul Meier, Mayor of Crestview Hills and the Chairman of the Mayors Group, the County is online to provide animal control services to the entire County, allowing us to be more cost efficient while improving the level of services beginning as early as February 2012.



*Steve Arlinghaus,
Kenton County
Judge/Executive
shares his
observations about
the County's year
2011.*

2 Given that personnel costs make up a vast majority of a public agency budget expenses there was a great need for County departments to become more streamlined and efficient.

After thoroughly evaluating all management and hourly employees, their roles and respective duties, I was able to eliminate several positions, consolidated multiple others, and spread out other duties maximizing the work load of the others. The combined net effect was a savings in wages and benefits of \$450,000 annually.

3 Kenton County opened a new jail in November of 2010 and was spending \$79,000 per month in overtime alone that was not anticipated when constructed, that needed immediate attention.

When I first became aware of the out-of-control spending for overtime wages associated with the new jail, I immediately established a task force with myself, county Jailer Terry Carl and his Chief Deputy Scott Colvin, and the Special Assistant in my office, former County Treasurer Ivan Frye. After a few months and many hours of analyzing the staffing levels, their

wages, and organizational structure, and visiting other jail operations, we determined the most effective solution was to infuse several part-time Deputies to counter balance staffing issues. We contacted the local colleges and universities looking for students who were majoring in Criminal Justice or similar programs that could be interested in this line of work. We successfully acquired a sufficient number, and after several weeks of training we were able to bring them in on an as-needed basis.

Consider this; the wages paid out in overtime alone for the six months from January 1, 2011 through June 30, 2011 was \$496,825 out of a \$10 million dollar annual budget.

I am extremely pleased to report that we have reduced the amount of overtime costs to under \$1,000 per month, for the past four months. The months of October and November in particular had \$0 dollars in overtime costs. I must tip my hat to our Jailer, Terry Carl, as he was very instrumental and dedicated into making this program work.

4 Our County Golf Courses have been subsidized for the past two plus years, and were on course to losing nearly \$1 million dollars for the fiscal year that began in July 1, 2011.

In October we accepted the resignation of the General Manager of the Kenton County Golf Course. Immediately we went into action utilizing the skills of our administrative staff, the leadership of Dan Moening the Assistant General Golf Professional, and began contacting golf leagues, and golf outings that had quit using our courses for a variety of reasons. In the past three months we have reversed the downward trend in revenue! We have re-signed numerous golf outings, and leagues who indicated their excitement for new leadership. As a result of our efforts, we have increased the revenue and cut costs, taken over food and beverage sales, incentivized Pro shop sales, and have generated an additional \$500,000 in gross sales, thus reducing our dependence in subsidizing the Golf Courses. It is my goal that the Golf Courses must be self sufficient as they were when I served on the Fiscal Court as a County Commissioner from 1993 - 1998.

Other notable accomplishments

- Pioneer Park was devastated with 15' deep, flooding waters from Banklick Creek that would typically be seen only once in a hundred years causing extensive damage. I joined our crews in cleaning up the remnants and coordinated the repairs of the grounds, fencing, shelters, playground equipment, and walkways.
- I appointed Melanie Healy, the President of Procter & Gamble

Continued on page 16

FROM THE DESK OF THE COUNTY JUDGE/EXECUTIVE STEVE ARLINGHAUS, continued from page 15

North America as a voting board member of the Kenton County Airport Board. Ms Healy is a resident of Cincinnati, Ohio and the first Ohio resident to serve as a voting board member. She is considered one of the top 50 most influential women in America today by Forbes Magazine. She is quickly becoming a leading voice in addressing ways to promote CVG across the region and the broader goal of establishing solid working relations with low cost carriers.

- Encountered numerous washed out roads through spring flooding that caused us to declare an emergency

in Kenton County. With the quick action of our Public Works department led by Chris Warneford and Alex Kenwright, and direct support from Steve Hensley, our Emergency Management Director, we were able to open a direct line of communications with all the Mayors/Administrators/and First Line Responders throughout the County. We immediately engaged FEMA and began assisting with emergency services to shore up and replace sections of county roads in a timely manner, and provided vital assistance to many cities, minimizing the disruption of the damages.

What to do when the snow flies...

Snow Advisory Terms

Level I

Conditions: Roadways are hazardous with blowing and/or drifting snow, roadways may be icy.

Advisory: Cautious driving is advised.

Level II

Conditions: Roadways are hazardous with blowing and drifting snow and roadways may be icy.

Advisory: Only motorists whose travel is necessary should be on the roadways. Residents are urged to contact their employer to see if they should report to work.

Level III

Conditions: All roadways are restricted to emergency personnel, travel for work, provisions, medical supplies or medical treatment, and private snow removal operations.

Advisory: Essential travel only is advised. Violators are subject to prosecution. Residents are urged to contact their employer concerning work schedules.

During Snow Emergencies, where snowfall accumulation is 2 inches or greater, no vehicle may be parked and no person, corporation, partnership, joint venture, unincorporated association, or any combination thereof may park or permit any vehicle to be parked upon any public road right of way.

St. Elizabeth Healthcare

St. Elizabeth opens region's first Spine Center

Back pain is a big and debilitating problem in the U.S. Every year, approximately \$86 billion is spent trying to get rid of back pain and about 62 million adults report lower back pain. Industry experts expect the number of people seeking outpatient treatment for spinal problems to double by the year 2020.

St. Elizabeth Healthcare just opened the new Spine Center at St. Elizabeth Florence at the end of January, offering a full continuum of spine care and the expertise of every type of specialist involved in this complex area of medicine. The center is a one-stop shop of spine excellence featuring both inpatient and outpatient treatment, along with all the necessary diagnostics needed to treat spine issues. Patients benefit

from both the convenience of a single location and the collaboration of the many different types of physicians involved in their care.

The new Spine Center has 15 of the largest rooms in the St. Elizabeth Healthcare system. It features four exam rooms, pre- and post-operative areas, two procedure rooms and a full array of the latest imaging technology for the diagnosis and treatment of spine issues.

But it's the people who make the Spine Center special, since it is the first in the Tristate to bring the area's leading spine specialists together in a single location. Medical experts from groups such as Commonwealth Orthopaedics, the Mayfield Clinic, and Radiology Associates of Northern Kentucky will work closely



with the center's physician, nurse navigators, interventional radiology nurse and technologist to deliver comprehensive care to each patient.

For more information or to make an appointment, call 859/212-7000 or go to www.stelizabeth.com/orthopaedics/spinecenter.aspx.

Helping to fulfill healthy New Year's resolutions

St. Elizabeth Healthcare is offering a number of classes and events in 2012 to help everyone with their New Year's resolutions for living a healthier and happier life. Whether your goal is to lose weight, exercise regularly or stop smoking, the classes and events at St. Elizabeth Healthcare can help you to maintain your motivation and avoid common pitfalls. Make this year the year you make good on your New Year's resolutions.

Holistic Health Center

The Holistic Health Center provides integrative therapies that encompass the best of both Western and Eastern treatment modalities. All programs are held at the center on 210 Thomas More Parkway in Crestview Hills. Services are provided under the supervision of Medical Director, Dr. Gregory Koo. Dr. Koo is a board-certified family practice physician and holds certifications in family therapy, integrative therapies and acupuncture. The center has a 2012 calendar of educational events intended to inform the community about different modalities available. Call 859/301-5959 for additional information and any applicable fees. The offerings include:

- **Methods of Meditation**—A four week sampling of different meditation techniques to assist with stress reduction, rest and

improved health (call for next session).

- **Ask the Doc**—Medical Director, Dr. Gregory Koo, will present a free quarterly question-and-answer session on a variety of health-related topics beginning on February 10.
- **Couples Massage Class: The Perfect Valentine**—Holistic health massage therapists will teach techniques for providing an hour massage to a partner on February 11 from 9 am - 12 pm.
- **Four Weeks to a New You**—Small group sessions facilitated by a holistic health professional that guides you through self-assessment regarding physical, emotional and spiritual well-being. Participants learn nutrition, fitness, stress reduction and experiential techniques for improving overall well-being individualized to personal needs. The first session begins on March 1.

Runner's Injury Clinic

Free clinic for runners on the second Wednesday of every month beginning on February 8 from 5 - 6:30 pm at the Sports Medicine Center, 830 Thomas More Parkway in Edgewood. For more information or to register, call 859/301-5600.

Smoking Cessation

Support Group—This support group is specifically designed to deal with the issues smokers and former smokers face in maintaining a life free of smoking. The group meets on Tuesdays at 210 Thomas More Parkway in Crestview Hills. To register, call 859/301-5959.

Mobile Mammography Services

The mobile mammography van will visit locations throughout Northern Kentucky in 2012. Following the American Cancer Society's guidelines for the early detection of breast cancer can help to improve the chances that the disease can be diagnosed at an early stage and can be treated successfully. Women age 40 and over should have a screening mammogram every year. For appointments, call 859/655-7400.

CardioVascular Mobile Health Unit

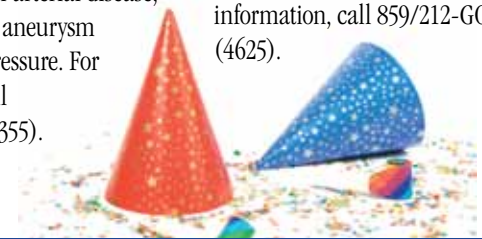
Using state-of-the-art EKG and ultrasound technology, the new mobile unit can perform an array of on-site tests aimed at detecting all manner of risky health conditions including carotid artery disease, peripheral arterial disease, abdominal aortic aneurysm and high blood pressure. For appointments, call 859/301-WELL (9355).

Weight Management, Surgical Options

St. Elizabeth Weight Management Center is a Bariatric Center of Excellence. The center offers FREE informational seminars that explore the health risks of obesity and related chronic diseases on the first Wednesday of every month at 6 pm. These conditions may be significantly improved through weight-loss surgery to achieve long-term results that improve overall health and lives. For more information, call the center at 859/212-GOAL (4625).

Weight Management, Physician-supervised Medical Weight Loss Programs

St. Elizabeth Weight Management Center offers FREE informational seminars weekly that explain how the center can individualize a medical weight-loss program for you utilizing a specially trained physician and clinicians from multiple disciplines to help you reach your desired goals utilizing safe and effective methods. The sessions are held every Tuesday at 5:30 pm and every Wednesday at 10 am at St. Elizabeth Florence. For more information, call 859/212-GOAL (4625).



St. Elizabeth Healthcare



St. Elizabeth Covington
1500 James Simpson, Jr. Way
Covington, KY 41011
859/655-8800

St. Elizabeth Edgewood
1 Medical Village Dr.
Edgewood, KY 41017
859/301-2000

St. Elizabeth Falmouth
512 South Maple Ave.
Falmouth, KY 41040
859/572-3500

St. Elizabeth Florence
4900 Houston Rd.
Florence, KY 41042
859/212-5200

St. Elizabeth Ft. Thomas
85 North Grand Ave.
Ft. Thomas, KY 41075
859/572-3100

St. Elizabeth Grant
238 Barnes Rd.
Williamstown, KY 41097
859/824-8240

SD1 announces David Rager as new Executive Director



David Rager will begin working with SD1 in early 2012.

On December 16, 2011, SD1 announced that David E. Rager will be the new Executive Director of SD1. Rager will begin working with SD1 in early 2012.

"I am thrilled to be taking the reins of an organization that has done so much for Northern Kentucky," Rager said. "SD1 provides a

critical service to the community and is approaching a pivotal point in its history. I am energized at the opportunity to work with the community, the Board and the SD1 employees as we tackle the challenges ahead."

SD1's Board was impressed with Rager's 36 years of executive level experience managing utilities and government agencies and the Board is confident that he will be a good leader for SD1.

Chuck Heilman, President of SD1's Board of Directors shared, "The Board took our time choosing a candidate because we wanted to ensure that we found the best person for the job. We are confident that we have."

Most recently, Rager was CEO of the Greater Cincinnati Water Works,

where he implemented several private business practices which included an increased emphasis on customer service.

"I believe there are opportunities to take the best service delivery practices of the private sector and apply them in public agencies like SD1," Rager said. "While I know that SD1's employees are some of the hardest working individuals in the industry, we as an organization also have to evolve as science and technology evolve."

Previous to his time at Greater Cincinnati Water Works, Rager served as Deputy City Manager for the City of Cincinnati, even briefly serving as Interim City Manager at the request of the Mayor and City Council.

Rager brings to SD1 a demonstrated success in emergency management. He led the emergency operations center for the City of Cincinnati as it responded to the 1997 flood and a 2005 railroad car styrene gas release. He served as Director of the Department of Public Safety in Cincinnati for the first chapter of his career, overseeing emergency response services for the city.

Mark Wurschmidt, SD1's Deputy Executive Director of Engineering, has been acting as the Interim Executive Director of SD1 since January.

"Dave will be an incredible asset, not only to SD1 but to our entire service area," Wurschmidt said. "I look forward to working with someone with his experience to guide us into the future."

SD1's Protecting the Environment Award recognizes area educators

The 2011 Protecting the Environment Award ceremony recognized four teachers and one Scout troop leader who have gone above and beyond to protect the environment and water resources in Northern Kentucky.

Each educator was awarded a \$150-\$300 mini-grant to purchase supplies for teaching water-related topics to their classes next school year. The \$1,500 in cash prizes was generously provided by Walmart in Ft. Wright.

The awarded educators were:

- **Anita France**, Immaculate Heart of Mary School
Project: Microscopes for Boone Woods Park creek testing
- **Maureen Randle**, St. Joseph (Cold Spring)
Project: Science materials for Water Pollution Mystery testing
- **Dave Schlachter**, St. Catherine of Siena School

Project: Learning water conservation lessons through gardening

- **Autumn Hendrickson**, White's Tower Elementary
Project: Transportation and science fees to release classroom trout in natural environment

- **Jessica Blevins**, Girl Scout Junior Troop #104 of Kenton Elementary

Project: Install and monitor rain barrel at Kenton Elementary

Since 2003, SD1's Protecting the Environment Award program has energized Northern Kentuckians to protect the environment and our water resources. The program rewards those who are making a positive environmental and community impact through education and service. For more information on SD1's Environmental Education program, please visit www.sd1.org.

USEPA supports SD1's integrated approach


The United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) recently released a statement supporting the innovative and adaptive approach to wastewater and storm water management that SD1 has advocated for years.

As part of its enforcement of the Clean Water Act (CWA), the USEPA and its state and regional entities require sanitation organizations like SD1 to make improvements in water quality. Traditional gray water

approaches, such as those originally advocated by enforcement agencies, can be costly and only address limited problem areas. For years, SD1 has partnered with other utilities and the United States Conference of Mayors to advocate for a more comprehensive approach that is based on regional improvements and local data.

To read the entire statement released by the USEPA, please visit SD1's website at www.sd1.org.

SD1



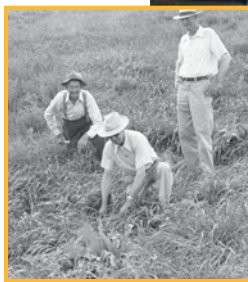
1045 Eaton Drive • Fort Wright, KY 41017
phone: 859/578-7450

Hours of Operation:
Monday-Friday, 8 am - 4:30 pm

Born of soil – 70 years of conservation

The beginning

The sky began to darken as Hugh Hammond Bennett made his closing remarks before the U. S. Senate Public Lands Committee. Bennett, a soil scientist for the U. S. Department of Agriculture, had been called to testify before the committee as an expert witness. It was April 2, 1935, and America



was struggling through the Great Depression. The Midwest was experiencing a serious drought and dust storms carried topsoil from Texas and Oklahoma over 300 miles off shore and dropped the soil into the Atlantic Ocean. Bennett's testimony was confirmed that day by the clouds of soil that darkened the sun. Congress quickly passed Public Law 46, which established the U. S. Department of Agriculture Soil Conservation Service, now known as the Natural Resources Conservation Service. The new agency would be responsible for providing technical assistance to farmers to reduce both wind and water erosion of soil. With farmers reluctant to accept help from the federal government, the idea of local conservation districts was proposed. In 1940, the Kentucky General Assembly passed enabling legislation permitting local farmers to petition to establish conservation districts. In September of 1941, a group of Kenton County citizens presented a petition to the Kentucky Soil and Water Commission requesting that a public referendum be held to establish a Conservation District in the county.



1940's photo (above left): From left: Unidentified, Steve W. Durr, and Moses L. Black.

1942 Board photo (lower left): From left: Ben Stambaugh, George Eubanks, Steve W. Durr, Frank D. Cooke, and Earl Metcalfe.

2012 board photo: Front row, from left, Marc Hult, Mackey McNeill, and Jim Kreissl. Back row, from left: Margaret (Peggy) Kelly, Heather Mayfield, John (Jack) Heist, and Gailen Bridges.

The referendum was held and on December 12, 1941, it was announced that the vote was 99% in favor of establishing a conservation district.

The first board

In March of 1942, a group of five citizens took office as the first Kenton County Conservation District board. Frank D. Cooke, George Eubanks, Steve W. Durr, Earl F. Metcalfe, and B. F. Stambaugh set about developing a plan of work to restore and conserve Kenton County's priceless natural resources. The District focused on educating farmers about ways to combat soil erosion. Working with their federal partner, the Soil Conservation Service, the District helped land owners understand the need for crop rotation and alternative methods of tilling the ground. They helped install livestock watering systems and returned unproductive land to woodland uses. In the 1960s, flood control on Banklick Creek became a major priority. The Soil Conservation Service and Boone and Kenton County Conservation Districts and Fiscal

farmland's absolute contribution to the county's economy was small, it has a positive net fiscal impact and farmland should be duly considered in the county's planning process. Keeping farmers on the land would be as important to the future of agriculture as keeping the land available for them to farm.

The District today

Conservation Districts have a number of legislated responsibilities to carry out and they continue to use a variety of local, state, and federal resources and programs to help people find the best ways to be good stewards of our natural resources. Current programs of the Conservation District include the Kentucky Soil Erosion and Water Quality Cost Share Program, Kentucky Agriculture Water Quality Act, conservation equipment loans, and conservation education grants, contests, and scholarships. They continue to work closely with the U.S. Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service, Kentucky Soil and Water Commission and the Kentucky Division of Conservation. Your Kenton County Conservation District is dedicated to restoring the land while building the future, recognizing that each part of the county is as unique as the people who live there and the land upon which we rely to sustain our lives.

Kenton County Conservation District

859/586-7903
E-mail: Kenton@nkcd.org
www.kentoncounty.org • www.nkcd.org

All programs and services of the Kenton County Conservation District and the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service are offered on a nondiscriminatory basis without regard to race, color, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, and marital or familial status.

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Visit www.whatshappeningnews.com for all the news in Boone, Kenton, Campbell and Oldham counties

Kenton County Property Valuation Administrator

Homestead and Disability Exemptions

Am I eligible?

Homestead Exemption:

Persons eligible for the Homestead Exemption must be at least 65 years of age. Proof of eligibility is required (driver's license, birth certificate, etc.) **DON'T WAIT UNTIL YOUR BIRTHDAY!** If you will turn 65 this year (2012) come in now for this benefit.

Disability Exemption:

A person must be classified as 100% totally disabled under any government and/or most private

retirement system(s). In addition, the following provisions must be met:

- The applicant must have maintained the disability classification for the entire previous or current year.
- The applicant must have received disability payments while under this classification.
- All applicants must own and occupy their dwelling.
- Pursuant to KRS 132.810 proof of eligibility is **ONLY** required for **NEW / FIRST TIME** applicants. Some examples are: Medicare card,

Social Security disability award letter, corporate insurance award letter, 1099, etc.

Where to file

Kenton County PVA
303 Court Street
County Building,
2nd Floor Room 210
Covington, KY 41011
859/392-1750
Info.kentonpva@kentoncounty.org
WWW.KENTONPVA.COM

Please note!

Property owners are eligible for only one exemption regardless of how many properties they own. (i.e., if you own property in KY as well as FL, you are NOT eligible to receive an exemption on both properties.) The PVA is working proactively to prevent fraud in this area and will be conducting a thorough audit of all homes currently receiving homestead/disability exemptions.

Property review

The state of Kentucky requires the PVA office to physically review all property in the county at least once every four years.

In keeping with state requirements, the PVA office is required to physically view properties in certain areas each year. For tax year 2012, the PVA office will review properties in the following areas: Crescent Springs, Crestview Hills, Edgewood, Ft. Wright and Villa Hills. If there is a change in the property's valuation/assessment, the property owner will be sent a notice of the new value during the first two weeks of April. You will NOT receive a notice if there is no

change in your valuation.

Notices are sent to the mailing address we currently have on file. Please visit our website or contact our office to ensure we have your correct mailing address. Address changes must be in writing. The change of address form is available on our website under the Applications/Forms link.

To view your property information online visit: www.kentonpva.com. Click on the property data link—then click “public access,” then “PVA Real Estate Assessment”—search by name, location or Property Identification Number (PIDN).

A few facts you should know when you buy or trade in your car or truck

- 1 January 1 — This is the key date. ANY vehicle that is titled in your name on January 1 ... YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR PROPERTY TAXES FOR THE ENTIRE YEAR ... even if you sell the vehicle on Jan. 2.
- 2 If your car is REPOSSESSED or JUNKED, you must provide PVA w/ date and name of person/company to whom vehicle was given.
- 3 If you trade a vehicle in on a new one, remember that you pay the

property tax on the trade-in for the current year. BUT, since many car dealers do not actually record/transfer the traded in vehicle until they sell it, you could possibly get the tax bill for the old car from the state. SO, it is very important that you save your paperwork that shows the DATE WHEN YOU TRADED IN YOUR OLD CAR.

- 4 For additional information please visit our website: WWW.KENTONPVA.COM