

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

WHAT'S

Happening!

in Kenton County, Kentucky

Winter/Spring 2013

Entertainment-on-the-go available from Library website

The Library has a variety of ways for you to read, listen and learn on-the-go via the Library's website at www.kentonlibrary.org/ebooks. You will need your library card to use the following:

■ **Magazines** including *Men's Fitness*, *Martha Stewart's Living*, *Consumer Reports*, *Newsweek*, *Rolling Stone*, *Us Weekly* and more are now available on your iPad or other mobile device via the Zinio tab on the Library's website.

■ **Download music** – Use your library card to get three free songs a week to keep using the Freegal free music service on the Library's website, or download the app.

■ E-Books:

- For audiobooks use the OneClickDigital link
- For children's books use Blio and Axis 360
- Use the Blio app and Axis360 for children's picture books and chapter books for older children. (*Curious George*, *Fancy Nancy*, *Hunger Games*, *Goosebumps*)
- Use Overdrive to download best-sellers, the classics and much

more from our largest collection of e-books.



Covington Library drive-thru now open

The Covington Library now has a convenient drive-thru window open during library hours. Go to www.kentonlibrary.org, click on the card catalog and place items on hold from home, school, work – wherever you have access to the Internet. You can also call

859/962-4071 to speak to a staff member to place holds. Don't have a Kenton County Public Library card? Get one for free by going to the About Us link on the website to fill out the online application.

FREE EVENTS AT THE LIBRARY!

Puppy Tales*

Grades 1-6

- *Sunday, February 3, 1-3 pm*
Covington Branch library
- *Sunday, February 17, 2-4 pm*
Erlanger Branch library

Reading to a real dog companion improves reading skills and dogs make great listeners!

No Parents Allowed! College & Financial Aid

Grades 6-12

Monday, February 4, 6-8 pm
Ask college questions that you don't want to ask with parents or teachers around. William E. Durr Branch library

Chess Club

Grades 1-12

Tuesdays in February, 3:30-5:30 pm
Chess players and "would-be" chess players are invited to play. Erlanger Branch library

Diabetes Support Group*

Wednesdays, February 6 & March 6, 6:30-8 pm

Join staff from the Northern Kentucky Health Department and other diabetics to share tips and resources. February's topic: Healthy Recipes. William E. Durr Branch library

PowerPoint*

Tuesday, February 5, 6:30-8:30 pm
William E. Durr Branch library

Local History Series*

- *Tuesday, February 5, 7 pm*
The Greatest Civil War Battle Never Fought
Join us for a fascinating presentation about the Siege of Cincinnati.
- *Tuesday, February 12, 7 pm*
Cincinnati Women Artists
- *Tuesday, February 19, 7 pm*
The Life & Assassination of William Goebel
- *Tuesday, February 26, 7 pm*
Remembering Ruth Lyons
- *Thursday, February 28, 7 pm*
The History of Rookwood Pottery

Erlanger Branch library.

Wednesday Crafternoons Ages 6-12 years

Wednesdays, 4-5 pm

Join us each week for a different story and craft.

Feb. 6: Chinese New Year
Feb. 13: Valentines Mail Box
Feb. 20: Build a Better Bird Feeder
Feb. 27: Seeds of Greatness!
Erlanger Branch library

Events continued on page 2

*Please Register! Online: www.kentonlibrary.org/events.

Or call Covington: 962-4071 (adults + teens), 962-4077 (children);

Erlanger: 962-4002 (adults + teens), 962-4003 (children);

Durr: 962-4031 (adults + teens), 962-4032 (children)

FREE EVENTS AT THE LIBRARY, cont.

Creative Writing Workshop*

Grades 3-7

Wednesday, Feb. 6, 6:30 pm

Join Dixie Heights High School's Creative Writing 2 class for an interactive and fun creative writing workshop! Erlanger Branch library

Writers' Group

Thursdays, Feb. 7 & 21, 6:30 pm

All skill levels are welcome. Erlanger Branch library

Homeschool Program: The Dirt on Water Pollution*

Grades 1-6

Friday, February 8, 10:30 am

The educators from the Foundation for Ohio River Education will demonstrate how sediment pollutes our river, and show us how to measure turbidity in water samples. Erlanger Branch library

*Please register. See page 1 for details.

Job Search One-on-One

Sundays, February 10 & 24, 3 pm

Learn about the assistance the Library offers for writing resumes and applying for jobs. Covington Branch library

Introduction to E-Books*

Tuesday, February 12, 6:30-9 pm

Thursday, February 28, 1:30-3 pm

William E. Durr Branch library

Independence Inklings

Sundays, February 17 & March 3, 2 pm

Join this critique and support group for adults who write fiction. William E. Durr Branch library

Panel: Battle Royale: Ponies, Gundams, & Magical Girls

Grades 6-12

Friday, February 15, 4-6 pm

Come and support your fandom at a Battle Royale convention-style panel! Erlanger Branch library

iPad Tips & Tricks*

Monday, February 18, 6:30 pm

Erlanger Branch library

Tuesday, March 19, 6:30 pm

William E. Durr Branch library

Introduction to Pinterest*

Tuesday, February 19, 6:30 pm

William E. Durr Branch library

Yu-Gi-Oh Tournament*

Grades 6-12

Friday, February 22, 4-7 pm

Erlanger Branch library

Cook Up a Story: Crispy Worms

Grades K-6

Monday, February 25, 4:30-5 pm

Celebrate Read Across America Day.

William E. Durr Branch library

Manga Club

Grades 6-12

Tuesday, February 26, 4:30-6 pm

Join other manga and anime fans. Erlanger Branch library

Senior Movie Day

Wednesday, February 27, 1 pm

Watch and discuss "An Affair to Remember." Co-sponsored by Madonna Manor. Erlanger Branch library

Concert: Celtic Music with Silver Arm

Tuesday, March 19, 7 pm

Erlanger Branch library

Kentucky Chautauqua: Adolph Rupp*

Thursday, March 28, 7 pm

Erlanger Branch library.

Follow us on Pinterest, Facebook, Twitter, Wordpress, YouTube, RSS feed

www.kentonlibrary.org

Northern Kentucky Health Department

Show your support for breastfeeding mothers

Let's help make sure breastfeeding moms stick with it. In Kentucky, 59 percent of mothers start out breastfeeding, but the number drops to 27 percent after 6 months. Why? Because breastfeeding can be challenging.

Some suggestions to remove obstacles to breastfeeding:

- Set mom up for success. Moms should get breastfeeding

education before the baby is born. Classes are available at local hospitals and the Health Department. Grandparents and fathers may also benefit. Moms should ask about breastfeeding support when choosing a hospital.

- Give mothers the time and flexibility to breastfeed. Friends, families and neighbors can offer

to help around the house. Federal law requires employers to offer women break time and a private place to express their milk.

- Encourage moms to ask for help when needed. Many programs are in place locally, including the Health Department's WIC breastfeeding peer counseling program.



For more information, visit <http://www.nkyhealth.org/breastfeed> or call 859/363-2113.

Moving forward despite obstacles

It's important for tax-supported agencies to share information about their programs. One way we do this at the Health Department is with an annual report. Our most recent one, covering July 2011 through June 2012, is now posted at <http://www.nkyhealth.org/annualreport>. The report details how, even in the

face of a second year of significant budget cuts and reductions in staff, the Health Department:

- Improved childhood immunization rates by as much as 23 percent
- Responded to a tornado outbreak
- Launched an initiative to expand access to oral health care

Northern Kentucky Health Department

James A. Dressman Kenton County Health Center

Covington, KY 41014

ph: 859/431-3345 fax: 859/655-6374

District Administration Office

Edgewood, KY 41017

ph: 859/341-4264 fax: 859/578-3689



Connect with us on Twitter!

Follow @nkyhealth for the latest public health information.



Four start new terms on District board

Kentucky's Conservation Districts are a subdivision of state government organized for the special purpose to assist landowners:

- In solving soil and water resources problems
- In setting priorities for conservation work to be accomplished
- In coordinating federal, state and local resources needed to accomplish this work
- By providing conservation leadership at the local level

- By providing a means for interested local citizens to work together to achieve the desired results.

Your county Conservation District is governed by a board of seven elected supervisors who serve a four-year term without pay. Four positions were open for election in November 2012. Mackey McNeill, who served on the board since 2009, did not seek another term and the board wishes to thank her for her service. Elected were incumbents Gailen

Bridges, Margaret (Peggy) Kelly and Heather Mayfield. Also elected was Chris Kaeff. Mr. Kaeff is a resident of Park Hills. He holds a Bachelor of Science in Environmental Science and Geography. He is employed with SD1 as the Regulatory Reporting and Wet Weather Coordinator, providing Consent Decree regulatory analysis and submissions, as well as wet weather analysis for integrated watershed planning, using Geographic Information Systems,

Chris Kaeff is the newest member of the Kenton County Conservation District board.



flow monitoring, and hydraulic modeling. Board members with terms expiring at the end of 2014 are Marc Hult, John (Jack) Heist, and James Kreissl.

Meet our District staff



Seated from left: Mark Jacobs and John Stork. Standing from left: Sheryl VonBokern, Mary Kathryn Dickerson and Greta Steverson

The Kenton County Conservation District board of supervisors is assisted in its work by four District staff members and staff from the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service. Greta Steverson, District Conservationist for the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), provides leadership for the Burlington Field Office, where the Kenton County Conservation District is located. This field office covers Boone, Campbell, and

Kenton counties. Steverson also supervises NRCS staff in Carroll, Gallatin, Grant and Owen counties. The NRCS staff provides technical assistance for conservation planning and programs, which includes conservation programs of the Federal Farm Bill. Mary Kathryn Dickerson, District Coordinator, provides leadership for District programs as well as technical and administrative assistance for special projects. John Stork, Agriculture Conservation Technician, provides

technical assistance to agricultural landowners. Both Dickerson and Stork also work for the Boone and Campbell County Conservation Districts. Mark Jacobs, Conservation Technician, assists landowners, agencies and organizations with land management and water quality issues. Sheryl VonBokern provides administrative support to the board, District staff, and staff of the NRCS. Both Jacobs and VonBokern also work for Boone County Conservation District.

Conservation art & writing winners announced

The Kenton County Conservation District has announced winners in the annual conservation contests. "Branching Out - Kentucky's Forests" was the topic for in 2012.

The Conservation Writing Contest is designed for Kentucky students in grades 6-12, and the Jim Claypool Conservation Art Contest is for students through grade 5. The county winner in the writing contest was Morgan Gubser, a student at Latonia

Elementary School. Her teacher is Larry Owen. The county winner in the art contest was Anna Fischer, a student at Blessed Sacrament. Her teacher is Kathy Wuestefeld. These entries have been forwarded to area and state competition. The first place winner in each contest and their teachers will receive a \$25 gift certificate to a local bookstore from the Conservation District, in addition to prizes from the Kentucky Farm Bureau.

Today's Heritage Farm: My Old Kentucky Home

Southern Kenton County neighbors and friends will welcome visitors on Sat., May 4, from 9 am-5 pm. The day's events are designed to promote the preservation of the County's agricultural heritage. Participating farms will feature heritage breeds, farm babies, homemade crafts and homegrown foods. The Kenton County Conservation District will be at

the barn on their Morning View property to provide information about this land restoration project and lead short guided walks around the property. For information, contact the Kenton County Conservation District or the Kenton County Cooperative Extension Service (859/356-3155).

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.

Kenton County School District Community Education Program Schedule Winter/Spring 2013

Register Now!

Register for a class by completing the registration form and mailing to Kenton County Board of Education, attn: Community Education, 1055 Eaton Drive, Fort Wright, KY 41017. Make checks payable to Kenton County Community Education. NO CASH.

Name _____

Business phone _____

Email _____

Address _____

Home phone _____

Course title _____ Date _____ Time _____

_____ Check enclosed

Course title _____ Date _____ Time _____

_____ Check enclosed

Course title _____ Date _____ Time _____

_____ Check enclosed

For questions email Teresa.Wilkins@kenton.kyschools.us or call 859/957-2620. Please note if the schools close for inclement weather, all Community Education classes are cancelled.

No classes will be held Monday, February 18 or the week of April 8-12.

Improve Your Health

Yoga

\$48; walk-ins pay \$53 (checks only, no cash)

Thursdays

First session: February 21 - March 28

Second session: April 18 - May 23

6:30 - 7:30 pm

New location: James A. Caywood

Elementary

Yoga is a practical and "easeful" approach to maintaining wellness with an emphasis on relaxation and fitness through breathing techniques and gentle stretches.

Instructor: Diana Guy

Zumba

\$45; walk-ins pay \$50 (checks only, no cash)

Tuesdays & Thursdays, 7:30 - 8:30 pm

First session: Jan. 8 - Feb. 14

Second session: Feb. 19 - March 28

Third session: April 2 - May 16

(No classes April 9 or 11)

Turkey Foot Middle School cafeteria

Zumba fuses Latin rhythms and easy dance steps for a calorie-burning, body-energizing class.

Instructor: Gabrielle Dion

Develop Your Interests

Introductory Photography

\$30 if preregistered, walk-ins pay \$35 (checks only, no cash)

Mondays, March 4 & 11, 6:30 - 8:30 pm

Dixie Heights High School

Whether you use digital or film, this class will teach you how to "see" pictures and to "capture the moment" with professional-looking results. Professional photographer Jim Osborn will bring his years of expertise to class. Bring your camera!

Instructor: Jim Osborn

Advanced Photography
\$30 if preregistered, walk-ins pay \$35 (checks only, no cash)

Mondays, March 18 & 25,

6:30 - 8:30 pm

Dixie Heights High School

Digital as well as film photography will be covered in depth. Professional photographer Jim Osborn will expand your skills with instruction on the art of photography. It is recommended that you take the Introductory Photography class to prepare you for this session.

Instructor: Jim Osborn

Aquatics

\$48 per session if preregistered, walk-ins pay \$50 (checks only, no cash)

Tuesdays & Thursdays, Feb. 26 - April 4

6:30 - 7:30 pm

Scott High School

Get fit and healthy by exercising in the water. Bring suit and towel!

Instructors: Sally Soderlund and Becky Moeller

Community Partnerships

The City of Edgewood offers Tai Chi, Guided Meditation, and more classes for the community. Go to <http://www.edgewoodky.com/> to view a schedule, or call 859/331-5910.

The City of Independence offers exercise and other classes of interest. Learn more by visiting <http://www.cityofindependence.org/> or call 859/356-5302.

CPR Training

Register for classes by calling Northern Kentucky Emergency Management Services (NKEMS) 859/572-4511. Northern Kentucky EMS is pleased to offer CPR and First Aid classes to the community. NKEMS is the Regional Training Center for the American Heart Association. NKEMS is also a training center for the American Safety and Health Institute.

Student resources from the Kenton County Public Library

Use your library card to unveil a wealth of free learning experiences. Just use your library card to access over 60 databases from home or school. Two great student sources include Mango Language Learning

and LearningExpress Library.

Mango is an online language-learning system that teaches practical conversation skills for a wide variety of languages using online tutorials. LearningExpress Library

is a website dedicated to reaching your goal. You will find specific skill-building courses for elementary, middle and high schools (plus free ACT and SAT test preps) and practice tests, exercises, skill-building

courses, e-books, and information you need to achieve the results you want—at school, at work, or in life. Access these free student resources today at www.kentonlibrary.org/databases/subjectlist/index.cfm.

From the desk of Judge/Executive Steve Arlinghaus

Kenton County Fiscal Court holding the line



Special highlights of 2012 include the merger of dispatch centers between Covington and Kenton County, the Golf Course's improved financial position, and how we were able to hold the line by not increasing property taxes for the third consecutive year.

*Steve Arlinghaus,
Kenton County
Judge/Executive*

2012 was quite a successful year for the Kenton County Fiscal Court. Some special highlights include the merger of dispatch centers between Covington and Kenton County, the Golf Course's improved financial position, and how we were able to hold the line by not increasing property taxes for the third consecutive year.

The combining of the Covington and County Dispatch Centers has been challenging to say the least, but a terrific move for all of us. Efforts are still underway to continue with the merger of the Erlanger Dispatch Center and the County. This final piece to the puzzle will allow for 1) significantly enhanced safety to the public and first line responders such as fire, police and EMS providers, and 2) save the taxpayers of Kenton County an estimated \$4.5 million dollars over the first five years of operation as opposed to operating two centers. This is why it is still critically important for Erlanger and the County to merge into one consolidated center. We should not allow this opportunity to slip away because of parochialism.

The Golf Course, which is and has been a hot button for some time now was under fire for operating at a financial loss in calendar years 2009, 2010 and was headed that way as well when I took over as County Judge/Executive in January 2011. For FY 2010/11 alone, that loss reached nearly \$524,000.00.

In October of 2011, we changed General Managers and hired Dan Moening, a former Assistant Manager at our County Golf Course. This move has paid large dividends. The County had seen a sharp decline in Leagues play and reductions in Golf Outings over the past few years. While researching the problems we discovered many golfers were leaving to go elsewhere because of their dissatisfaction with the previous management.

I am happy to report that through Dan's efforts and leadership they have been able to reach out and restore the friendly experience of Golfing at Kenton County that golfers had become accustomed to in the past. The Golf Courses broke even in calendar year 2012.

Lastly, regarding the ugly thought of tax increases, something no one wants to hear — things looked bleak when I took over this office in January of 2011. Tax increases loomed on the horizon. Three areas were hurting us severely. 1) The County Detention Center was spending \$80,000 per month in overtime wages, 2) The Golf Courses were losing revenue, and 3) We faced a \$2.5 million dollar deficit spending budget.

These financial bombshells caused a serious analysis of how the County had been doing business. We made many changes in the areas of staffing levels, spending and prioritizing our needs. We were able to make staffing level adjustments at the County Detention Center that have resulted in a major decrease in overtime costs. For the past fourteen months our overtime expenditures have averaged just over \$6,000 per month, quite a decrease from the first quarter of 2011.

During calendar year 2011 we successfully eliminated several management/supervisory positions which, combined with reorganizing some of our operational depart-

ments, has decreased the cost of providing services, while improving the efficiency in delivery and maintaining the quality of services provided. The Golf Courses have turned around their financial woes and we are operating with a balanced budget.

This is how we have been able to maintain the line on taxes and refrain from any increases. Moving forward, we continually face uphill battles. One major crisis looming ahead is the challenge of pension reform. This is something that is desperately needed if we are to continue to provide services at a manageable cost. Without pension reform we will not be able to continue to hold the line from future tax increases. In my opinion, pension reform is the # 1 issue facing our state legislators today. They alone control this issue, and we are required to follow their instructions as to how much we are to pay.

Please be assured, this Administration will do its part to avoid any future tax increase for the next fiscal year. Please feel free to send me your thoughts on any of these matters at steve.arlinghaus@kentoncounty.org.

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)**

NKAPC earns 'Compliance' rating

State Auditor reviews financial accountability

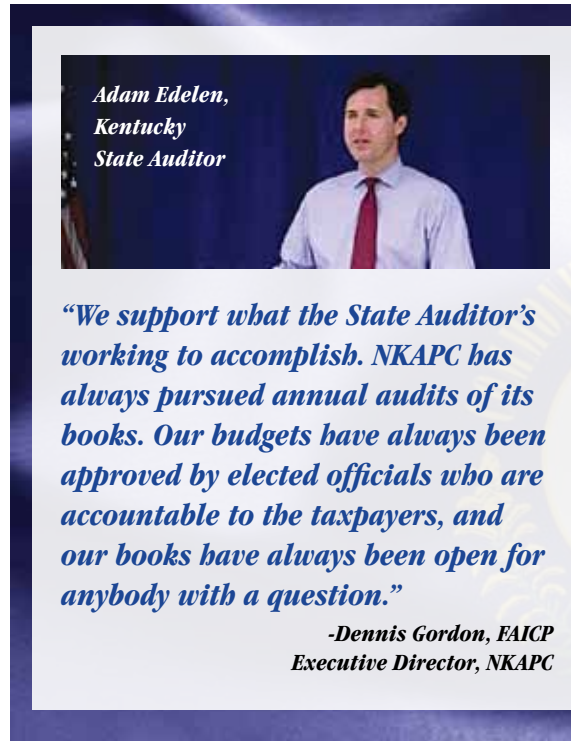
Kentucky State Auditor Adam Edelen's recent push for greater accountability from the Commonwealth's 1200+ special districts places NKAPC among those agencies in the top tier. The resulting 'Compliance' designation earned through this process signifies that NKAPC meets all state requirements for financial decision making and accountability.

A recent news release from the Auditor's office says that the current system of financial oversight of these special districts treat those that comply with state laws the same way as those operating outside of it. It says "the status quo is a muddled morass of statutes, bizarre classifications, uncertain responsibilities, confusing mandates and the absence of meaningful tools to compel compliance."

The news release announces the establishment of an online public database and accompanying report to shine new light on these districts. This category of Kentucky local government agencies includes libraries, sanitation and water districts, public health departments, fire and ambulance districts, transit authorities, and river port authorities to name a few.

"We support what the state auditor's working to accomplish," said Dennis Gordon, FAICP, executive director. "NKAPC has always pursued annual audits of its books. Our budgets have always been approved by elected officials who are accountable to the taxpayers, and our books have always been open for anybody with a question."

The Citizen Auditor Initiative database and "Ghost Government: A Report on Special Districts in



Kentucky" are the end results of a six-month-long effort to survey known special districts and local elected officials and examine more than 1000 statutes that govern the most prevalent form of government in the commonwealth.

"To be sure, there is a difference between the districts themselves and the scandalous lack of system-wide oversight of them," Edelen said in the news release. "Their work is critical to the communities they serve, many board members put in considerable hours on a voluntary basis and the vast majority are honest stewards of the tax dollars they spend."

"This is the first time that information on the state's taxing districts has been made available in an online, sortable format," said Logan Morford, vice president of transparency of the Bluegrass Institute. "As a

result, citizens will be able to easily find critical information about how their hard-earned tax dollars are spent."

The report includes legislative recommendations aimed at cleaning up the statutes that govern special districts, adding teeth to compel compliance with reporting requirements, creating an online centralized registry for special districts to report their financials and establishing education and ethics for special district board members and staff.

"This is really a significant service to the public interest," said

Richard Beliles, executive director of Common Cause of Kentucky. "This is a major, major improvement in government for the people."

The auditor's office worked with the Department for Local Government, members of a legislative task force studying special districts, and more than a dozen organizations that offered their support of this effort.

The full Citizen Auditor Initiative report and database can be found at www.auditor.ky.gov.

EXTENSION Today

IN KENTON COUNTY

Winter/Spring 2013

From July 1, 2011 to June 30, 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. This issue features an overview of our programs from last year.

To view the entire "Extension Today" published in November 2012, visit our website at <http://kenton.ca.uky.edu/ReporttothePeople>.

4-H Youth Development

- 81,076 educational contacts were made by 4-H agents and assistants.
- 28,740 newsletters were distributed.
- 4-H Youth Development served 4,172 youth participants.
- Served 482 Community Club members who participated in a variety of activities including market animals, production animals, companion animals, gardening, science, arts, photography, home economics, foods, speeches and demonstrations, and more.
- 846 grade school youth representing 15 different classrooms learned about chick embryology.
- Taught 96 "Acres of Adventures" lessons to 283 Covington area 4-H'ers.
- Collaborated with Simon Kenton, Lloyd Memorial, and Ludlow Schools to plan, conduct and evaluate three 4-H Reality Stores, reaching 729 youth and involving 121 volunteers.

4-H
Leadership
Club preparing
holiday cards for
hospice and a
nursing home



- 7 youth completed the country ham project utilizing the equipment and new building to produce hams estimated in value at \$2,200.00.
- 117 4-H sewing members created projects ranging from beginning to advanced clothing construction, quilting and home accessory projects. 26 youth sewed pillowcases and have donated over 200 to a local homeless shelter in a service-learning project. Had six sewers tops in the state. Kenton won the Grand Champion award in the 9-13 year-old category of the Sewing Skillathon, as well as having the State Grand Champion Quilt.
- 484 participated in consumer and financial education programs where youth learned to "Think before they buy."
- Engaged 80 youth in horse programs including horse camp, drill team, county, district and state horse shows, contests, horse scholarship opportunities and the riding/driving recognition program.
- Involved 207 4-H members in 14 summer day camp programs.
- Engaged 1,300 Kenton County youth in public speaking and demonstrations; 89 County Communication Event, 15 Multi-County Communication Event, and 8 advanced to the state level.

- Involved 350 middle school youth participants in "Step Up to Leadership" school enrichment programs.
- 36 underserved children attended "Incredible Edibles," where they learned healthy eating habits.
- Engaged 95 volunteers and campers in overnight 4-H camp.

Horticulture

- Extension continues to educate local farmers about New Crop Opportunities through offering diversified market producer workshops. This year Extension hosted a High Tunnel and Greenhouse Workshop and facilitated a Potted Mum Trial and Field Day involving approximately 110 participants.
- Extension hosted a School Gardens Workshop in March educating 12 local teachers about basic horticulture, curriculum tie-ins, and grant opportunities for local school gardens. Extension also opened their Outdoor Ed Center this year as a field trip destination for local schools and hosted three grade school field trips involving 125 youth.

Continued on next page

Nearly 1800 people enjoyed the annual Kenton County Farm Harvest Tour in 2012.



Horticulture, cont.

- Extension facilitated the first annual Kenton County Farm Harvest Tour, an agritourism opportunity attended by nearly 1,800 tour goers, giving Northern Kentuckians an opportunity to visit, learn, and support local farms. Two wineries, a dairy, a shrimp farm, cattle operations, pumpkin patches, a fishing lake, many family farms and other agricultural enterprises participated in this all-day event showcasing Kenton County's diversified agricultural community.
- 24 horticulture education classes were offered to over 600 home gardeners last year. Participants report adapting and using best management practices to build better gardens while saving money. Additionally, 8 specifically youth horticulture programs were offered to over 150 local youth last year. Class topics varied but all focus on learning sustainable UK research-based practices to improve community horticulture.
- Extension supports seven Covington Community Gardens offering horticulture education, free seeds, free soil testing, free equipment rental, mentorship, and recruitment tools for garden leaders and members.

Agriculture

- In response to the March 2 tornado that affected a 10-square-mile area in southern Kenton County, the Agriculture Agent worked closely with Kenton County Emergency Management and FEMA to offer assistance to those families affected.
- Livestock programs for the year included a Pasture Walk series where local farmers learned about successful pasture and hay management techniques.
- Other livestock classes offered included Small Flock Poultry, Hogs for Home Harvest, Bull Soundness Examination Program, Beef Quality Assurance (BQA), and Master Stocker.
- This year the Agriculture Agent offered a Small Lake and Pond Management class to residents to learn successful techniques for weed control, fish stocking rates, and ecosystem management.
- Kenton County farmers identified the need for a program to learn techniques to control the red cedar, and how to market this wood off their farms. Working with the UK Forestry Department the Agriculture Agent offered an intensive program to learn management and harvest methods, and how to sell Eastern Red Cedar.

Family and Consumer Sciences

- Classes on technology taught included basic computer skills for three weeks in the fall and spring.
- Classes were taught on improving interview skills and updating resumes to assist individuals in their search for employment.
- "Starting a Business," a class on writing a business plan, taxes and available resources for starting a business was held working cooperatively with the Small Business

Development Center at Northern Kentucky University. Also team-taught three-week class on Business Planning for Small Agriculture and Horticulture Producers with nine in attendance. In addition, offered a class on starting an online business covering costs, inventory and marketing of items.

- Other classes taught included "Let the Consumer Beware" which focused on consumer protection in Kenton and Carroll County to Extension Homemakers and the general public.
- Coordinated and taught sessions of Money Talk: A financial Guide for Women: A 5-part series on money, finances, and investments aimed at women with 15 in attendance and utilizing guest speakers from the community to enhance the program content.
- Kenton County Homemakers hosted several fundraising activities to fund \$2500 in high school scholarships, \$150 in member enrichment scholarships, and \$400 for 4-H scholarships/activities.
- Hands-on food preservation workshops held in Boone and Kenton Counties for 65 attendees in response to increased numbers of food preservation calls and continued requests for experience workshops. Two "hands-on" 4-H food preservation programs were also taught to 22 youth to instruct them on making award-winning entries for county and state fair.
- Master Clothing Volunteers led beginning sewing for adults series and assisted with many other sewing classes.



Sewing class led by Master Clothing Volunteers

- Had 443 participants in 30 FCS and Homemaker classes this year. Some of these topics included: Family Cooking Together, Freezer Meals, Gluten Free Breads, Homemade Soups, Creative Yard Art, and Holiday Panorama.
- Parenting workshops at 2 elementary schools were conducted to raise awareness of bullying and help over 55 parents find ways to implement prevention strategies.
- With 1 out of 5 Americans struggling with a bed bug infestation in their home, the program "Bedbug Bedlam" was presented at numerous locations due to the increased concern. Over 90 people attended the programs that were offered at the extension center, Covington Housing Authority, Thomas More College, and the Northern Kentucky Water District.
- The Literacy, Eating and Activity for Preschoolers (Primary) (LEAP) program was taught 42 times at 3 elementary schools, 2 preschools and the extension office reaching over 2700 children to teach children and parents about the importance of reading, eating healthful foods, and increasing their activity.
- The "Tackling the Tween Years" program was offered to over 50 parents at two elementary schools to educate them about the life stage of adolescents 9-12 years old.
- The monthly Relative Raising Children Support Group luncheons hosted by the Extension Service continue to offer educational programs and emotional support to families raising children who are not their own. Over 260 families rely on the information and resources that the Kenton County Extension office is able to provide.

CLASSES

KENTON COUNTY EXTENSION CLASS SCHEDULE

Relatives and Grandparents Raising Children Support Group	1st Friday, Jan.-May	12-1 pm	Durr Annex
Hobby Green Houses	Fri., Jan. 25	1-3 pm	Durr Annex
Clover Buds (for children in school K-3)	1st Tuesday starting in Feb.	6 pm	Durr Annex
4-H Volunteer Orientation	Mon., Feb. 4	6 pm	Durr Center
Writing a Useful Business Plan (Series of 3 classes)	Tuesdays, Feb. 5, 19, 26	6:30 - 8:30 pm	Durr Center
Microprocessor Certification	Mon., Feb. 11	9:30 am - 3:30 pm	Durr Center
Beginning Sewing for Adults (\$5 class fee) (class size limited)	Thursdays, Feb. 14, 21, 28, March 7, 14, 21	5:30-8:30 p.m.	Durr Annex
BQA Beef Quality Assurance Training	Tues., Feb. 12	6:30 - 8:30 pm	Durr Center
Pasture Renovation	Sat., Feb. 16	10 am - 2 pm	Boone Co. Extension Office
LITTLE SPROUTS: Forcing Bulbs	Mon., Feb. 18	10 -11 am	Durr Center
What's New with Bamboo?	Thurs., Feb. 21	10 am	Durr Center
What's New with Bamboo? (repeated)	Thurs., Feb. 21	6 pm	Durr Annex
Growing Great Grapes Workshop	Sat., Feb. 23	10 am - 4 pm	Durr Center
Public Workers' Tree Seminar	Thurs., March 14	7:30 am -3:30 pm	Durr Center
Pond Management Workshop (light lunch provided)	Tues., March 19	9 am-3 pm	Boone Co. Extension Office
Pond Management Workshop (repeated) (light lunch provided)	Wed., March 20	9 am - 3 pm	Campbell Co. Environmental Ed Center
Computer Basics (Series of 3 classes)	Thursdays, March 21, 28, & April 4	2:30 - 4 pm	Durr Annex
Computer Basics (repeated) (Series of 3 classes)	Thursdays, March 21, 28, & April 4	6 - 7:30 pm	Durr Annex
Simply Vegetarian	Thurs., March 21	10 am	Durr Center
Simply Vegetarian (repeated)	Thurs., March 21	6 pm	Durr Annex
Learning How to Use Social Media Safely (Facebook, pinterest and twitter--lecture only)	Tues., March 26	6 - 7:30 pm	Durr Annex
4-H Club Leader Education Program Making the Best Better	Tues., March 26	6:30 pm	Durr Center
Sprucing Up Your Wardrobe with Scarves	Thurs., March 28	10 am	Durr Center
Sprucing Up Your Wardrobe with Scarves (repeated)	Thurs., March 28	6 pm	Durr Annex
Estate Planning	Thurs., April 11	3 - 5 pm	Durr Center
Bull Soundness Exam	Sat., April 13	9 am - 5 pm	Kenton Co. Fairgrounds
Transferring Photos with Software (2-part class)	Wed., April 17 & 24	2:30 - 4 pm	Durr Annex
Transferring Photos with Software (2-part class) (repeated)	Wed., April 17 & 24	6 - 7:30 pm	Durr Annex
Telling Our Story	Thurs., April 18	10 am	Durr Center
Farmscaping, What is It?	Mon., April 22	6:30 - 8:30 pm	Durr Center

Class listings continued on next page

**WINTER/SPRING
2013**

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.

KENTON COUNTY EXTENSION HAS TWO CONVENIENT LOCATIONS:

Durr Center, 10990 Marshall Road, Covington, KY • Durr Annex, 3099 Dixie Highway, Edgewood, KY.

www.kentoncountyextension.com

KENTON COUNTY EXTENSION CLASS SCHEDULE, continued


WINTER/SPRING 2013

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 website at kentoncountyextension.org for complete details

 Visit us on Facebook!

SUN UP & SUN DOWN TOUR: Wildflowers & Mushroom Hike	Tues., April 23	10 am	TBA; contact office
Empowering Women	Thurs., April 25	10 am	Durr Annex
Empowering Women (repeated)	Thurs., April 25	6 pm	Durr Center
Container Veggies Make-and-Take @ CGN	Wed., May 1st	6 - 8 pm	Center for Great Neighborhoods
Microwave Magic	Fri., May 3	10 am	Durr Center
Container Flower Gardens @ Jackson's	Thurs., May 9	6 pm	Jackson's Florist
Coming to "Terms" in the Kitchen - Recipes 101	Thurs., May 30	6 pm	Durr Annex
4-H Bug Night	Thurs., May 30	6:30 pm	Durr Center OEC
Garden Trellis Building Workshop	Thurs., June 6	1 - 3 pm	Durr Center OEC
SUN UP & SUN DOWN TOUR: Living Soils and Companion Planting	Thurs., June 13	6 - 8 pm	TBA; contact office
4-H Camp at North Central, Carlisle, KY	Mon.-Fri., June 24 - 28		
SUN UP & SUN DOWN TOUR: Red Sunflower Farm	Thurs., July 25	6 pm	TBA; contact office
What's Eating My Veggie Plants?	Tues., July 30	10 am - 12 pm	Durr Center OEC
LITTLE SPROUTS: Hort Day Camp	Tues.-Thurs., Aug. 6-8	10 am - 2 pm	Durr Center OEC
Farm Harvest Tour	Sat., Sept. 21	9 am - 5 pm	Durr Center OEC
HOMEGROWN 101 SERIES:			
Jam'in Bread (hands-on workshop)	Tues., March 12	6 pm	Durr Center
Kentucky Proud – Plate it Up (Series of 3 classes)	Tues., March 19, April 23, and May 14	6 pm	Durr Annex
Easy Backyard Fruits	Thurs., March 21	6 - 8 pm	Durr Center
Raising Pigs for Home Freezer	Tues., March 26	6:30 - 8:30 pm	Durr Center
Backyard Veggies & FREE SEEDS FOR ALL!	Tues., April 2	6 - 8 pm	Durr Center
Raising Poultry for Eggs and Meat	Tues., April 16	6:30 - 8:30 pm	Durr Center
Curing a Country Ham	Thurs., May 2	6:30 - 8:30 pm	Durr Center
Raising Meat Goats, The Basics	Tues., April 23	6:30 - 8:30 pm	Durr Center
Hands-on Food Preservation (Class size limited; \$10 fee)	Thurs., Aug. 1	9 am - 3 pm	Durr Center
Homegrown Bouquets and Bouts	Thurs., Aug. 22	6 - 8 pm	Durr Center OEC
Hoop Houses and Winter Veggies	Thurs., Sept. 26	6 - 8 pm	Durr Center OEC

Kenton County Cooperative Extension Service

COOPERATIVE EXTENSION



UK Ag SHES



Main Office & Outdoor Education Center (OEC) — Durr Center
10990 Marshall Road, Covington, KY
phone: 356-3155 • fax: 356-0363
e-mail: DL_CES_KENTON@EMAIL.UKY.EDU

Satellite Classrooms — Durr Annex
3099 Dixie Highway, Edgewood, KY

Kenton County Cooperative Extension Agents

Dan Allen,
Agriculture and
Natural Resources

Mary S. Averbek, 4-H
Youth Development

Joan Bowling,
Family and
Consumer Sciences

Linda Brown-Price, Family and
Consumer Sciences

Kathy R. Byrnes,
Family and
Consumer Sciences

Denise Donahue, 4-H
Youth Development

Andrea Dee,
Horticulture

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.

SD1 receives award for conveyance tunnel project

At the 2012 New Civil Engineer (NCE) International Tunneling Awards ceremony on Nov. 29 in Toronto, Canada, SD1 was awarded Environmental Initiative of the Year for their \$110 million Western Regional Conveyance Tunnel Project.

The award ceremony celebrates the most successful and innovative tunneling projects and companies in the global tunneling industry and was sponsored by New Civil Engineer, Ground Engineering, the International Tunneling and Underground Space Association (ITA-AITES) and the Tunneling Association of Canada (TAC).

Environmental Initiative of the Year is awarded to projects in the tunneling industry that allow

a company, project or series of projects to provide their customers or clients with improved performance with respect to sustainability, the environment or carbon reduction. This award was bestowed upon SD1's Western Regional Conveyance Tunnel Project over two other internationally-recognized tunneling projects, including construction of an underwater gas transmission pipeline across Singapore's West Jurong Channel.

"The fact that SD1 has been internationally recognized for our efforts to protect the community's water resources is obviously a great honor," said David Rager, Executive Director at SD1. "It is always SD1's goal to provide the most efficient

and effective services possible while upholding our pledge to protect the health of the public and the environment."

At 32,610 feet long and 8.5 feet in diameter, the Western Regional Conveyance Tunnel is the largest capital project in SD1's history. The tunnel carries sewage from customers in Boone and Kenton Counties by gravity to SD1's newest wastewater treatment plant, Western Regional Water Reclamation Facility. It also provides 14 million gallons of storage capacity, paving the way for future population growth and drastically reducing the amount of sanitary sewer overflows in which, during heavy rains, raw sewage spills out into streets, yards and local streams,

threatening the health of the community and the environment. In addition, the tunnel's energy-saving gravity design has allowed for the elimination of 14 older pump stations, improving system efficiency and reducing facility maintenance costs.

"SD1 is committed to providing our customers with safe and efficient services," said Rager. "The Western Regional Tunnel project will prevent nearly 60 million gallons of sewage annually from contaminating local streams and communities with harmful bacteria and other pathogens."

For more information on the tunnel, visit www.sd1.org

Tips for safe disposal

Did you know that what you flush or pour down your drain can potentially harm your home's plumbing, the sanitary sewer system and the environment? By following these tips, you can prevent costly repairs to wastewater pipes and protect the health of the community and local streams:

Properly dispose of household grease from meat fats, lard, baking goods, butter and margarine, cooking oils, food scraps, sauces and dairy products by collecting these substances in a container and throwing them in your garbage can.

- Fats, oils and grease can build up in pipes, preventing your wastewater from making its way through the sewer pipes to SD1's treatment plant. When your wastewater is unable to move through the sewer pipes, raw sewage can back up into your home or yard or overflow into local streets and streams.

Throw diapers and personal hygiene products in your garbage can. Do not flush these items down your toilet.

- Bulky items like diapers and hygiene products can also clog pipes, causing backups and overflows of sewage into streets, homes and streams.

Never flush or pour household chemicals like cleaners, medications, auto fluids, used motor oil, paint or lawn care products down a drain.

Contact your county's Solid Waste Coordinator or visit www.nkyhwh.org for information on how to properly dispose of these items.

- Hazardous chemicals can cause significant damage to sewer pipes and diminish the effectiveness of the wastewater treatment process. Pesticides, solvents and other cleaning materials can corrode plumbing and release toxic fumes through the sewer system. In addition, chemicals and contaminants that are not removed from the wastewater during the treatment process will be released into local streams along with the treated wastewater.

Excess salt sullies our water

Put a little more green in your spring by taking an environmental approach to snow removal. When treating your pavement after a snow or ice storm, keep in mind that excess salts can build up in the soil, preventing plants from absorbing moisture and nutrients. Salts can also leach heavy metals, which eventually make their way into water supplies.

To prevent this, physically remove as much of the snow and ice as possible. If you have to apply salt, look for environmentally friendly brands and remember that a little goes a long way.



Excess salt contributes to storm water runoff problems when it is picked up by precipitation as it flows over the ground. The storm water is then washed into nearby street drains, most of which empty directly into the streams and rivers that we use for fishing, swimming, boating and recreating.

SD1



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

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

Check out these fun programs and events!

Sugar Camp — Makin' Maple Syrup

Is winter dragging on and on and on? Are you fed up with hearing "I'm bored"? Then join Kenton County Parks & Recreation for nature at its best-tastin' best and Sugar Camp 2013 presented by Emerson Industrial Automation™. We'll be makin' maple syrup the old fashioned way at Middleton-Mills Park. Sugar Camp will be operational Monday through Saturday, February 25- March 2, OR March 4-9. It'll be one week or the other depending on Mother Nature.

Field Programs on Fowler Creek proprietor Mike Strohm will again be operating a working sugar camp, demonstrating the art and science of making maple syrup. Step back in time to experience life in the mid-1800s in a backwoods settlement sugar camp. Strohm will portray Elrod Tapper, an American pioneer settler, and will be dressed in clothing representative of the era, working with many of the tools and accoutrements used 150-200 years ago in frontier America. Dennis Flerlage, local old-time fiddler, will be on hand most days to entertain with folk songs.

In addition, a second camp will be set up nearby, providing participants an opportunity to help process sap water into hard sugar, using heated stones and wooden bowls, as Shawnee and Iroquis Indians would have done in the 1700s. Visitors will be encouraged to participate in many of the day-to-day Sugar Camp tasks such as gathering and splitting wood for the fires, making spiles, and tapping the Maple trees. And, here's the best part: Not only will you get to taste unrefined sweet sap water, you will

also get to sample home-made maple syrup!

With Sugar Camp operating for a full week, including a Saturday, you will also get a glimpse of what "home" may have looked like and how some of our ancestors lived. Learn how they would have found and prepared food, and witness their day-to-day struggle to deal with the elements. You may even get to try some of the games their children might have played, and observe how greatly different our lives today are by comparison. You won't often get an opportunity like this so be sure to ask plenty of questions. Additional special activities are planned for Saturday and may include Corn Husk Doll Making, Weaving, and maybe even a working Blacksmith Shop.

Participants should meet at Shelterhouse 2 (just follow the signs once you get to the park) and meet up with your guide, Steve Trauger, Kenton County Recreation Programs Coordinator.

Please call us to make reservations for class-size groups, individuals, and families. There will be three time slots to choose from each weekday: 10-11:30 am, 12-1:30 pm, and 2- 3:30 pm. There will be room for 30 participants in each of two groups. On Saturday, we won't be taking reservations so just come on out to Sugar Camp.

A pre-Sugar Camp Work Day is scheduled for February 9 from 10 am until 3 pm. We'll be assembling the wikiup, gathering firewood, and getting camp ready to go. Hot chocolate will be provided for all volunteers!

Call 859/525-PLAY (7529) to schedule your visit today to experience the wonder of nature at its best-tasting best! When the sap starts runnin', we'll be makin' maple syrup. It's Sugar Camp 2013 at Middleton-Mills Park!

Wild Wednesdays!

Discover the fascinating world of wildlife. From May 15 to August 14, join us for our 14th season of award-winning Wild Wednesdays! presented by Toyota. The free programs begin at 10 am, last about an hour on each of the 13 dates and are held rain or shine at Middleton-Mills Park in Shelterhouse 2.

Wild Wednesdays is for everyone from babies to seniors. All you need is a sense of wonder and we'll take care of the rest. Go wild! Don't miss a single adventure!

Learn simple definitions for big words such as biodiversity, endangered, conservation, preservation, adaptation, ecosystem, indigenous, extinction, specialization, and interdependence.

We're currently in the process of finalizing our 2013 program schedule and we hope to present guests such as The Cincinnati Zoo, J.J. Audubon and Field Programs on Fowler Creek, Farmer Frank & Sunrock Farm, Newport Aquarium's WAVE Foundation, Critters in the Classroom, Farmer Joan and The Equine Show, Mr. Cowpie's Party Animals, Kentucky Down Under, Eagle Bend Alpacas, and Raptor, Inc.

Please remember to arrive early for best seating and be sure to check our pre-program start times (9:30 or 9:45 am) or post-programs (11 am) online, as they vary, depending upon who's there.

We hope that some of our Wild Wednesdays! programs will be followed with a free lunch. However, when we do not have a lunch partner to cover the full cost, KCP&R will still provide lunches for \$1 per person. Here's our plan: We'll have a Snappy Tomato Pizza (cheese or pepperoni) snack lunch one week

Sugar Camp — Makin' Maple Syrup at Middleton-Mills Park

presented by Emerson Industrial Automation™
Could begin the week of February 25 or the week of March 4
Let's put it this a'way: When the sap starts runnin'!



Join Kenton County Parks & Recreation for nature at its best-tastin' best and Sugar Camp 2013. We'll be makin' maple syrup the old fashioned way!

Wild Wednesdays!

- Presented by Toyota -
Kentucky Recreation and Park Society's
Outstanding Program Award Winner

Wednesdays from May 15 - August 14 at Middleton-Mills Park



Discover the fascinating world of wildlife!

and then the next, thanks to Cincinnati Children's, we'll have our "healthy alternatives lunch" with Subway® 3" Turkey (with American cheese, lettuce, and tomato) sub sandwiches with apple slices or veggies on the side.

Wild Wednesdays! is free to attend and enjoy. Instead of money, we collect donations of non-perishable food and personal care items for Senior Services of NKY. This year, in an effort to bump up the donations for SSNK, there will be a special prize drawing each week for those who remember to bring donations: one ticket for every two items donated or two tickets if you bring three! Your kind donations have helped way more than you know. Let's keep giving! PLEASE remember to bring something each week.

Call Kenton County Recreation at 859/525-PLAY (7529) to see how you can help — we are always in need of volunteers and funding sponsors for our programs.

Sign up for e-newsletter

For news of upcoming programs, activities, and events to be held in Kenton County's parks, call the Parks & Recreation office at 859/525-PLAY (7529). Ask about signing up for a once-a-week e-mail update of What's Happening in Kenton County's parks.

(Almost) Every Other Thursday Science

Whoever said "Science is boring" had to be kidding. These programs are interactive, educational and FUN! Programs are held in Shelterhouse 1 at Pioneer Park — rain or shine — beginning at 10 am on each of the seven dates. The free programs are delivered in 1-hour theatrical assembly presentations.

And, it's not just for schools and school-age children. This program has something for everyone from babies to seniors and everyone in

between. In 2009, (Almost) Every Other Thursday Science won the Kentucky Recreation and Park Society Outstanding Program Award and it just keeps getting better and better!

Now, we are about to embark on our seventh season of outstanding science programming in Kenton County's parks. We are still finalizing our guest roster but you can expect to see Crystal Clear Science, Cincinnati Museum Center, Out of Control Wildlife, and Behringer-Crawford. In addition, we will have pre- and post-programs starting at 9:30 or 9:45 am depending on the guest. Post-programs will begin immediately following the science program. An example of a post-program is Mike Dominach of Dominach's Taekwondo Academy. They will be on hand demonstrating how the practice of Taekwondo is something the whole family can enjoy by helping participants develop personal skills such as focus, self-confidence, and discipline.

Please visit our website at www.kentoncounty.org for a complete list of guests, directions and times. Remember, arrive early for best seating!

As in the past, the fine folks from Faith Community United Methodist Church will be providing free popcorn and lemonade again. FREE LUNCH??? We're working on that, too. Science, popcorn, lemonade, and pizza! Could it get any better?

(Almost) Every Other Thursday Science is free to attend and enjoy. Please remember to bring a donation of non-perishable food or personal care items for Senior Services of NKY. Your donation will go a long way right here in our community. Your kind donations of non-perishable food and personal care items have helped way more than you know. Let's keep giving!

(Almost) Every Other Thursday Science

Kentucky Recreation and Park Society's
Outstanding Program Award Winner

May 16 & 23; June 13 & 27; July 18; and August 1 & 8
at Pioneer Park



These science programs are interactive, educational and FUN!

St. Elizabeth Healthcare joins Mayo Clinic Care Network

Mayo Clinic announced St. Elizabeth Healthcare as the newest member of the Mayo Clinic Care Network. St. Elizabeth is the first health system in Kentucky, Indiana or Ohio to have passed Mayo's rigorous review process and been selected as a member of the year-old network. The Mayo Clinic Care Network extends Mayo Clinic's knowledge and expertise to physicians and providers interested in working together in the best interest of their patients.

St. Elizabeth physicians will now be able to connect with Mayo Clinic specialists on questions of patient care using an electronic consulting technique called eConsults.

St. Elizabeth physicians also will have access to Mayo-vetted medical information through the AskMayoExpert database. These tools, in addition to health care consulting, were developed by Mayo Clinic to help organizations such as St. Elizabeth provide the best care

and improve their systems and the health of their communities.

"We are pleased to welcome our colleagues at St. Elizabeth Healthcare into the Mayo Clinic Care Network. St. Elizabeth is well known and recognized for its patient safety and overall quality of care," says David Hayes, M.D., Medical Director, Mayo Clinic Care Network. "Collaborating with other medical providers to provide the best possible care for patients has always been part of Mayo's culture. And through the Mayo Clinic Care Network we can work in new ways with community care organizations to enhance the lives of patients."

"We are honored to be selected as the exclusive member of the Mayo Clinic Care Network in Greater Cincinnati," says John S. Dubis, President and CEO, St. Elizabeth Healthcare. "This collaboration puts the power and expertise of Mayo Clinic in the hands of the physicians at St. Elizabeth, making it easier for patients with the most complex



From left: John S. Dubis, President and Chief Operating Officer, St. Elizabeth Healthcare; David Hayes, M.D., Medical Director, Mayo Clinic Care Network; and Ty Brown, M.D., neurologist.

conditions to get the care they need, close to home."

"It can become frustrating for patients to be referred to numerous specialists when they have a complex condition or one that is hard to diagnose," says Ty Brown, M.D., a neurologist at St. Elizabeth Healthcare. "The ability to collaborate with Mayo experts on behalf of my patients will provide solutions in less time and at no added expense to the patient."

The Mayo Clinic Care Network represents non-ownership relation-

ships. With Mayo Clinic, members of the network share a commitment to improve the quality and delivery of health care. The primary goal of the Mayo Clinic Care Network is to help people gain the benefits of Mayo Clinic knowledge and expertise close to home, ensuring that patients need to travel for care only when necessary. The network began in 2011 and also has member organizations in Arizona, Florida, Illinois, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, New Hampshire and North Dakota.

Local nurse recognized as 2012 National Magnet Nurse of the Year



**Linda Robinson,
BSN, RN, CEN, CFN**

Emergency Department nurse Linda Robinson, BSN, RN, CEN, CFN, was recognized recently as a National Magnet Nurse of the Year™ by the American Nurses

Credentialing Center (ANCC). Each year, the ANCC selects recipients for outstanding contributions in clinical nursing in five Magnet® Model components including Transformational Leadership; Structural Empowerment; Exemplary Professional Practice; New Knowledge,

Innovations and Improvements; and Empirical Outcomes. Robinson received recognition during the ANCC National Magnet Conference® in Los Angeles in the category of Structural Empowerment.

"Linda has been a valued member and contributed much during her tenure as a bedside nurse and as a certified emergency and forensic nurse," says Kim Boyer, System Director of Emergency Services. "It is her passionate mission against workplace violence that has set her apart and endeared her to emergency nurses within the organization, region and state."

Ms. Robinson has been an associate of St. Elizabeth Healthcare

for 28 years and is currently a charge nurse in the St. Elizabeth Covington Emergency Department. She has been a major advocate for ending workplace violence, initiating the emergency department workplace violence program at St. Elizabeth Healthcare. She also participated in the Emergency Nurses Association® Workplace Violence Work Team as a co-investigator on a study of "Violence Against Nurses Working in U.S. Emergency Departments" published in the *Journal of Nursing Administration* in 2009. This eventually led to her appointment as an expert advisor for an interventional workplace violence study with the University of Cincinnati that

was funded by the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health.

She has presented on workplace violence at numerous national conventions, and was largely responsible for the passing of Senate Bill 58 in February 2012, which helped make emergency departments safer by allowing local police to remove and arrest anyone who assaults an emergency department healthcare worker. She testified before the Kentucky State Judiciary Committee and the Kentucky House of Representatives. The bill passed unanimously.

Healthgrades recognizes St. Elizabeth Edgewood

St. Elizabeth Edgewood was named one of America's 100 Best Hospitals this past fall, receiving five stars for quality in cardiac surgery and pulmonary care, according to Healthgrades, a company that provides hospital and physician information to consumers. The findings are

part of an evaluation of approximately 4,500 U.S. hospitals' performances with nearly 30 of the most common conditions and healthcare procedures from 2009 through 2011.

Notable Healthgrades recognitions for St. Elizabeth Edgewood include the designation of one of

America's 100 Best Hospitals for cardiac, orthopaedic, neurosciences, pulmonary, gastrointestinal and critical care. The Healthgrades study found that patients treated in hospitals receiving five stars had, on average, a 75 percent lower risk of dying and 61 percent lower risk of experiencing

complications than patients in one-star hospitals. Healthgrades independently measures hospitals based on data hospitals submit to the federal government. Hospitals do not pay for measurement, nor can they opt out of being measured.

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

Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky International Airport

Kenton County Airport Board

The Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky International Airport covers more than 11 square miles and resembles a city with its own police and fire departments, utilities, communication networks and road system.

The Kenton County Airport Board functions as a board of directors to set the policies by which this "Airport City" operates. The Board is, in effect, the landlord and governing body of the airport — ensuring that CVG remains a first-class facility for the traveling public and an economic catalyst for the entire region.

Throughout its history the board has included some of Greater Cincinnati's most prominent civic and business leaders — able to bring the knowledge and expertise needed to

oversee a facility of this complexity.

Although many changes have occurred in the makeup and structure of the board over the years, the goals and purpose set by the original board have remained the same . . . the safe, efficient and economical operation of the airport.

The board accomplishes these goals without the use of local tax dollars. The airport is self-supporting and generates revenues from users to fund operating expenses and debt service.

The original seven-member board has been expanded to give Ohio and surrounding counties a greater voice in the operation of the airport. A 1964 executive order from the governor of Kentucky states: "Whereas, the airport serves the

entire Cincinnati metropolitan area . . . it is deemed advisable that the Kenton County Airport Board receive the counsel and advice of representative citizens of the Cincinnati metropolitan area."

Today's board represents a broad spectrum of the community on both sides of the Ohio River, with all members playing an integral role in overseeing airport operations.

CURRENT BOARD MEMBERS

- **Chairman** — James Huff, Chairman Emeritus, Huff Realty
- **Vice Chair** — Larry Savage, Regional CEO, Humana Inc.
- Dorothy H. Air, Associate Senior Vice President, Entrepreneurial Affairs, University of Cincinnati
- Jeffrey E. Arnold, President, Med Care Pharmacy
- Mark G. Arnzen, Principal, Arnzen, Molloy & Storm
- James A. Berger, Executive Vice President, Chas. Bilz Insurance Co.
- Kevin W. Canafax, Vice President of Public Affairs-Midwest Region, Fidelity Investments
- Kathy Collins, Vice President Private Banking, Fifth Third Bank
- Melanie L. Healey, Group President—North America and Global Hyper-Super-Mass Channel, Procter & Gamble
- Franklin S. Kling Jr., CEO & Chairman, FK Holdings Inc.
- Timothy S. Mauntel, Retired Senior Vice President, Morgan Stanley
- James A. Miceli, Retired Air Traffic Controller, Federal Aviation Administration
- Joseph E. Michels, Vice President, Paul Michels & Sons Inc.
- O'dell M. Owens, M.D., M.P.H., President, Cincinnati State Technical & Community College
- Nathaniel G. Smith, Partner, SSK Communities
- Paul Verst, President & CEO, Verst Group Logistics
- Robert Zapp, President, Bank of Kentucky
- **Kenton County Judge/Executive** — Steve Arlinghaus

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

Kenton County Fiscal Court

Recycling program expanded



Kenton County Fiscal Court has expanded its very successful recycling program. What started out as one recycling bin at the public works location in Independence has grown to eight bins that will be distributed throughout the County.

The eight bins, along with a trailer, were purchased through a state grant at no expense to the County.

County Judge/Executive Steve Arlinghaus said, "By owning our own recycling bins we will no longer have the \$54,000 annual expense of renting a recycling container." Along

with the annual savings, the County will sell the contents of the bins to a local recycler.

- The locations of the bins are:
- Kenton County Public Works, 420 Independence Station Road, Independence, KY 41051
 - Pioneer Park, 3951 Madison Pike, Covington, KY 41017
 - Ryland Heights City Building, 9985 Decoursey Pike, Ryland Heights, KY 41015

The County is applying for another grant in hopes of purchasing more recycling bins in 2013.

Animal Shelter news

Pictures with the Easter Bunny!

Come get your picture with the Easter Bunny. Bring your kids and pets to this event. Proceeds will benefit the Kenton County Animal Shelter, as well as the Kenton Paw Park. This event will also feature a meet and greet with animals available for adoption at the Shelter. Pictures will be taken at the Animal Shelter from 11 am to 3 pm on Saturday March 16.

Free Cat Friday

If you're looking to introduce a new pet into your home you may want to stop by the Animal Shelter for Free Cat Friday. Scheduled dates for this event are February 8 and 22 from 10:30 am to 4:30 pm. The adoption fee will be waived, so don't miss out!

Microchipping

Please remember the Shelter can microchip your pet for a \$15 fee and provide information about

low cost spay/neuter services for cats and dogs. For more information contact us at 859/356-7400.

Adopt a pet!

To view adoptable pets from the Kenton County Animal Shelter go to www.petfinder.com, www.kentoncounty.org, or join our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/kentoncountyanimalshelter.

