

WHAT'S



Happening!

in Kenton County, Kentucky TM

Fall/Winter 2015



KY 536 Scoping Study

To determine what improvements are needed along the segment of KY 536 in eastern Kenton County between KY 17 and the Kenton/Campbell county line, the Ohio/Kentucky/Indiana Regional Council of Governments (OKI) launched the KY 536 Scoping Study last fall.

Public involvement is integral to the success of this study. A series of open houses were held as part of the study process, giving citizens a chance to review project materials and provide feedback directly to the study team. Citizens are invited to participate in the final open house in October.

Final open house: October 5, 4-7 pm • Independence Senior and Community Center

For more information about the study, please see page 2.

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Scoping Study focuses on KY 536



KY 536 Scoping Study documents are available to review online at: www.OKI.org/536

Southeastern Kenton County is taking center stage this year as part of a study to improve mobility, access and travel safety along the KY 536 corridor.

As you are likely aware, phased improvements are being made to upgrade and modernize the KY 536 corridor which spans Boone, Kenton and Campbell counties. This roadway is widely recognized as a critical east-west transportation route through Northern Kentucky. Access, safety and mobility improvements will also better support local businesses and the region's growing economy.

Improvements along KY 536 have been divided into segments and are in varying stages of planning and development. The segment that travels through eastern Kenton County between KY 17 and the Kenton/Campbell county line, however, is the only segment of the road for which improvements have not yet been identified.

KY 536 Scoping Study

To determine what improvements are needed along this segment of KY 536, the Ohio-Kentucky-Indiana

Regional Council of Governments (OKI) last fall launched the KY 536 Scoping Study. The study will examine the problems and challenges of the existing roadway between KY 17 and the county line, evaluate possible improvement alternatives and conclude with specific recommendations of any changes to be made.

"This particular segment of KY 536 is known for its many starts and stops; sharp, winding curves; poor sight lines and drastic elevation changes — all of which can make driving challenging and hazardous, particularly in poor weather," said Kenton County Judge Executive Kris Knochermann, Second Vice President of OKI Board of Directors and Project Development Team Chair for the Study. "Crash rates are also high and in some areas, are more than three times the statewide average. It's our obligation to identify improvements that will ensure a continuous, efficient and safe flow of traffic along this corridor."

The KY 536 Scoping Study is being conducted in phases. Completed earlier this year, Phase One focused on examining the existing conditions

of the roadway, defining its problems, and collecting data. The Study Team also sought input from the community about the problems they experience along the road and their thoughts on what changes are or are not wanted.

Phase Two, which is currently underway, is focused on developing and evaluating improvement alternatives. Thus far, the Study Team has used the information, data and public comments collected during Phase One to develop a series of possible improvement options and to establish measures by which the alternatives can be evaluated. Improvement options range from upgrading deficiencies along the existing road to relocating KY 536 onto a new alignment while maintaining the existing corridor as a local road.

Alternatives under consideration were shared with the community at an Open House held on July 6 and are posted on the project website at www.OKI.org/536. The 30-day public comment period for Phase Two ended on August 6, however the public can provide input anytime throughout the Study using the comment box found on the website. The Study Team will

use feedback received to begin Phase Three: refining the alternatives and identifying which one to recommend for construction. A final open house is scheduled for October 5 at the Independence Senior and Community Center from 4 to 7 pm. This study is expected to be completed this fall. The timing of construction depends on funding availability.

Public input is key part of study

Public involvement is integral to the success of the KY 536 Scoping Study. A Project Development Team comprised of regional and local governmental, business and community representatives serve as advisors to the Study Team on an on-going basis. In addition, a series of open houses being held as part of the Study process provide opportunities for community members to review project materials and provide feedback directly to the Study Team. And, comments and questions from the public are welcome at anytime.

"The KY 536 study is being completed for the benefit of the local and regional community," said Robyn Bancroft, OKI Project Manager for the Scoping Study. "For that reason alone, the community needs to be part of the project's development and we want to listen to what they have to say."

To stay informed and learn more information about the Scoping Study, please visit www.OKI.org/536.

Questions and comments can be submitted to the Study Team on the project website or can be sent to:

Robyn Bancroft
KY 536 Scoping Study
OKI Project Manager
rbancroft@oki.org
513/619-7662

Here's what's happening in the PVA Office



*Geo-referenced
subdivision plat with
parcel lines overlaid*

Looking to the future. Mapping for a better tomorrow.

Did you know that the ongoing responsibility of identifying property ownership by reading and processing deeds to transfer real property has been the job of the Property Valuation Administration as mandated by KRS 132.670?

In keeping with this directive, our Kenton County PVA GIS experts are in the process of geo-referencing all scanned plats into its GIS system. The recent completion of updating the parcel layer using coordinate geometry has enabled the PVA GIS Team to accurately geo-reference subdivision plats with state plane coordinates. Geo-referencing of subdivision plats has aided in deed reading and reviewing of legal descriptions.

What are the benefits?

- Enables the GIS / Mapping department to visibly show how a parcel came to be in its current state.
- Enables the viewing of easement

information referenced on the plats in relation to the mapped parcel lines.

- Geo-referencing the subdivision plats now provides the additional visual confirmation of the correct Parcel, PIDN, Lot Number, and Subdivision text as shown in the above image.

In summary: The Kenton County Property Valuation Administration GIS/ Mapping Department constantly strives to develop additional resources to more accurately identify property for assessment. We are able to create, analyze and process data for use as up-to-date as of the close of the previous business day. These efforts illustrate the direction of the Kenton County PVA office to provide the best possible Cadastral Mapping throughout the Commonwealth.

Welcome!

The PVA Office welcomes Amanda Johnson, Bob Hargis and Doug

Blackburn to its team. Learn more about our new faces on our Facebook page! Please "like" us on Facebook!

Property review

In keeping with the state of Kentucky requirements, the PVA office is required to review properties at least once every four years. For assessment year 2016, the PVA office will be reviewing properties in the cities of Crescent Springs, Crestview Hills, Edgewood, Ft. Wright, and Villa Hills. You can view your property information online at www.kenton-pva.com. Click on "Search Property Records," then click "Free Access," then "PVA Real Estate Assessment." Search by name, location or Property Identification Number (PIDN). If your property is not in any of these areas, yet you would like to discuss your assessed value, you may call our office any time after January 1, 2016.

Visit the PVA Booth

ASK US ABOUT HEX when you visit the PVA BOOTH at this year's

Senior Picnic on September 3! We hope to see you there as PVA celebrates its participation once again in this wonderful event! Turning 65 this year and own and occupy your home as of January 1? COME IN NOW — no need to wait until your birthday (state issued proof of age is required).

Kenton County PVA

WE'RE HERE TO SERVE YOU:
Darlene M. Plummer
Kenton County
Property Valuation Administrator

Covington Office Hours
(303 Court Street)

Monday-Friday: 8:30 am - 4:30 pm
Ph: 859/392-1750 • Fax: 859/392-1770

Independence Office Hours
(old Courthouse; 5272 Madison Pike)
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday:
8 am - 4 pm; Wednesday: 10 am - 6 pm
Ph: 859/392-1678 • Fax: 859/392-1681

Mailing Address:
303 Court Street, Room 210
Covington, KY 41011
info.kentonpva@kentoncounty.org

A column by Judge/Executive Kris Knochelmann



Kris Knochelmann
Kenton County Judge/Executive

It's an honor to serve as your Judge/Executive, and I cannot believe we are already six months into this term. There are so many great things going on in our community — I'm inspired every day by the many individuals who give of their time to make Kenton County a better place to work, live and raise a family.

There are some things going on in our community, however, that require renewed vigilance on our part. Chief among those is a battle we all must join in — the battle against heroin addiction. The graph below, from St. Elizabeth Healthcare, best captures this issue in the most direct way possible — our region has

gone from 252 heroin overdoses in our emergency rooms in 2011 to 745 last year. This year, we are on pace to exceed 1,100 overdoses.

Even more heartbreaking, we have gone from 26 newborns diagnosed with Drug Withdrawal Syndrome in 2011 to 129 in 2014. This is a nearly five-fold increase in only three years time. I could quote you many more numbers, but they all lead to one conclusion — our community is under attack from criminals who flood our streets with cheap heroin.

To defeat this epidemic, we need to acknowledge some hard facts:

- First, heroin is in every neighborhood. No corner of our county is immune from its reach.
- Second, the impact of heroin reaches across all socio-economic lines. Spend any time watching arraignments or neglect proceedings in one of our family courts, and you will see folks struggling with addiction from every professional background and with every level of education.
- Finally, 80% of heroin addicts start with an addiction to pills, often the result of treatment of pain resulting from work or sports injuries or

even dental problems.

We all need to thank those who have been in the fight against heroin addiction for a long time, often without adequate support. The Heroin Impact Response Team (“HIRT”), Northern Kentucky Hates Heroin, and many other individuals and groups have been fighting this insidious attack on our community long before everyone was fully aware of its magnitude.

Our law enforcement agencies have been on the front line, arresting dealers and putting them away, with the help of our prosecutors. I can't say enough about the efforts of our men and women in law enforcement — please remember to thank them whenever the opportunity arises. We will never falter in our efforts to put away those who bring this evil to our community.

And there are so many others to thank, from first-responders to medical personnel, who have witnessed first-hand the terrible effects of heroin and been there for those in need. Quietly, and with steadfast courage, they have done their duty to treat those trapped in the darkness of this addiction.

Despite all these efforts, the heroin epidemic continues to affect our community in so many ways.

1. It is driving up our jail population to a point where our jail is regularly overcrowded, even though it is less than five years old;
2. It is impacting our health care community, including overtaking our mental health treatment capacity;
3. Needle sharing among heroin users puts our community at risk for increased diagnosis of HIV and Hepatitis C which are horribly expensive to treat;
4. It is a significant obstacle to developing a workforce of healthy,

trained people, and the resulting impact on economic growth cannot be overstated; and

5. There are limited options for those who need residential treatment. Beds may not be immediately available and the wait can be months, increasing the chances of overdose.

These are just a few of the impacts. Truly fighting this epidemic will require a full mobilization of our community. The County Fiscal Court is committed to its part in this effort. We are funding Commonwealth's Attorney Rob Sanders' HEART Program, which is an effort to divert criminal offenders who might benefit from a second chance into treatment programs.

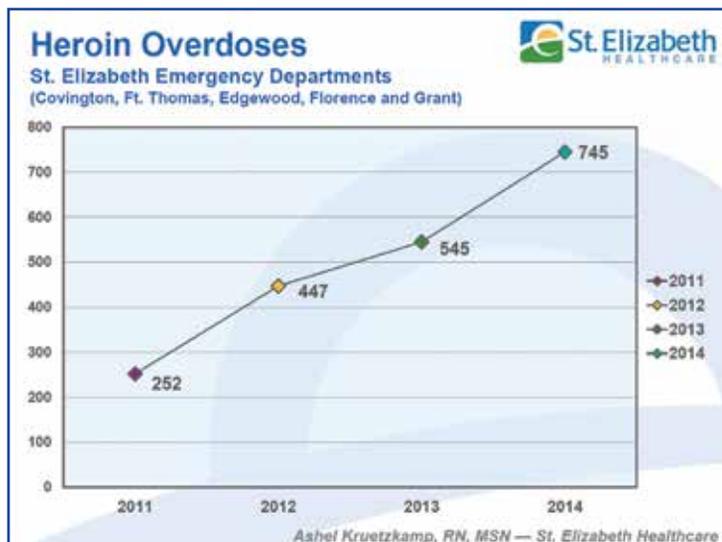
Our jailer, Terry Carl, has also brought onto his staff a Director of Inmate Addiction Service and taken steps to start a Substance Abuse Program (SAP) in the jail. The goal is to reduce the demand on existing treatment facilities and end the revolving door at the jail for those addicted.

In addition, we have joined with the Boone and Campbell County Fiscal Courts to establish a Northern Kentucky Office of Drug Control Policy. This regional effort will develop the counties' comprehensive plan to attack the epidemic, and will be led by Kim Moser as Director.

Kim is a resident of Taylor Mill and received her Bachelor of Science in Nursing from Spalding University. She worked as a Registered Nurse in Neonatal Intensive Care Units and served on the Neonatal Transport and Flight Team for 15 years.

Kim currently serves as an American Medical Association Alliance National Director. She has served as Legislative Chair for the Kentucky Medical Association

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Kenton County Fiscal Court

Column by Kris Knochelmann, continued

Alliance for the past seven years and currently serves as the national Legislative Chair for the AMA Alliance. Kim has served on the Coordinating Council of the Northern Kentucky Heroin Impact Response Task Force as Legislative Liaison for the past 18 months, working to secure meaningful legislation to combat the heroin epidemic during the most recent legislative session. She is an active member of ASAM, the Association of Addiction Medicine, and sits on the NKY Chamber of Commerce Healthcare Committee.

Also assisting as Deputy Director will be Kirk Kavanaugh, who obtained a Bachelor of Science in Corrections and a Master of Social Work prior to being appointed a United States Probation/Parole Officer in Indiana. Kirk served in this role for 15 years, the last three as the United States District Court's Drug Specialist in Indianapolis.

Kirk graduated from the Indiana University School of Law and entered private practice, where he concentrated in the areas of health care, non-profit and federal criminal law.

In 2003, he was hired by the Boone County Fiscal Court to direct the Human Services Department where he oversaw organizations providing mental health, aging and intellectual disability services to county residents.

Working with HIRT, I believe Kim and Kirk will put together the right plan for the Counties to fight the heroin epidemic.

I believe our community will meet this challenge. We have alignment from our Federal, state, and local leaders and that is no easy

task. We know government won't solve this problem – victory will only come one individual, one family, and one neighborhood at a time. This epidemic involves all of us. We will persevere, though, because protecting our families and friends is a fight worth taking on.

Yours respectfully,

Kris Knochelmann

Kris Knochelmann
Kenton County Judge/Executive

UPCOMING EVENTS Kenton County Parks & Recreation

It's One Night of Fright, The Haunted Halloween Trail

Presented by Dominach's Taekwondo Academy

On Friday, October 23, from 7 until 10:30 pm, it's One Night of Fright, the Haunted Halloween Trail at Middleton-Mills Park. Admission is \$1 per person or a non-perishable food or personal care item with donations assisting Senior Services of NKY.

Come on out but be prepared to be scared! If you dare, walk the quarter-mile trail which twists and turns thru the deep and dark haunted woods. WARNING: Whatever you do, stay on the Trail! If you can finish the trail, complimentary Bat's Blood will be served by Ghostesses in the shelter house with a hayride shuttle to take you and your family back to your vehicles.

The gate at the park entrance will be closed at 10:30 pm so we can complete the night of fright before the stroke of midnight.

Sugar Camp 2016 ~ Makin' Maple Syrup

presented by Emerson™ Industrial Automation

Mark your calendar now for Sugar Camp 2016. Join Kenton County Parks & Recreation and Sugar Camp 2016 during the last week of February. Experience the wonder of Nature at its best-tasting best.

Sign Up Today for ParkSmarts e-News

Want to know what's going on in Kenton County Parks? Then sign up for ParkSmarts to get weekly updates of all our programs and events. Visit us at kentoncounty.org or text KENTONPARKSMARTS to 22828. KCP&R is also on Facebook 'Like' us and forward KCP&R to all you friends and family.

Great deals on Golf!!

Join us for a fun-filled day of golf at our 54-hole facility. All three of our golf courses provide challenging and fun layouts for golfers of any skill level. Our original course, The Pioneer, measures 6,010 yards and plays to a par of 71. The Willows, designed by Dr. Michael Hurdzan, offers golfers a scenic and challenging test of tree lined fairways and undulating greens. Fox Run, designed by Arthur Hills, is consistently rated

as one of the most challenging public golf courses in Kentucky.

Private instruction is available for all skill levels and our PGA staff is here to help you develop your game and achieve your goals. Contact PGA member and Head Teaching Professional Jason Laible to set up an appointment:

- Phone - 859/371-3200
- Email - jason.laible@kentoncounty.org

Buy One, Get One Free!! (9 or 18 holes w/cart at regular price)

- Valid Monday ~ Friday before 1 pm
- Not valid for league or outing play
- Weekends and Holidays after Noon
- Expires 12/31/2015

Buy Two Lessons, Get One FREE!! Valid for one-hour private lessons

Offer Expires 12/31/15

Contact Jason Laible at jason.laible@kentoncounty.org

Save \$2 on Any Size Driving Range Basket

Valid three times

1 2 3

Expires 12/31/15

Complete streets are designed to improve health



Health advocates in Kenton County are partnering with local government officials to change local

policies and systems so that we are better able to walk or bike. The concept being used is complete streets, which are roadways designed for all modes of transportation — walking, biking, cars and trucks.

Complete streets is a flexible concept, but the idea is to incorporate elements that make the road more inclusive, such as bike lanes, sidewalks, crosswalks, pedestrian signals, bus lanes and lighting. The change

can be made incrementally: Simple changes to existing streets, like narrowing the driving lanes to make space for a new bike lane or painting crosswalks, can be inexpensive.

Policies that incorporate complete streets elements can improve safety by reducing injuries to pedestrians and improve health by making it easier for people to be physically active by biking or walking to destinations.

In June, Taylor Mill adopted a municipal order to implement the complete streets concepts into the city's street development and plan to continue to make Taylor Mill more walkable and bikeable.

To learn more about complete streets policies in Northern Kentucky, contact Marsha Bach at Marsha.Bach@nkyhealth.org.

Ft. Wright Elementary recognized for health and wellness efforts

Congratulations to the students and staff at Ft. Wright Elementary for earning a gold level Award of Excellence in School Health for 2014-2015.

The school is being recognized for its efforts to consistently engage students, staff and families, as well as the wider community around health and wellness. Over the past two years, Ft. Wright Elementary has collaborated with the Health Department to implement a variety of nutrition and physical activity opportunities via policy and environmental changes. Notable achievements include:

- Providing an average of 150

minutes of physical activity opportunities weekly for students

- Integrating healthy classroom rewards, parties and snacks
- Using student taste testing and other strategies to increase school meal participation rates.

The Award of Excellence in School Health was developed to recognize and celebrate schools in Northern Kentucky that have policies, programs, and the infrastructure to support and promote school health and are presented every two years. For more information, please visit <http://www.nkyhealth.org/Fit-Classrooms/Award-of-Excellence-SH.aspx>.



HAVE FUN AND GET MUDDY!

Saturday, October 10

Northern Kentucky Fair Grounds
Williamstown, KY

More than 20 obstacles

Enjoy music, concessions, vendor booths
and post-race recovery foods

For details and to register, visit
<https://exploremud.eventbrite.com>

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

EXTENDING KNOWLEDGE *Changing Lives*

From July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2015

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.

4-H Youth Development

4-H Youth Development programs served 5,454 youth participants. Represented in this number are the following:

- 4-H's chick incubation program reached 935, in 16 classrooms including special needs youth and 4-H Poultry club. 4-H'ers were introduced to the science of living things and lifecycle development.
- 4-H's natural resources program engaged 552 Kenton County youth and adults in classrooms, after-school, day camps and provided 256 hours of direct education.
- 49 4-H'ers participated in production agriculture projects, successfully competing on county, district and state levels.
- Partnering with 4 school districts Kenton 4-H planned and implemented the 4-H Reality Store for 1483 students; 131 volunteers were involved.
- 334 adult volunteers were involved in educational programs, training opportunities, councils and committees directing local youth programs.
- 4-H horticulture programs utilized grant funds for 37 club members to complete 102 projects eligible for fair entries.



4-H Horticulture projects will be exhibited at the County Fair and State Fair.

- Led 79 school clubs that met 632 times including 1580 youth participants. Clubs focused on natural resources, Kentucky culture, nutrition and consumer education.
- Involved 32 girls and their moms in a self-esteem and nutrition program called Girls Day In.
- 692 participated in consumer and financial education programs where youth learned to "Think before they buy."
- 43 youth engaged in horse programs including county, district and state horse shows and contests.

- Instructed 284 youth in healthy food choices, food safety and physical activity.
- 89 youth participated in 12 summer day camp programs including arts, crafts and more.
- 89 youth participated in Family and Consumer Science programs like sewing and babysitting.
- 815 Kenton County youth engaged in public speaking and demonstrations; 91 advanced to the County Communication Event; 16 advanced to the Multi-County Communication Event; and 7 participants advanced to the state level.
- 267 middle school youth participated in "Step Up to Leadership" school enrichment programs.



Cailin scrubs her 4-H country ham in preparation for exhibiting.

- 200 girls participated in Be Friendship Focused program in Erlanger/Elsmere schools.
- Engaged 84 volunteers and campers in overnight 4-H camp.

Horticulture

- Kenton County Master Gardeners donated over 1400 hours of service worth more than \$32,000 to our community. In addition, 12 new Kenton Master Gardeners completed their training and graduated in June.
- To celebrate Earth Day, Kenton County Extension distributed donated seed packets worth more than \$2,000 to local residents for use in home, school, and community gardens.
- 128 Kenton County residents attended classes on horticultural topics ranging from "Paver Pads to Patios," "Rain Gardens & Rain Barrels," "Make & Take Holiday Wreaths," to Lunch and Learns covering "Landscaping for Winter Interest," "The Perfect Perennial Garden," "Edible Landscaping," and "Landscape Design."
- 100 residents of a local long-term care and rehabilitation facility participated in monthly horticultural therapy activities provided by Kenton County Extension.

Continued on next page

Horticulture, cont.

- Over 2000 pounds of produce worth more than \$3,000 were grown in the Outdoor Education Center's demonstration gardens and donated to local residents and food banks.
- Residents received more than 450 individual consultations to answer their questions about tree, shrub, and plant health, vegetable and flower garden care, weed eradication, insect management, and more.

Agriculture

- The 4th Annual Kenton County Farm Harvest Tour was held in September 2014. Based on the returned surveys, 98% of the respondents plan to return in 2015. The 2015 Kenton County Farm Harvest Tour will be Saturday, September 19.
- The Cooperative Extension Service is the supporting agency for the Agriculture and Heritage subcommittee of the South Kenton Citizens Group.
- The Extension Service provided educational classes for the 46 farm operators that are participants in the County Agricultural Improvement Programs.
- The County Extension office assisted the Kenton County Farm Bureau in administering the funds of the County Agricultural Improvement Programs from the Master Settlement Agreement and the Governor's Office of Agriculture Policy.
- Working with UK Veterinarian specialists, a program aimed at lowering calf mortality was offered to 45 Kenton County cow calf operators and teleconferenced to 45 operators in an adjoining county.



- Fourteen Kenton County farm families attended a water conservation class to learn how to file their own state Water Quality Plan. The class included representatives from the Conservation District.
- The third grade students from JG Carlisle School were sponsored to attend an all-day dairy and nutrition program at Ed-Mar Dairy. Agents and program assistants taught the curriculum to more than 90 students.

Family and Consumer Sciences

- Over 4000 reached regularly through FCS newsletters.
- Provided basic nutrition, food preparation, and food safety education through hands-on and discussion programs, featuring "Cook Smart, Eat Smart," "Your Baking Ingredients," food preservation, and "Plate It Up" programs offered at farmers' markets, county library, and Kenton County Extension office. Weekly news articles are also contributed to the *Community Press*.
- 4-part series, "Thinking about Tomorrow" was taught to 130 adults. Topics covered included information for seniors and others preparing for aging issues for themselves or other family members.
- 33 adults were taught basic sewing skills through a series of classes presented by Master Clothing Volunteers.
- Kenton County Homemakers hosted a new scholarship fundraising luncheon, allowing Homemakers to award \$2500 to high school seniors for scholarships over the next two years. Kenton County Homemakers also worked with the 4th grade class at Sixth District School in Covington at the holidays on a gift giving project, and before summer break to teach them healthy eating ideas. Homemakers donated over 15,300 volunteer hours of service worth more than \$353,000.
- FCS agents are increasing their outreach through social media outlets. Special posts and educational videos have been developed and shared through YouTube, Instagram, Pinterest, Twitter and Facebook.
- Technology classes on safety, email, and transferring photos were taught to 14 consumers along with a beginning computer 3-week series taught to 18 individuals.
- A five-week series on "Women and Money" was taught in the fall, networking with other agencies such as insurance, estate, and investment professionals.
- With the aging of baby boomers, many nearing retirement, classes on Medicare, Social Security, and The Affordable Health Care Act were taught.
- To assist those reentering the workforce, seeking to find employment or change their career focus, two sessions on resume writing and interview skills were presented.

- As severe weather continues to threaten the County, a class on "Preparing for a Disaster" was presented.
- "Downsizing as You Age" was taught to 75 attendees. Participants learned strategies for the division of assets, tips to clear out unused items from the home, organizational techniques, housing options beyond the family home, reverse mortgages, and moving tips.
- 49 people attended the program, "Is Your Home Making You or Your Family Sick?" Participants demonstrated an increase in knowledge regarding ways to control mold growth, health implications of radon and how to detect it, and numerous other allergens that can lead to respiratory complications.
- The Grandparent and Relative Raising Children Support group has extended its outreach to address the needs of the grandparents and other relatives raising children throughout Kenton County. The monthly support group reaches hundreds of families throughout the region. Over 35 families were directly impacted through the regular meetings this year and a "Grandparents as Parents Conference" is scheduled in Covington for September 11.
- "Organizing Your Home and Family to Reduce Stress" was taught to 15 families to introduce organizational strategies that will help them save time and energy and decrease the tension that sometimes comes along with raising a family.
- Parenting classes, Relationship Smarts and Tackling the Tween Years were taught to multiple parents and guardians seeking information to help them navigate the teenage years without conflict.

CLASSES

KENTON
COUNTY
EXTENSION
CLASS
SCHEDULE

FALL
2015

Fall Lawn Care

Thursday, August 20, 6-8 pm
OEC Barn

Grandparent/Relatives Raising Children Support

Fridays, August 21, September 18,
October 16, November 20,
December 18, 12-1 pm
Durr Annex, Edgewood
Monthly support group luncheons; no fee.

Growing and Using Dried Flowers

Thursday, September 3, 12-12:45 pm
Durr Annex, Edgewood
Bring a sack lunch; learn while you
munch.

Why Water?

Thursday, September 4, 10 am
Durr Annex, Edgewood

Overwintering Tropical Plants

Tuesday, September 8, 12-12:45 pm
Durr Annex, Edgewood
Bring a sack lunch; learn while you
munch.

Retaining Walls

Thursday, September 10, 6-8 pm
OEC & Barn, Marshall Rd.

Is It Good or Bad for Me?

4 Sessions – join us for one, two or all
four. All sessions 6 pm.
Durr Annex, Edgewood
Coffee with Ronda Tues., Sept. 8
Oh, Nuts! Tues., Sept. 15
All about Chocolate Tues., Sept. 22
Eggciting Foods Wed., Oct. 21

Internet Safety and You: Do You Feel Safe Online?

Tuesday, September 22, 6-7:30 pm
Durr Annex, Edgewood

County Fair 4-H Animal Projects

Wednesday, September 23, 6:30 pm
Durr Center, Marshall Rd.
Learn about how to show a livestock
project.

Transferring Photos

2-Week Series; Thursday, September 24
& Thursday, October 1
1-2:30 pm OR 6-7:30 pm
All classes at Durr Annex, Edgewood
Please bring camera with photos or card
with photos with you. Class size limited.
Must have prior computer knowledge.

Volunteer Orientation

Tuesday, September 29, 6-8 pm
Durr Center, Marshall Rd.

Increase the Energy Efficiency of Your Home

Thursday, October 8, 10 am
Durr Annex, Edgewood

Retired, Now What?

Tuesday, October 13, 6-7:30 pm
Durr Annex, Edgewood

Cooking-Up Diabetes Self-Management

3-Part Series: Tuesdays, October 13, 20
& 27. All classes 1-4:30 pm
Durr Annex, Edgewood

Parenting Relationship Smarts in Your Teen

Tuesday, October 13, 6 pm
Durr Center, Marshall Rd.

Medicare

Thursday, October 15, 2-3:30 pm
Durr Annex, Edgewood

Growing Herbs for Mexican Cooking: More Than Cilantro!

Thursday, October 15, 6-8 pm
Durr Annex, Edgewood
\$5 fee

Growing & Harvesting Persimmons

Tuesday, October 20, 12-12:45 pm
Durr Annex, Edgewood
Bring a sack lunch; learn while you
munch.

Pie Crust Basics

Tuesday, October 27, 10 am
Durr Center, Marshall Rd.
OR Tuesday, November 24, 6 pm
Durr Center, Marshall Rd.

Basic Investing

Tuesday, October 27, 6-7:30 pm
Durr Annex, Edgewood

Understanding Generational Differences

Thursday, October 29, 10 am
Durr Annex, Edgewood

Friendly Fungi in the Garden

Tuesday, November 3, 12-12:45 pm
Durr Annex, Edgewood
Bring a sack lunch; learn while you
munch.

Holiday Panorama

Tuesday, November 10, 4-6:30 pm
Durr Center, Marshall Rd.
Class size limited. Class fee: \$8.

Ancient Grains

Thursday, November 12, 6 pm
Durr Annex, Edgewood
Repeated: Friday, November 20,
10 am at the Boone County Extension
Service.
(Call 586-6101 to register for November
20 session.)

Investing for Retirement

Thursday, November 12, 6-7:30 pm
Durr Annex, Edgewood

Got Radon? Why Care?

Monday, November 16, 10 am
Durr Annex, Edgewood

Fall Floral Centerpiece

Wednesday, November 18, 6-8 pm
Durr Annex, Edgewood
Bring kitchen scissors and pruners.
Limited to the first 25 paid registrants.

Evergreen Holiday Centerpiece

Thursday, December 3, 6-8 pm
Durr Annex, Edgewood
Bring gloves and pruners. Limited to the
first 25 paid registrants.

Listings continued on next page

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.

Kenton County Cooperative Extension Service

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

Visit us on Facebook!

www.kentoncountyextension.com

Smartphone Apps for Gardeners

Friday, January 8, 2016, 12-12:45 pm
Durr Annex, Edgewood

For either Android or Apple Smartphones. Bring a sack lunch; learn while you munch.

Spring-planted Bulbs

Thursday, January 28, 2016,
12-12:45 pm, Durr Annex, Edgewood

Bring a sack lunch; learn while you munch.

Peerless Peppers in the Garden

Thursday, February 25, 2016,
12-12:45 pm, Durr Annex, Edgewood

Kenton County Homemakers provide education, comradery, and community service opportunities. We welcome new members! Join us at our kick-off program, 6 pm, on August 24. Call 358-3155 for details.



Kenton County Farm Harvest Tour

September 19, 9 am-5 pm, Rain or Shine

Kenton County locations will open their doors to the public for the fifth Kenton County Farm Harvest Tour, a festive day of down-on-the-farm family fun. This self-guided tour features some of Kenton County's finest farms, exciting interactive activities and the chance to discover the roots of food grown in our region. One new stop has been added this year: The Free Radical Ranch has demonstrations and fun-filled activities planned. Visit our website for details.

Exciting Opportunities with 4-H!

4-H Youth Development is a non-formal education program open to all interested youth. Participants are between the ages of 9 and 18 and reside in every demographic area — rural, urban, and suburban. 4-H enables youth to have fun and meet new people and offers a wide range of projects, programs and activities that every member can do well, helping all youth to reach their fullest potential. 4-H youth learn by doing to acquire knowledge, develop life skills, and form attitudes that will enable them to become self-directing, productive, contributing citizens. For information or to volunteer, call 859/356-3155.

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

Register on-line at kentoncountyextension.com, in person, or call 356-3155.

4-H Clover Bud Meetings

Third Wednesday of each month,
7 pm, Durr Annex, Edgewood

First meeting scheduled in
September 2015.

Do you have a child who wants to join 4-H but is not 4-H age? This club is for you. Children in school K-3 are invited to become a Clover Bud. We will do fun activities such as crafts, cooking and science each month.

4-H Dog Club

Starts in January 2016, 6-7pm
Durr Annex, Edgewood

Help your dog learn basic behaviors, impulse control, sit, stay, down, loose-leash walking and more.

Bring a Buddy to Sew

Mondays, January 25-March 7,
2016, 4-6 pm

Durr Annex, Edgewood

This is the first 4-H sewing unit for clothing construction. Completion of this class is required for youth to participate in more advanced sewing projects and special sewing project days

Babysitting Basics Classes

Held throughout the year at various
locations

Youth aged 12 years or older will learn the basics of babysitting including child development, safety and first aid, care of infants and children, and learning activities for young children.

Horse Education Programs/ Clubs

All interested youth desiring to participate in horse programs must enroll in 4-H and complete six hours of instructional training in order to be eligible for participation. Certified horse hours are offered September-March.

Reality Store

Offered October-April

4-H Reality Store process helps young people determine whether their career aspirations provide the income for their desired lifestyle. This program is offered to schools for 8th-12th grade students October through April. Contact the Extension office for information and two months prior for scheduling.

Livestock Programs

Youth must begin participation
November 2015

Youth desiring to participate in 4-H livestock must complete six hours of instruction to be eligible for participation. Certified 4-H Livestock hours are offered October-January 2016 (3 hours completed by December). If you are new to 4-H, please contact the Extension office by October 15 for information.

4-H Shooting Sports Club Looking for Leaders

If you are interested in becoming a certified 4-H shooting sports volunteer, please contact Denise Donahue at 859/356-3155.

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COOPERATIVE EXTENSION



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Horticulture

Diane Kelley,
4-H Youth
Development



Visit us on Facebook!

The Cooperative Extension Service is an educational organization that links the University of Kentucky College of Agriculture, Food and Environment, 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.

Don't 'leave' yard debris lying around

Autumn is near and with it brings warm, sunny days, cool, crisp nights and colorful leaves falling to the ground. You probably think the leaves spread across your landscape paint a beautiful picture; however, leaves left on lawns and streets can cause drains to clog and potentially flood your property or surrounding properties in your community.

As a homeowner, it is your responsibility to maintain your lawn and help protect property in your community. Follow the simple tips below to help protect your community this fall:

- Rake or sweep leaves and yard debris out of your street and away from storm drains to prevent clogged drains and flooding.
- Rake leaves into a compost pile to make a nutrient-rich fertilizer to use on your garden next spring.
- Create mulch for your lawn by pulverizing leaves with your lawn mower. Leaves are one of the best fertilizers for your lawn.
- Contact your city to learn about possible leaf pick-up services it may offer. Remember, if you are asked to put the leaves near the street, wait to do so until just before the collection day.
- Never rake your leaves or yard debris into storm drains, ditches, creeks or rivers.



Protect the environment, drain your pool properly

If not properly handled, swimming pool water can harm our streams. The chemicals used in pool maintenance (chlorine, bromine, copper and silver) are designed to sterilize pools but can wreak havoc in the natural environment, killing fish, insects and plants in our waterways. For this reason, it's important to properly drain your pool water when closing your summer oasis for the approaching cold weather.

The best place to discharge pool water is to the sanitary sewer system, but sometimes this option is not available or is not allowed. In that case, your next best choices are to discharge pool water onto the lawn of your property or to the storm water system. Either way, it's important before discharging the water that it is clear, dechlorinated and of a neutral pH.

When discharging pool water onto your lawn, the water should not flow

off your property and you should not allow it to pond for a prolonged period of time. Stagnant water can create odors and serve as breeding ground for flies and mosquitos. Discharge pool water slowly (25 gallons per minute or less) to prevent soil erosion, flooding or damage to adjacent properties.

Do not discharge water containing cleaning chemicals, acid buffering compounds, algae and other substances into the street, storm water system or a stream. Be sure to test your pool water for chemicals and other pollutants before discharging.

When is it safe to discharge pool water?

Pool water should be essentially free of chlorine (less than 0.1 parts per million total chlorine), algacides and other potential pollutants prior to discharge. To reduce chlorine levels

you can use chlorine neutralizer, which can be purchased at many pool supply stores.

A 10-day holding time after the last chemical treatment is adequate to dissipate chlorine prior to discharging the pool water.

pH levels should be within a normal range (6 to 9). pH adjustment chemicals, instructions and test kits are available at many pool supply stores.

Planning on having plenty more pool days this year? Keep in mind the backwash water from pool filters also contains chemicals, debris and dirt that can damage the environment, so do not drain it directly into the storm water system.

If you have any questions regarding proper pool discharging procedures, please contact SD1 at 859/578-7450.

SAVE the date!

Household waste collection event

Saturday, October 17

Residents of Boone, Campbell and Kenton counties may drop off select household hazardous waste items on Saturday, October 17 at UC Health Stadium, "Home of the Florence Freedom." Visit www.nkyhww.org for updates on this event as they become available!

St. Elizabeth celebrates Heart & Vascular Institute completion

St. Elizabeth completed construction of its new \$30 million, 40,000 square foot Heart & Vascular Institute, now open to the community. The new Heart & Vascular Institute features a combination of experts and programs that have been created to improve heart health in the region. Among the new improvements and enhancements include:

- Lobby and registration area with kiosks and staff who can quickly assist patients and speed them on their way to the appropriate service
- Clinical space for specialty services
- Patient waiting area for cardiac surgery and same-day surgery

- MRI
- Hybrid operating room
- Electrophysiology lab
- Healing garden
- Free and convenient parking

“The Heart & Vascular Institute is more than a construction project. It is a complete re-imagining of our cardiac services for the community, all focused on a single goal,” says Dr. Victor Schmelzer, Medical Director. “Our goal is to reduce heart-related deaths in Northern Kentucky by 25 percent by the end of 2025. We will do this through increased community screening and education, applying appropriate new technologies, and a growing participation in clinical research trials.”



Construction on the new St. Elizabeth Heart & Vascular Institute was completed this past spring.

St. Elizabeth and Commonwealth Orthopaedic Centers now offer partial knee resurfacing

St. Elizabeth Healthcare, Commonwealth Orthopaedic Centers and Dr. Matthew Hummel performed the first Stryker MAKOplasty® partial knee resurfacing procedure in the state of Kentucky. The partial knee resurfacing procedure is a minimally invasive treatment option for adults living with early to mid-stage osteoarthritis that has not yet progressed to all three compartments of the knee. The procedure is less invasive than traditional total knee surgery and is performed using a highly advanced, surgeon controlled robotic arm system.

Stryker MAKOplasty potentially offers the following benefits as compared to total knee surgery:

- Reduced pain
- Minimal hospitalization
- More rapid recovery
- Less implant wear and loosening

- Smaller scar
- Better motion and a more natural feeling knee

“Stryker MAKOplasty allows us to treat patients with knee osteoarthritis at earlier stages and with greater precision. Because it is less invasive and preserves more of the patient’s natural knee, the goal is for patients to have relief from their pain, gain back their knee motion, and return to their daily activities,” said Matthew T. Hummel, MD.

“The Stryker MAKOplasty robot is a great technology to offer patients for obtaining better results and faster recovery with surgery,” added Dr. Matthew Grunkenmeyer. “Through its innovative use of technology, it takes partial knee resurfacing to a new level of precision.”

The RIO® system enables the surgeon to complete a patient specific pre-

surgical plan that details the technique for bone preparation and customized implant positioning using a CT scan of the patient’s own knee. During the procedure, the system creates a three-dimensional, virtual view of the patient’s bone surface and correlates the image to the pre-programmed surgical plan. As the surgeon uses the robotic arm, its tactile, auditory and visual feedback limits the bone preparation to the diseased areas and provides for real time adjustments and more optimal implant positioning and placement for each individual patient.

The opportunity for early intervention is important as osteoarthritis is the most common form of arthritis and a leading cause of disability worldwide, according to the American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons.

For more information, please visit us online at www.stelizabeth.com/mako.



The Stryker MAKOplasty robot technology offers patients better results and faster recovery with surgery.

Garren Colvin named new President and CEO

Garren Colvin has been named the new President and Chief Executive Officer of St. Elizabeth Healthcare. He has been with St. Elizabeth for 32 years and is highly regarded within the organization and Northern Kentucky community. Most recently, he served as Interim President and Chief Executive Officer.

The announcement followed an extensive nationwide search by a committee comprised of board members, administration and physicians. Three final candidates were given the opportunity to meet the St. Elizabeth administrative council and board members as well as community leaders. In addition, many St. Elizabeth associates, managers and physicians provided input into the type of leader they wanted.

“We conducted a very inclusive search to ensure St. Elizabeth and our community had the right candidate to lead our organization and enhance healthcare in our region long into the future,” said Board Chairman Jim Votruba, who led the search process. “We had some outstanding candidates, but in the end it came down to having a proven and trusted leader who can move our team forward, adapt to change, inspire through innovation and take our organization to the next level. Garren is that trusted leader.”

Colvin joined St. Elizabeth in May 1983 as a co-op student



“We believe our community deserves the best possible care available. And I intend to continue to lead the mission and vision of St. Elizabeth and ensure we are all dedicated to taking care of every patient and family that walks through our doors.”

-Garren Colvin

while in school at Thomas More College. Since then, he has served St. Elizabeth as Vice President of Finance, Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer, Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer and Interim President and Chief Executive Officer.

“It’s truly an honor to lead such an outstanding organization,” Colvin said. “The relationship between the

patient, our associates and our physicians is behind everything we do. We believe our community deserves the best possible care available. And I intend to continue to lead the mission and vision of St. Elizabeth and ensure we are all dedicated to taking care of every patient and family that walks through our doors.”

During his tenure, St. Elizabeth has been the recipient of many

national accolades and industry recognition, including re-designation of its Magnet status, the Healthgrades Top 50 Hospital award for seven years, Truven (formerly Thompson Reuters) Top 100 hospitals for seven years, and “straight A’s” by the Leapfrog Group for all three of St. Elizabeth hospital campuses in 2014.

Colvin earned a Bachelor of Arts in Accounting and Business Administration from Thomas More College in 1986 and a Master of Business Administration from Northern Kentucky University in 1996.

Raised in Northern Kentucky, Colvin was a three-sport standout at Ludlow High School (football, basketball and baseball) and is a member of the Northern Kentucky Sports Hall of Fame. He received a scholarship to play baseball at Thomas More College.

“This community is my home,” Colvin said. “This is more than a job; it’s personal for me. It’s a huge responsibility to care for your neighbors, friends and family members. I am humbled by this opportunity. St. Elizabeth is a strong leader in Northern Kentucky, a healthcare leader in the region and a reliable and dedicated partner to community organizations. We will succeed because of the great team of dedicated people I am fortunate to work with.”

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

Join us for The Taste!

Enjoy an adults-only evening of wine and entertainment as the Kenton County Public Library Foundation presents "The Taste." Restaurants from around the region will sample their dishes while you participate in a silent auction, split the pot and demonstrations. The event takes place at the Erlanger Branch on Thursday, August 27 from 6-8:30 pm. Advance tickets are \$25; Day of \$35 (if space allows).

Go to www.kentonlibrary.org/taste to purchase tickets or pick up a form at any Library location.



One-on-one tech help!

Call us to setup an hour long one-on-one appointment for help with anything technology related. We can help with: computer beginners, Internet beginners/Email, e-readers, tablets/iPads, Microsoft Office programs, Mac help and more! Call 859/962-4002 or go to www.kentonlibrary.org/digicart to request an appointment.

New online

IndieFlix: Unlimited access to thousands of streaming movies from around the world.

Comic Books on Hoopla: In addition to movies, music, audiobooks and television programs, Hoopla now offers online comic books. Use your library card to access the thousands of titles available at your fingertips.

Genealogy/History: Mackoy Family Collection- The Mackoy family collection contains photographs, albums, letters, documents, and scrap-

books relating to the history and genealogy of multiple generations of the Mackoy family of Covington. These items are from the papers and personal files of Harry Brent

Mackoy (1874-1952). Mackoy was a prominent attorney in Covington, Kentucky and Cincinnati, Ohio. He was also an avid genealogist and historian. Visit <http://genealogy.kentonlibrary.org/genky/descriptions/mac.php>



Photos, letters, documents and scrapbooks relating to the history and genealogy of Covington's prominent Mackoy family are now available online.



Kenton County Public Library



Covington 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

Stay Connected! Follow the Library on these sites:



Free programs and events

Sensory Storytime*

Ages: 5 - 12

- *Covington Library: Tuesdays, September 1, 15, 22 & 29, 6:30-7:30 pm*
- *Erlanger Branch: Saturday, September 19, 11 am*

Sensory Storytime is an interactive and educational program that is especially designed for children with sensory integration challenges. It combines activities to stimulate the senses and promote learning. Register, 962-4077 (Covington), 962-4003 (Erlanger).

Covington Historical Walking Tours

Wednesdays through September 30, 10 am

Join a local history expert for a historical walking tour to learn about the people and places that inhabited Covington 100 years ago. The tour leaves from the Local History & Genealogy Department on the second floor of the Covington branch. The walk is roughly one mile in length. Email questions to history@kentonlibrary.org or call 962-4070. Covington Branch

THINK Homeschool Resource Fair

Wednesday, September 2, 10 am-4 pm

THINK (Teaching Homes in Northern Kentucky) is hosting a Resource Fair for homeschoolers and potential homeschoolers. Parents will learn about all the resources available to them and can connect with other homeschooling families. William E. Durr Branch

Robotics with Sylvan Edge

Grades: 2 - 6

Wednesday, September 2, 4 pm
Representatives of the Sylvan Edge program will teach about robotics using LEGOs. Create, animate, and compete in friendly competition. Erlanger Branch

Preserve the Sweetness of Summer!*

Saturday, September 5, 2 pm

Discuss jams, jellies, and preserves — finding and successfully altering recipes, traditional and newer methods like slow-cooker and no-cook freezer methods, and unusual flavor combinations. Taste-test some unusual favorites! William E. Durr Branch. Register, 962-4031.

Kentucky Poet Laureate: George Ella Lyon*

Thursday, September 10, 7-8 pm

Join us for an evening with George Ella Lyon, 2015-2016 Poet Laureate, as she tells stories and shares readings from her work that centers on the beauty of the Bluegrass state and Appalachian life. Erlanger Branch

Meet Author Carol Knuth

Saturday, September 12, 2 pm

Meet Carol Knuth, author of “The Garbage Bag Girl” and “Rhodes’ Home,” as she offers a first-hand account of growing up in foster care. Books will be available for purchase. Covington Library

Donuts & Stories with Grandma and Grandpa!*

Saturday, September 12, 11 am

Bring your grandparents to the Library for a special storytime with donuts, in honor of Grandparents’ Day! Space limited. Erlanger Branch. Register, 962-4003.

Creative Corner*

Ages: 7 - 12

Saturday, September 12, 1-2 pm

This art based program helps kids express their creativity while learning the fundamentals of drawing, painting, and other art mediums. All materials provided. William E. Durr Branch. Register, 962-4032.

How-To Festival

Saturday, September 12, 2-5 pm

Learn to do a wide assortment of new skills! Erlanger Branch

DNA and Genealogy Research*

Tuesday, September 15, 6:30-8:30 pm

Kathy Reed, of the Hamilton County (OH) Genealogical Society, will discuss the latest trends in DNA research as it applies to genealogy. Covington Library. Register, 962-4070.

KY Career Center Job Fair

Thursday, September 17, 9 am-4 pm

Featuring many of the area’s top employers, arrive ready to make contacts and get information about your next career! Erlanger Branch

An Evening with the Cincinnati Chamber Orchestra

Friday, September 18, 7-8 pm

Join us for a free concert of music from the area’s preeminent string ensemble! Erlanger Branch

Sharing the Harvest Fall Fest

Saturday, September 19, 11 am-4 pm

Erlanger Branch

Farmer Jason and the Chicken Rodeo*

Ages: 0 - 12; Caregiver Required

Saturday, September 19, 1-3 pm

Emmy Award winner Farmer Jason returns for a high energy farm life performance. The Chicken Rodeo follows immediately after the show. William E. Durr Branch. Register, 962-4032.

Coupon Clippers

Sunday, September 20, 2-4 pm

Coupons are a great way to save money every month. We will be clipping coupons, exchanging coupons, and sharing tips and tricks for both regular and e-couponing. Bring your coupon flyers if you have them! Covington Branch

Meet Greenwood and Lessac, Author/ Illustrator Duo!

Thursday, September 24, 7 pm

Mark Greenwood and Frané Lessac have collaborated on two books about WWI animal heroes: “Midnight” and “Simpson and his Donkey.” Hear Mark and Frané breathe life into these touching, true stories of bravery. Erlanger Branch

Author Visit: Barry Kienzle

Thursday, September 24, 7-8 pm

Local Northern Kentucky author Barry Kienzle will visit to discuss his newest book, “The Crossing.” More information on Mr. Kienzle can be found at www.barrykbooks.com. William E. Durr Branch

Photography Workshop*

Friday, September 25, 6:30-8:30 pm

Learn and practice digital photographic techniques in this moderated workshop. William E. Durr Branch. Register, 962-4031.

Monthly Minecraft Mondays

Grades: 6 - 12

Monday, September 28, 6-8 pm

Come play Minecraft at the Library! This program will be in the Durr Computer Lab. Attendance is limited to the first 15 teens. William E. Durr Branch.

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

Planning and Development Services of Kenton County

Planners: “Thanks Kenton County!”

Direction 2030 plan nets top state award

The Kenton County Planning Commission's recent initiative to build community consensus for a totally new comprehensive plan earned top honors from the American Planning Association—Kentucky Chapter (APA-KY) during its annual spring conference. *Direction 2030: Your Voice, Your Choice* was awarded the 2015 APA-KY Special Merit Award for an Outstanding Comprehensive Plan.

“We're obviously pleased with this statewide recognition but not for the reason that you might expect,” said Dennis Gordon, FAICP, executive director at PDS. “Being singled out by your peers for something you've done well is great—and we appreciate that. But, far more important to us is the fact that this community-wide project was recognized for what it set out to do and ultimately for what it accomplished.

“Everyone interested in this community's future had multiple opportunities to participate. All 20 of our local governments were engaged in the process. All of the plan's stakeholders participated. It wasn't always

pretty and sometimes the process took longer than we'd hoped but we eventually got to the point of agreement. That's what's important to us — the fact that people were able to bring conflicting ideas to the table and willing to stay engaged until consensus was reached. The fact that these efforts earned the community some recognition is the icing on the cake.”

Members of the Kenton County Planning Commission (KCPC) and their professional staff from PDS kicked off the Direction 2030 initiative in October 2011. By the following summer, elected officials from all 20 local governments weighed in on the framework for the plan. That framework, called the Statement of Goals and Objectives, received positive action from the KCPC and all the governments by the fall of 2012.

All in all, the process that led to the Direction 2030 plan included 105 opportunities for citizen involvement. Those included public meetings, focus groups, priority-setting sessions with area high school students, working group meetings with



stakeholders, panel discussions, online forums with opportunities for feedback, and roundtable events.

“Direction 2030 was the product of strong relationships — both pre-existing and newly-created — involving PDS staff, KCPC members, citizens, and stakeholders from across the community,” said Gordon. “Without the consensus that evolved out of these relationships, this plan — and even the electronic format in which it's presented — wouldn't have been possible.”

Direction 2030: Your Voice, Your Choice is an electronic plan. Its contents and interactive mapping feature are accessible at www.direction2030.org. A second website dedicated to implementation efforts for the plan will be put online soon. Watch this space or www.pdskc.org for news about implementation efforts.

“Thanks Kenton County! We appreciate your help and support,” Gordon concluded. “This credit goes to you.”