

WHAT'S *Happening!*

in Boone County, Kentucky TM



Winter/Spring 2022



County high speed broadband project on schedule

In late March 2021, the Boone County Fiscal Court approved a contract with Cincinnati Bell that will deliver access to high speed broadband Internet service to every home and business within the County. This contract was approved after an open bidding process with interested Internet service providers, along with several months of negotiation with Cincinnati Bell. The contract requires Cincinnati Bell to deliver high speed broadband service, capable of speeds of 1 GB, via fiber optic lines, to every residential and business front door within Boone County. The project is scheduled for substantial completion by the end of 2023.

Central to this agreement is universal access to high-speed broadband service for every homeowner within the County, together with enhanced affordability by virtue of a package discount for any homeowner who subscribes to the service. It is important to note that this project represents a non-exclusive agreement and any homeowner may continue to subscribe to any Internet service provider of their choice currently offering service within the County.

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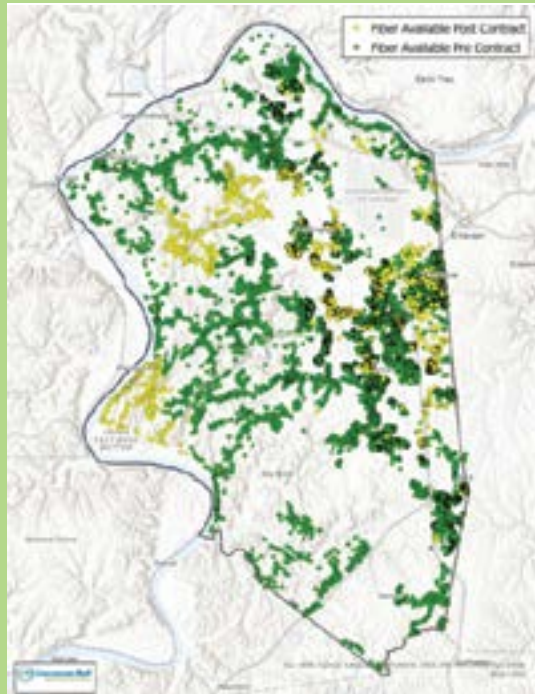
County High Speed Broadband Project, continued from page 1

At its January 11th meeting, the Fiscal Court heard a report from the County staff affirming that the project is proceeding consistent with the plan, on schedule, and within budget. During the third and fourth quarters of 2021 construction to approximately 6000 homes was completed providing access to high speed Internet service via fiber-to-the-premises design. The company installed over 500,000 linear feet of fiber optic cable to complete this work. The work is occurring in numerous areas of the County by company crews and several of its private contractors. For 2022, Cincinnati Bell is scheduled to complete construction that will enable service to an additional 20,000 households and businesses, installing approximately 1.9 million linear feet of fiber optic cable. Any existing or new Cincinnati Bell customer is automatically eligible for discounted high speed internet service once fiber is installed in their neighborhood.

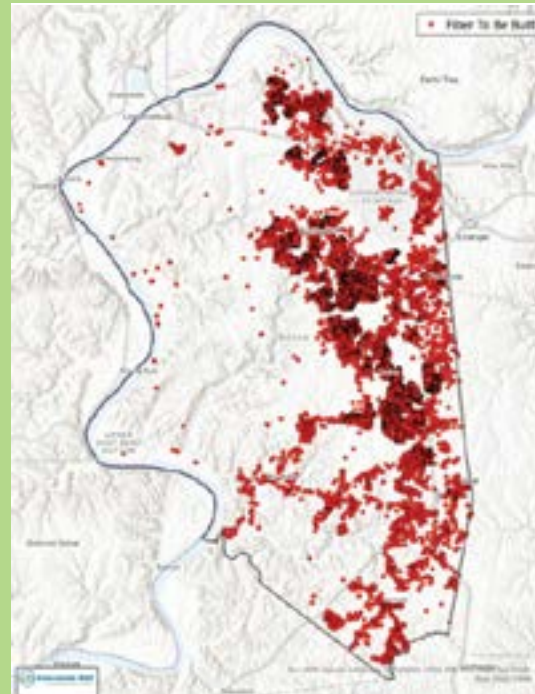
The County has committed 13.6 million dollars of federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds to un-

BOONE COUNTY FIBER PARTNERSHIP

2021
5,954 addresses fiber qualified (green dots)



2022
20,215 addresses scheduled to be fiber qualified (red dots)



derwrite its portion of the agreement. Cincinnati Bell is contractually com-

mitted to expend a minimum of 30.0 million dollars, above and beyond

the County portion to complete the project.

Employee Spotlight: Jayme Gerth

Jayme Gerth has served the people of Boone County through the Finance Department since 2019. The Finance Department is the department of local government charged with providing accurate and timely financial information, reports, advice and service to departments, County officials, Fiscal Court, and the public. Jayme is the accounting manager and oversees all accounting functions. Jayme loves the variety and challenges of the Finance Department as each day brings new opportunities. She enjoys helping others within the organization, as well as outside, learn and understand the County's finances.

Jayme is a proud Northern Kentucky University graduate with a Bachelor of Science degree in accounting. Jayme and her husband Chris have three boys and one girl. The older two boys, Levi and Caden, attend Ryle High School and the younger ones, Elli and Simeon, attend Steeplechase Elementary. Jayme and her family are active at Crossroads Church and enjoy spending their free time together visiting different parks and hiking.



Animal Shelter partners with Family Nurturing Center for Holiday Toy Drive

Boone County Animal Shelter was thrilled to partner with the Family Nurturing Center with its annual Holiday Toy Drive. The Animal Shelter collected brand new children's toys, and in exchange, those who donated toys could adopt an animal from the shelter for no fee!

The Boone County Animal Shelter has traditionally had much success with adoption promotions like this and this year was no exception. Throughout the promotion, a total of 65 animals found their loving, new forever homes! Many adopters donated multiple toys, which means the shelter was able to provide the Family Nurturing Center with more ways to brighten the holidays for local kids.



Just a few of the toys donated to the Family Nurturing Center

Help us build a modern animal shelter!

Boone County Animal Care & Control (BCACC) is raising capital funds in a public/private effort to build a modern shelter facility that will meet the needs of a growing community and allow the department to continue to expand its lifesaving

programs. Through the overwhelming support of the Boone County Fiscal Court and our very generous private donors, we have secured 5.25 million dollars towards our 6 million dollar goal. Boone County recognizes the value in expanded lifesaving

programs for the pets in our area, as well as the need to remain fiscally responsible. We thank you for visiting our site and hope that you find our vision worthy of your support. Go to BooneCountyKY.org or BuildingPawstiveFuture.com to donate.

Revenue and collection software available

The Boone County Fiscal Court, Occupational Tax Department, announces they have partnered with GovOS, to provide an online Revenue and Collection Software (RACS)

Boone County has a unique tax landscape, including multi-jurisdictional tax collection (County, Mental Health, and School District) along with regulatory fees. Currently the County does not have electronic filing capabilities or payment options, requiring all returns to be submitted via paper and entered manually.

Coming in 2022, Boone County will begin using GovOS as their platform for occupational tax. The GovOS partnership will provide an online portal that will allow taxpayers to submit tax returns, review past filings, update contact information, receive and respond to electronic

The GovOS partnership will provide an online portal that will allow taxpayers to submit tax returns, review past filings, update contact information, receive and respond to electronic communications, and allow for secure collection of taxes and fees.



communications, and allow for secure collection of taxes and fees.

GovOS is an online tax and licensing software company that works with communities all over the country. GovOS has processed over \$1.7 billion in paperless revenues and is proud to have over 200,000 businesses using the self-service

Business Center to remit taxes and fees to their community. GovOS has a clear understanding of the industry and has developed an intuitive and very user-friendly system that the County is excited to begin using in 2022. The Boone County Fiscal Court will announce the official date the

portal will be available as it gets closer and will send registration letters to all businesses that will explain how to access their portal.

The County is very excited about this partnership and is confident that this will enhance taxpayers' ability to interact with the Occupational Tax Department.

Boone County Parks celebrating 50 years of service in 2022

We're ready for 2022! Shelter Reservations begin March 1.
Reserve a shelter online at www.boonecountyky.org/parks, in person at 5958 Garrard Street in Burlington, KY, or by calling Boone County Parks at 859/334-2117 between 8 am - 5 pm (M-F).

BOONE WOODS PARK - BURLINGTON, KY

Shelter 1 - 20'x40' (seats 80) \$45
 Shelter 2 - 20'x40' (seats 80) \$45
 Shelter 3 - 30'x50' (seats 100) \$75
 Restroom Buildings, Grills, Electricity and Nearby Water Available

ENGLAND-IDLEWILD PARK - BURLINGTON, KY

Shelter 1 - 30'x50' (seats 100) \$75
 Shelter 2 - 20'x40' (seats 80) \$45
 Shelter 3 - 20'x40' (seats 80) \$45
 Port-O-Lets, Grills, Electricity and Nearby Water Available

GILES CONRAD PARK - HEBRON, KY

Shelter 1 - (seats 70) \$45
 Port-O-Lets, Grill and Electricity Available

WALTON COMMUNITY PARK - WALTON, KY

Shelter 1 - 20'x40' (seats 80) \$45
 Shelter 2 - 20'x40' (seats 80) \$45
 Shelter 3 - 20'x40' (seats 80) \$45
 Restroom Building, Grills Electricity and Nearby Water Available

CENTRAL PARK - UNION, KY

Shelter 1 - 20'x40' (seats 80) \$45
 Shelter 2 - 30'x50' (seats 100) \$75
 Restroom Buildings, Grills, Electricity and Nearby Water Available

SPERTI PARK - BURLINGTON, KY

Shelter 1 - (seats 25) \$45
 Restroom Building, Grill, Electricity and Nearby Water Available
 Limited Parking (6 spaces)
 *No Parking on the street

Boone County Parks

5958 Garrard Street • Burlington, KY 41005
859/334-2117
www.boonecountyky.org/parks

Visit the Boone County Parks Website at www.boonecountyky.org/parks for all Upcoming Programs, Classes and Events. Reserve Shelters and Register for Programs online!



This shelter is located at England Idlewild Park in Burlington.

Golf & Event Center: 859/334-4853

Boone Links Golf and Event Center is the perfect setting for your special day. A stunning renovation that doubles the size of our banquet facility with the majestic Boone Links Golf Course providing the backdrop for your elegant event.

With seating for up to 240 guests, as well as our complimentary bridal suite, our facility will offer one-stop shopping. From the moment you begin your journey, Boone Links Golf and Event Center staff will be available to help navigate your path each step of the way, making your special occasion truly memorable. With our new outdoor

wedding venue, updated menu, covered patio, additional parking, and new bar area featuring 16 taps and a large bourbon selection, we look forward to being a part of your perfect day.

For rental information or to schedule a tour, please contact **Jessie Wiley 859/334-4853**



Ready to assist Boone County residents with the election process

2022 is an election year and we are excited to assist the residents of Boone County with the election process! The Primary Election will be May 17, 2022 and the General Election is November 8, 2022. There are numerous races on the ballot including the offices of US Senate, US House of Representatives, Kentucky Senate, Kentucky House of Representatives, District Court Judge, Circuit Court Judge, Family Court Judge, Judge Executive, County Attorney, Sheriff, County Commissioners, County Clerk, Property Valuation Administrator, Coroner, County Surveyor, Magistrates and Constables, as well as local school boards and city races for Mayor and City Council.

We are here to help! Call us at 859/334-2130. Calling ahead will help avoid problems at the polls on Election Day. Ask us any questions about the election, inquire about updating registration information, verify that you are registered to vote, inquire if your ID is considered a valid form of ID for voting or ensure the information on your ID matches our records.



About the Primary Election

Remember the Primary Election is a closed primary, meaning you can only vote for a partisan race in the primary if you are registered Republican or Democrat and you must vote your party on the ballot. If there is a nonpartisan race (judges or city council), any registered voter may vote for that particular race. Anyone who changed party affiliation after the deadline of December 31, 2021, will not be eligible to vote for the partisan races in the primary. The last day to register to vote in the primary is April 18, 2022.

Improving the election process in Boone County

Our staff has been working hard to implement changes to improve the elections process in Boone County. We acquired new voting

equipment that will allow every vote cast to have a paper trail. Also in 2021, the Kentucky General Assembly made some of the changes that took place in the 2020 election permanent with House Bill 574. A few important highlights in that bill:

1. Mail-in absentee ballots will require an excuse.
2. There will be an online portal to request and track mail-in absentee ballots. Voters may go to www.govoteky.com.
3. There will be drop boxes available for those absentee ballots.
4. There will be three (3) days of in-person absentee voting on Thursday, Friday and Saturday before the elections.

The plan is to have three absentee voting locations available for voters' convenience on the three designated in-person absentee voting days. We also needed to make a few minor changes to voting locations

for some precincts. More information about changed voting locations, in-person absentee voting locations and hours of operation will be posted on www.booneclerk.com and our Facebook page. Keep an eye out for updates.

We are here to help! Call us at 859/334-2130. Calling ahead will

help avoid problems at the polls on Election Day. Ask us any questions about the election, inquire about updating registration information, verify that you are registered to vote, inquire if your ID is considered a valid form of ID for voting or ensure the information on your ID matches our records.

Boone County Clerk

Justin Crigler, Boone County Clerk
859/334-2108
jcrigler@boonecountyky.org

OFFICES:
Burlington:
 2950 Washington St., Burlington KY 41005 • 859/334-2108
 HOURS: Mon, Thurs, Fri: 8:30 am - 4:30 pm;
 Tues, Wed: 8:30 am - 6 pm
Florence: 8100 Ewing Blvd, Florence KY 41042 • (859)647-8702
 HOURS: Mon, Tues, Fri: 8:30 am - 4:30 pm,
 Wed, Thurs: 8:30 am - 6 pm

UPCOMING EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

Call 859/586-6101 to register for any of these educational programs:

Pre-diabetes and Diabetes Prevention Tues., 3/1, 1-3:30 pm (Enrichment Center, Upper Level, 1824 Patrick Drive, Burlington)
Learn about diabetes and pre-diabetes and steps to take to prevent it. Presented by Certified Diabetes Care and Education Specialist and a registered dietician.

FCS Advisory Committee Meeting Tues., 3/8, 10 am-12:30 pm (Extension Office, Lutes Room, 6028 Camp Ernst Road, Burlington)
Help provide guidance for program offerings and ideas for reaching new audiences. Lunch provided.

Diabetes Basics Tues., 3/15, 1-3:30 pm (Enrichment Center, Upper Level, 1824 Patrick Drive, Burlington)
Learn about managing diabetes from Certified Diabetes Care and Education Specialist and a registered dietician, and sample diabetes-friendly recipes.

Shining Light on Kentucky's Everyday Women Heroes Mon., 3/28, 6:30-8 pm (Extension Office, Ferguson Room, 6028 Camp Ernst Road, Burlington)
Join us for this uplifting program about what it means to be a Kentuckian with a heart and soul as you hear about ordinary Kentucky women who have made a positive difference while living unselfish lives and overcoming obstacles. Sponsored by Boone County Extension Home-makers Association. This program is funded in part by the Kentucky Humanities and the National Endowment for the Humanities.

Money Talk Tues., 3/29, 4/5, 4/19 & 4/26, Noon-2:30 pm (Extension Office, Claxon Room, 6028 Camp Ernst Road, Burlington)
Discover basic information about money, finances, and investments that all adults should know in this four-session program (plan to attend all). Participants receive a 192 page workbook to help them improve their knowledge, assess their situation, or set goals.

Cleaning Matters 4/6, 4/7, 4/20, 4/27, & 5/2, 1 pm (Extension Office, Claxon Room, 6028 Camp Ernst Road, Burlington)
Attend one or more of these session to pick up tips and information related to household cleaning that you can use throughout the year!

- **Wed., 4/6, 1 pm: Chemicals for Cleaning** - Learn about choosing, using and storing cleaning products to get the most for your money and pick up a few tips for cleaning kitchen items, too.
- **Thurs., 4/7, 1 pm: Organizing and Decluttering** - We'll share the basics of organizing and decluttering along with where to donate items no longer needed.
- **Wed., 4/20, 1 pm: Mysteries of Microfiber Cleaned Up** - Discover how microfiber cleaning cloths work and how to care for them
- **Wed., 4/27, 1 pm: Laundry Basics and Stain Removal Tips** - Learn about laundry detergents, machines choices, stain removal products and general purpose laundry care.
- **Mon., 5/2, 1 pm: Clean and Green** - Pick up tips for making your own cleaning products and general information about environmental issues and cleaning.

Dementia Symposium: The Latest in Research, Planning and Caregiving Fri., 5/13, 8:30 am-2:45 pm (Enrichment Center, 1824 Patrick Drive, Lower Level, Burlington)
Join keynote speaker Dr. Jicha, faculty with Sanders-Brown Center on Aging, and other professionals who will share information for caregivers or those just wishing to learn more about dementia and Alzheimer's disease. Event will feature a resource fair, tracks for caregivers and the general public, and lunch for those registered by May 3, 2022. Lunch sponsored by Madonna Manor. Co-presented with the Alzheimer's Association and Cooperative Extension in Campbell, Pendleton, Kenton, Carroll, and Boone Counties.

Boone County Cooperative Extension Service



P.O. Box 876 • 6028 Camp Ernst Rd.
Burlington, KY 41005
PH: 859/586-6101 • FAX: 859/586-6107
E-mail: boone.ext@uky.edu
Office Hours: M-F, 8 am-4:30 pm



4-H Camp is just around the corner

Boone County's 4-H Camp week for 2022 will be **June 13-17** at North Central 4-H Camp in Carlisle KY. The cost for our week long camp this year is \$115 for all Boone County 4-H members, a great bargain for a week-long summer camp. Space will be filled on a first come/first served basis. For non-Boone County 4-H members the cost is \$265. We are in need of volunteers, both adult and teens (16 and up), to attend camp. The number of campers we can take to camp is totally dependent on our ability to adequately supervise them. We will sign off on 75 volunteer hours for teens that need hours for graduation. Interested volunteers please call Steve at 859/586-6101.



boone.ca.uky.edu

4-H Camp offers an array of activities for youth. They can identify trees and critters during nature hikes, learn to swim, use a canoe, take part in shooting sports, make arts and crafts, and participate in

challenge courses. Youth will also have the chance to sing and dance, make new friends, and most important, learn while having fun.

4-H camps are open to all Kentucky youth, ages nine through 14.

Groups of youth from every county will attend one of the four resident camps during the 10-week summer season. The 4-H camping program provides a safe, secure and fun environment for Kentucky campers. An onsite health care provider is always available to take care of campers needs.

For more information on camp and other activities in our 4-H Youth Development program, contact the Boone County Cooperative Extension Service.

Educational programs of the Kentucky Cooperative Extension Service serve all people regardless of race, color, age, sex, religion, disability or national origin.

What's Happening News



SUZANNA SMITH



CHRISTINA FOARD

WHAT'S Happening!

ANNOUNCING NEW LEADERSHIP!

We are thrilled to be the new publishers of What's Happening! magazines which serve 200,000+ households in Kentucky. We want to hear from you! Please add your comments on whatshappeningnews.com. Your feedback will guide our upcoming content as well as our digital and print advancements.

We wish all of our readers in Boone County a happy new year and we look forward to hearing from you!

Suzanna Smith and Christina Foard, What's Happening News Publishers

- 25 years civic program management
- 10 years entrepreneurial experience
- 11 years managerial experience in local gov
- 30 years nonprofit program management
- 15 years digital and print publications mgmt
- 10 years graphic design experience
- Resident of NKY/Cincinnati area since 1975
- University of Florida: BA + MEd
- University of Cincinnati, DAAP: BFA
- University of Georgia: MFA



Get to know PROJECT RAMP

The Foundation for Community Assistance

PROJECT RAMP is a community foundation that was formed in 2012 to give financial assistance to registered RAMP users that find it difficult to personally fund their transportation on RAMP. The foundation will give financial assistance to RAMP passengers that financially qualify for the assistance and are approved through the application process.

Who the Foundation helps

RAMP is the Regional Area Mobility Program, which provides ADA transportation operated by the Transit Authority of Northern Kentucky, to residents of Boone, Campbell and Kenton counties. The fare for the service is \$2.50 a ride, which some riders find cost prohibitive, making it difficult to make trips to employment and for medical needs. PROJECT RAMP is a funding program offering financial assistance to cover a portion of this fare. This fund depends on public support to operate, donations are accepted at <https://www.tankbus.org/rider-guide/programs/ramp/project-ramp>

Community Foundation of Northern Kentucky

PROJECT RAMP is administered by the Community Foundation of Northern Kentucky (CFNK), a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization that benefits the people of our region by addressing the need for improved health, social and educational services in our community. Partnering with the CFNK to provide financial assistance to people in our community that qualify for RAMP services under the Americans with Disabilities Act and are economically disadvantaged will allow the PROJECT RAMP foundation to help those most in need in our community.



Transit Authority of Northern Kentucky

TANK is the public transit authority that provides bus service in Boone, Campbell and Kenton counties and downtown Cincinnati.

Contact us! Phone: 859/331-TANK (8265) • Web: www.tankbus.org

Connect with TANK!



Facebook TANK (Transit Authority of Northern Kentucky)

Instagram @tankbus

Smoke-Free Y'all!

Community members and organizations across Boone County are dedicated to changing the narrative and changing the norm when it comes to lung health in our region. "There is no safe level of smoke exposure! As a Respiratory Therapist for over 25 years, I have seen the damage smoke (in any form) can do to a person's body. Smoke-free laws protect our hearts, lungs and lives." says Live Smoke-Free Florence Chair, Thomas Cahill.

In 2018, Interact for Health analyzed responses from the Greater Cincinnati Adult Tobacco Survey and 76% of voters in Florence support smoke-free workplace policies. Local health advocates began building capacity to work on smoke-free workplace policies. Why? It's 2022 and our family, friends, neighbors and **loved ones are still being exposed to secondhand smoke at work and in public spaces.** Breathing secondhand smoke is dangerous and can cause heart disease, stroke, cancer as well as increase severity of diseases such as asthma, diabetes and coronavirus (COVID-19). In addition to the health impacts, secondhand smoke also negatively affects our economic well-being. Kentucky spends almost \$2 BILLION on healthcare costs related to tobacco/smoke exposure. Research shows that communities with comprehensive smoke-free workplace policies have fewer hospitalizations, fewer youth who start to smoke/use tobacco and are more economically competitive.

That's why the Live Smoke-Free Florence coalition is working hard to move the needle on lung health in Florence. Born out of the greater LiveWell NKY initiative, members of this coalition include Florence residents and employees, respiratory

care professionals from St. Elizabeth, Kentucky state advocacy experts, community-based care organizations and regional support groups. These dedicated individuals recently spread awareness about their mission through a "Day of Action" as seen in the photo.

It is important to create healthy environments for all to thrive and smoke-free policies are a step in the direction of being the healthiest region in the nation.

If you have a personal story of lung health related to secondhand smoke, we want to hear about it. Scan the QR code and follow the coalition on Facebook and Instagram @ FlorenceLiveWell and use the hashtag #SmokeFreeYall to show your support to living smoke-free. Feel free to send us a direct message with questions, request information, or better yet, to join the coalition.



COVID-19 vaccines for children and teens

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends everyone ages 5 years and older get a COVID-19 vaccine to help protect against the illness. Moderately or severely immunocompromised 5-11-year-olds are recommended to receive an additional primary dose of vaccine 28 days after their second dose. Widespread vaccination is a critical tool to best protect everyone from COVID-19 and related complications.

Help protect your child, your family and others

Getting a COVID-19 vaccine can help protect children ages 5 years and older from getting COVID-19.

- Vaccinating children can help protect family members, including siblings who are not eligible for vaccination and family members who may be at increased risk of getting very sick if they are infected.

- Vaccination can also help keep children from getting seriously sick even if they do get COVID-19.
- Vaccinating children ages 5 years and older can help keep them in school and help them more safely participate in other activities.
- Vaccinating children ages 5 years and older can help protect them against rare, but serious complications like multisystem inflammatory syndrome (MIS-C) – a condition that can affect numerous organ systems of the body.

Help protect your whole family and slow the spread of COVID-19 in your community by getting yourself and your children ages 5 years and older vaccinated against COVID-19.

COVID-19 vaccines are safe for children and teens

Before recommending COVID-19 vaccination for children, scientists



conducted clinical trials with thousands of children. COVID-19 vaccines are being monitored for safety with the most comprehensive and intense safety monitoring program in U.S. history. CDC monitors the safety of all COVID-19 vaccines after the vaccines are authorized or approved for use, including the

risk of myocarditis in children ages 5 through 11 years. The benefits of COVID-19 vaccination outweigh the known and potential risks.

Source: https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/recommendations/children-teens.html?s_cid=11368:COVID%20vaccine%20for%20kids%20under%2012:sem.ga:p:RG:GM:gen:PTN:FY21

HIV

HIV stands for human immunodeficiency virus. It weakens a person's immune system by destroying important cells that fight disease and infection. In October of 2020, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) issued a Health Advisory that described clusters and outbreaks of HIV among people who inject drugs (PWID) that have occurred throughout the U.S. since 2015, including our region (Hamilton County, Ohio and Northern Kentucky). According to the Kentucky Department for Public Health's 2020 HIV/AIDS Surveillance Report, as of December 31, 2019 Northern Kentucky is reported to have 914 total HIV disease cases. Boone County represents approximately 17.4% (159) of the total HIV cases in the region. (<https://chfs.ky.gov/agencies/dph/dehp/hab/Documents/Annual-Report2020.pdf>).

To help stop the rising number of cases, the CDC recommends:

- Everyone between the ages of 13 and 64 should get tested for HIV at least once as part of their routine healthcare. An estimated



1.2 million people in the United States have HIV, including people who are unaware of their status. Nearly 40% of new HIV infections are transmitted by people who don't know they have the virus. For people with undiagnosed HIV, testing is the first step in maintaining a healthy life and preventing HIV transmission.

- For those at higher risk, the CDC recommends getting tested at least once a year.

- The Northern Kentucky Health Department provides FREE HIV testing. Walk-ins welcome! Get your results in as little as 60 seconds. For more information, please scan the QR code or visit our website <https://nkyhealth.org/individual-or-family/individual-health/hiv-services/>.



There is currently no effective cure for HIV but with proper medical care, HIV can be controlled, and with science-based HIV screening, prevention and treatment we can help end the HIV epidemic.

Sources: <https://www.cdc.gov/hiv/testing/index.html>
<https://www.cdc.gov/hiv/basics/whatishiv.html>
<https://www.cdc.gov/hiv/library/awareness/wad.html>
<https://chfs.ky.gov/agencies/dph/dehp/hab/Documents/AnnualReport2020.pdf>

COVID-19 Booster

People age 12* years and older who have been vaccinated against COVID-19 can get a booster. Currently, only Pfizer's COVID-19 vaccine is approved for use in those under 18 years of age.

- If you received the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine, you may get a booster if you are 12* years or older and it has been at least 5 months after completing your primary COVID-19 vaccination series.
- If you received the Moderna COVID-19 vaccine, you may get a booster if you are 18 years or older and it has been at least 5 months after completing your primary

COVID-19 vaccination series.

- If you received the Johnson & Johnson/Janssen COVID-19 vaccine, you may get a booster if you are 18 years or older and it has been at least 2 months since your previous shot.
- If you are 18 years of age or older, the CDC now allows you to choose which brand of COVID-19 vaccine you receive as a booster shot, even if it is different from the vaccine you got in your original series.

Source: https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/booster-shot.html?s_cid=11705:when%20to%20get%20COVID%2019%20booster%20shot:sem.ga:p:RG:GM:gen:PTN:FY22



Naloxone

Naloxone is a life-saving medication that can reverse an overdose from opioids, including heroin, fentanyl and prescription opioid medications. Naloxone is also known by the brand name, Narcan. Often given as a nasal spray, naloxone is safe and easy to use. When administered after an overdose, naloxone can counteract the life-threatening effects of opioid drugs and keep individuals who have overdosed alive until emergency medical help arrives.



What to know about Naloxone:

- Naloxone is an essential part of every first aid kit.
- Anyone can witness an overdose. Be prepared to save a life, carry naloxone.

- Did You Know? Naloxone reverses overdoses for any opioid class drug. That includes prescription painkillers like Percocet and Vicodin.
- Naloxone is safe to use on men, women, the elderly and even children!
- Always call 911 if you suspect an overdose. You are protected under Kentucky's Good Samaritan Law while saving a life with naloxone.

Visit our website to learn more about naloxone, receive training and have a kit mailed to your address in Boone, Campbell, Grant or Kenton counties, or scan the QR code for more info.

Sources: <https://www.cdc.gov/stoverdose/naloxone/index.html>



Resources available to stop smoking and/or vaping

While our state is well-known for its beautiful mountains, historic national and state parks, rolling hills and horse-lined highways, we are also known for the deep-rooted tobacco growing culture — a culture that has not been kind to the health of our neighbors. Although the tobacco industry witnessed a decline in sales in the 1990s due to anti-smoking campaigns and higher taxes, the rates of disability, disease and death related to lung-disease continue to rise. How could this be? The tobacco industry noticed a shift in societal trends and decided they needed to gain a new generation of smokers to keep up sales, therefore “big tobacco” transformed into “big vape.” Did you know that “vape” is actually a term that the tobacco industry created because of its sense of safety? The term that better describes this product is e-cigarette because the “vapor” that you see in the air is actually an aerosol made up of harmful substances, including nicotine, heavy metals like lead, volatile organic compounds and cancer-causing agents (similar to those found in traditional cigarettes).

Technology, like the internet and phone applications, has made tobacco, nicotine, e-cigarettes and other harmful substances more accessible to all populations, including youth. The majority of e-cigarette liquid

contains nicotine — a HIGHLY addictive substance that over time changes the way our brains function and impacts our mood, our emotions and our ability to build critical information. All of these aspects are critical to the brain development in youth.

If you are looking to talk to your child about e-cigarettes or tobacco use, or you want to quit smoking or help a child, friend or loved one quit smoking or using another substance that is harmful to the lungs, please reach out for assistance. There are resources available and people ready to help.

Steps to take for prevention:

- Speak with influencers, leaders and decision makers to advocate for stronger tobacco and other substance use policies in your community.
- Join a community coalition that is dedicated to preventing tobacco and other substance abuse.
- Talk to your child/young adult about the impacts that an addiction can lead to in their life. Bring up sports/extracurriculars, spending and other immediate side effects along with long-term risks such as disability and diseases, including the possibility

of transmitting a disease from sharing devices.

- Ask your school about their 100% Tobacco-Free School policy and find out where they are promoting prevention tools and cessation strategies.



Tools for cessation:

- **Walk in to a participating local pharmacy and ask to receive two-week's worth of FREE gum/patches.** Find out which pharmacies are participating by scanning the QR code or visiting our website: <https://nkyhealth.org/individual-or-family/individual-health/quit-smoking/>.



- 1-800-QUIT-NOW Hotline: free phone service to anyone looking to quit using nicotine products. Get connected to a coach and access to low-no-cost nicotine replacement therapies like gum or patches.



- My Life My Quit: free and confidential texting service for teens looking to stop smoking. Text “Start My Quit” to 36072 to get connected now.



- Freedom From Smoking: a free seven-week program offered by St. Elizabeth Tobacco Treatment Specialists to help you quit for good by developing a plan of action leading up to your quit day. Call 859/301-5570 to join today or go to stelizabeth.com/freedomfromsmoking

St. Elizabeth elevates advanced heart care in the region with new comprehensive facility

St. Elizabeth Healthcare and St. Elizabeth Physicians have brought more than 30 multi-specialty Heart & Vascular Institute physicians and 30 advanced practice providers from multiple office sites to one central location in Edgewood with the opening of a new 67,000-square-foot building.

St. Elizabeth will treat even more community members who have complex cardiac needs thanks to the generous support from William (Bill) J. Yung III. The \$7 million donation (largest in St. Elizabeth history) will be used for facilities, equipment and physician recruitment. The Heart & Vascular Institute has been renamed the Florence Wormald Heart & Vascular Institute at St. Elizabeth after Yung’s mother, whose courage, independence and pioneering spirit served as a catalyst in his life.



“My mother always pushed me to do things for myself — to work for myself, to spend money to make money,” said Yung. “That advice has been key to my business success, which is why I’m honored to support the St. Elizabeth Heart & Vascular Institute with a gift in her name. My hope is that this donation will help attract even more top physicians and researchers while enhancing access to elite cardiovascular care, right

here in the community we call home.”

“At St. Elizabeth, our number one priority is our patients. With the opening of the new facility, we are uniquely positioned to offer exceptional cardiac care and patient experience in one central location: close to home,” shared D.P. Suresh, MD, Cardiologist and Executive Medical Director of the St. Elizabeth Heart & Vascular Institute.

The new center features cardiology, cardiac electrophysiology, cardiac surgery, cardiac rehabilitation, an outpatient cath lab, the Advanced Heart Failure Management Center, the Structural Heart & Valve Center, diagnostic services, cardiovascular genetics, cardiac clinical trials, and an on-site lab. The significant investment made by St. Elizabeth in state-of-the-art heart care facilities, treatment options and cardiovascular specialists is yet another demonstration of the system’s commitment to providing the most advanced and innovative care, leading the communities it serves to become one of the healthiest in America.

For more information on the Florence Wormald Heart & Vascular Institute at St. Elizabeth and our commitment to integrated, patient-focused cardiac care, visit stelizabeth.com/heart.

New mural honors healthcare workers

St. Elizabeth and ArtWorks, an award-winning nonprofit that has created public art throughout the Greater Cincinnati region, unveiled a 59-foot-tall by 91-foot-wide mural to honor the heroic efforts of healthcare workers worldwide during the COVID-19 pandemic and beyond. Simultaneously, this year marks the 160th anniversary of St. Elizabeth Healthcare so this mural also creates a lasting public commemoration of this moment in history. Featuring a masked healthcare worker, this comic book-themed creation is visible on the Western Loading Dock of the Newport on the Levee complex at 1 Levee Way near the Taylor Southgate Bridge in Newport. This monumental image can also be seen from various locations in downtown Cincinnati.



NKY Health



Boone County Health Center

7505 Burlington Pike, Florence, KY 41042
phone: 859/363-2060

District Office

8001 Veterans Memorial Drive, Florence, KY 41042
phone: 859/341-4264

FOLLOW US!

- www.facebook.com/nkyhealth/
- [@nkyhealth](https://twitter.com/nkyhealth)
- www.instagram.com/nkyhealthdept/

St. Elizabeth Healthcare



St. Elizabeth Covington

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

St. Elizabeth Dearborn

600 Wilson Creek Road
Lawrenceburg, IN 47025
812/537-1010

St. Elizabeth Edgewood

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

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

Register for the 16th Annual Early Childhood Fair!

Saturday, March 5, Main Library in Burlington

The 16th Annual Early Childhood Fair returns on Saturday, March 5 at the Main Library, 1786 Burlington Pike in Burlington. Please register at bcpl.org/events for a 10 am or 11:30 am timeslot to provide less crowding and a more pleasant experience.

More than 30 vendors will provide children's activities and information on services for your little ones. Preschools, music classes, and sports programs will be represented, as well as organizations in our county that support early childhood development.

Boone County Schools will provide speakers including a pediatrician, a kindergarten teacher, and a "purposeful play" expert to answer questions about kindergarten readiness and other topics. Preschool and kindergarten teachers will be available for conversations about child development as your child plays at the "purposeful play" stations. An Early Literacy Fun Kit will be provided for all preschool children in attendance.

Free developmental screenings for ages 2 months through 3 years will be offered. A screening allows you to catch problems early and provide reassurance that your child is acting, playing, or speaking in ways that are expected at different ages. At the end of the screening, you will have a good understanding of what developmental milestones have been reached, what to expect next, and what activities can be done at home to support your child's development.

You will learn if your child would benefit from additional services and where to find these resources.

And that's not all! Join us for fun free activities for the entire family!

- Juggler from Circus Mojo (10:30 am-12:30 pm)
- Live animals from Cool Critters (11 am - Noon)
- Purposeful Play areas for preschoolers and their families
- Craft stations
- Door prizes, generously donated by Early Childhood Fair vendors

We hope to see you there!

The Early Childhood Fair is brought to you by Boone County Schools and Boone County Public Library



Join us on Saturday, March 5 for jugglers, Cool Critters, and so much more!



Boone County Public Library



Six locations to serve you!
One phone number:
859/342-BOOK (2665)

Working to preserve our natural resources

The Boone County Conservation District (BCCDKY) works to protect and conserve the beautiful forests, fields, and streams of our community. We provide technical, financial, and educational assistance to residents, landowners, businesses, and public agencies to promote the wise use and protection of natural resources for future generations.

Upcoming nature programs and workshops

We host regular outdoor family programs and naturalist workshops throughout the year. Check our website for program details and registration information: bccdky.org/calendar-of-events/. Stay tuned to our website and e-newsletter for announcements on more upcoming programs, including Conservation Kids Camp, L.E.A.F! Academy, home-school events, and more!



Families of all ages can observe and explore all kinds of local wildlife, including salamanders, beavers, birds, and more during our monthly family programs.

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

February 25 at Boone Cliffs Nature Preserve
Winter Tree ID: Dr. Shannon Galbraith-Kent will teach us how to identify trees without their leaves.

February 26 at Conservancy Park
All About Beavers: Learn about the lifestyle of beavers and see a real beaver lodge.

March 19 at Middle Creek Park
Salamander Search: Explore the creeks and forests in search of salamanders.

March 25 at Conservancy Park
Habitat Management Field Day: Learn how an abandoned gravel pit was transformed into a beautiful nature park.

Education grant deadline February 14

BCCDKY offers education grants of up to \$1,000 to support conservation education in Boone County schools. If you are a teacher interested in

outdoor classrooms, school gardens, or classroom supplies, let us know! View our grant application at <http://bccdky.org/grants-and-scholarships/>.

Conservation scholarship deadline March 14

College scholarships are available for college students or high school seniors enrolled in environmental studies, agriculture, biology, or another conservation-related field. Must be a Boone County resident to apply. Get the application at <http://bccdky.org/grants-and-scholarships/>.



Become a Youth Conservation Leader at one of our summer programs!

Welcome to our Junior Board!



BCCDKY welcomes our first ever Junior Board this school year! High school students from across the county serve as volunteers to plan and execute conservation service projects in their communities. Visit our website to learn about these amazing students and the work they do: <http://bccdky.org/junior-board/>

Junior Board members improve our community by planting trees and building habitat at local parks.

Boone County Conservation District

859/586-7903 • info@bccdky.org
6028 Camp Ernst Road • Burlington, KY 41005

Follow us!    @bccdky

Five ways to start a conversation with your teen about drug abuse

Are you struggling to talk to your teen about drug abuse? You're not the only one. When it comes time to have a tough conversation, sometimes the most important thing to do is sit down and listen. As a parent or guardian, there's no shortage of difficult topics to tackle with your teen. However, if you take the wrong approach going into these conversations, you may not have the open dialogue you had hoped for. Not sure where to start? We're here to help.

Here are five tips on how to start the conversation with your teen about drug abuse:

Approach from a place of love

Before the conversation starts, you should approach the conversation as just that — a conversation — not a lecture. Your teen will be more receptive to what you have to say when you let them know you love them. It's important to let them know that you want them to reach their goals and drugs/alcohol can hinder their growth.

Ask questions

Asking open-ended questions will get your teen talking and allow you to listen to what they are really saying. You may need to reframe your questions as statements to encourage conversation. Instead of "How was your day?" try saying "Tell me about your day today." The first question will most likely result in a one-word answer, whereas the second allows them to reflect on their day and tell you what happened.

Prepare to listen

It's easy to get caught up in a conversation, but then before you know it, you're the only one talking and it turns into a one-sided conversation. Once you ask an open-ended question, just pause. Give your teen a second to think and answer before you jump back in. Try not to talk over them — you want to show your child that they can come to you with any question or concern. Actively listening will establish trust for both sides.

Capitalize on smaller moments

Starting off your conversation with "I know you are abusing drugs, that is a bad thing to do" may not be the best way to establish trust with your teen. Tough conversations don't have to be a formal affair, with you two sitting down at the kitchen table interview-style. Spark up a conversation in the car, where it's easy to converse with no pressure. It's also easy to look out the window and avoid direct eye contact, which may put your teen at ease.


Share your own experiences

As much as things have changed from when you grew up, the pressures of adolescence have remained similar. Mission Harbor Behavioral Health says "Transparency is important here, but in order for the conversation to be effective, try not to glorify your experience with drugs. If you were a heavy marijuana user throughout high school, share that

with your child. However, be honest about your experience. Maybe it made you tired all the time, and as a result, your schoolwork suffered or you had to quit a sports team."

It's never too late to start a conversation with your teen about drug abuse. Use one or more of these tips to open the lines of communication.

Boone County Alliance



About Boone County Alliance

Since 2010, BCA has devoted its energy to develop and implement individual and community strategies to combat the local substance abuse dilemma. In order to achieve its mission of a united community where all youth are drug free, BCA engages in activities related to prevention, advocacy, and collaboration. BCA focuses on prevention of underage drinking, marijuana use, and prescription drug misuse/abuse.

Please visit us at boonecountyalliance.com or call 859/431-1077 ext 111 for more information

Important facts about marijuana use

Marijuana is linked to problems in school. Marijuana dulls your attention, memory, and learning skills. These effects can last for days and sometimes weeks, depending on how often you use marijuana. Compared with teens who don't use, students who use marijuana are more likely not to finish high school or get a college degree. Marijuana also affects timing, movement, and coordination, which can harm athletic performance. (<https://archives.drugabuse.gov/publications/marijuana-facts-teens/want-to-know-more-some-faqs-about-marijuana>)

Marijuana use has been linked to an increased chance for mental illness. In addition to addiction, marijuana use is linked with a higher risk for schizophrenia, depression, and anxiety. It's not clear if marijuana use actually causes these conditions, but research shows a connection. The amount of drug used, the age at first use, and a person's genes influence this relationship. (<https://archives.drugabuse.gov/publications/marijuana-facts-teens/want-to-know-more-some-faqs-about-marijuana>)

Valuable resource

The NIDA website drugabuse.gov has information on a variety of drugs and related topics. NIDA's teen site <https://teens.drugabuse.gov> has free downloads, entertaining and informative videos and games, and a blog for teens, where you can leave us a comment or two. Get the scoop on how different drugs affect the brain and body, and read real stories from teens who have struggled with drug use and addiction. (<https://archives.drugabuse.gov/publications/marijuana-facts-teens/other-useful-resources>)

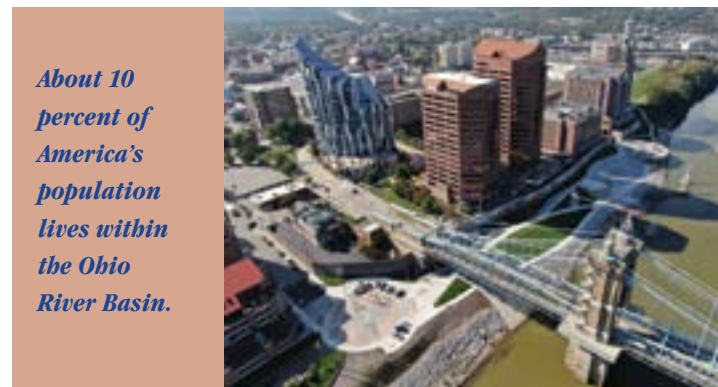
Proudly serving Northern Kentucky for 75 years

The Ohio River is 981 miles long and stretches from the Allegheny and Monongahela rivers in Pittsburgh to the Mississippi River in Cairo, Illinois. Geologists say the river formed on a piecemeal basis beginning about 3 million years ago as the result of one of the early ice ages.

Native Americans and early settlers were the first to use the river as a transportation route, and today more than 184 million tons of cargo — most commonly coal — are carried up and down the river each year. About 10 percent of America's population lives within the Ohio River Basin, with thousands of communities receiving their drinking water from its relentless flow.

Up and down the river, urban and agricultural runoff, abandoned mines, industrial waste and — yes — raw sewage all threaten its water quality. And this threat is not new.

News reports of rising concerns about the river's quality began not



long after the Civil War, but it wasn't until the 1940s that Congress passed the first federal law aimed at protecting water quality. At that point, most of the nation's cities continued to discharge raw sewage directly into streams, rivers, lakes or oceans. Northern Kentucky was no different.

But a decade before the first federal law protecting water quality, states along the river had begun working together to address the increase of pollution resulting from population growth and increased in-

dustrial activity. It would be a costly endeavor, with 1943 estimates for cleaning up the Ohio River ranging from \$53 million to \$200 million.

On September 5, 1945, in response to odor concerns at Banklick Creek, Dr. H. Clay White, a Kenton County health officer, recommended the establishment of a sanitation district in Northern Kentucky.

One year later, on September 12, 1946, the Kentucky Commissioner of Sanitation Districts E.C. Dugan issued an order establishing the

boundaries of a proposed sanitation district in Northern Kentucky pursuant to Kentucky Revised Statutes 220, which authorized populous counties within Kentucky to establish such districts. Three months later, Dugan issued an order organizing Sanitation District No. 1 of Campbell and Kenton Counties.

In the decades since SD1 was founded, life in and around the Ohio River has improved tremendously. Each day, SD1 prevents about 75,000 pounds of waste from entering our beloved river and its tributaries.

Our commitment to protecting public health, property and the environment has never been stronger, as evidenced by our ambitious Clean H2040 sewer overflow mitigation program, which aims to completely eliminate typical-year sanitary sewer overflows and dramatically reduce the volume of combined sewer overflows by the year 2040.

Be winter ready: Tips for buying and applying de-icer

Snow and ice removal is an annual winter chore. As snow piles up, the first line of defense is simply to shovel paved areas to keep them clean and prevent ice from forming. When ice does form, it is common to use salt and other types of chemical de-icers to clear walkways and driveways.

Salt and other chemical de-icers help make travel conditions less hazardous, but they can also have an impact on local waterways, landscaping, pets and wildlife. These tips will help you safely battle the icy cold this winter while limiting the environmental impact.

Buying de-icer

Traditional rock salt and some chemical de-icers can injure your pet's paws, damage cars, prematurely age cement and asphalt, and pollute streams. Some alternative de-icers have less of an environmental impact but are just as effective at melting ice from paved walkways and driveways.

Check de-icer labels to ensure the product is safe for your pet, property and the environment.

Applying de-icer

Before applying de-icer, make sure to manually remove as much

snow and ice as possible. De-icer works best when it is applied to thin layers of ice.

Follow the directions on the de-icer container. Using more than what is recommended will not make the ice melt faster. When snow and ice melt, the runoff picks up the excess de-icer and carries it to our streams.

When possible, avoid using salt and other de-icers near trees, shrubs and grasses. The salty water can severely harm or kill a home's landscaping.

If you have questions, email info@SD1.org or call SD1 at 859/578-7450.

SD1



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

Hours of Operation:
Monday-Friday
8 am - 4:30 pm
www.sd1.org

Quit the Littering Calendar Contest

We are excited to announce our winners for the 2022 'Quit the Littering' Calendar Contest! Boone County's K-5 students learned that litter is expensive. Each year, around \$250,000 of our tax dollars are spent cleaning up litter in Boone County; in the state of Kentucky, it's around \$9 million. In 2021, over 1,600 volunteers cleaned up roadsides and parks in Boone County and collected over 31,000 pounds of litter!

OUR WINNERS:



"Keep stuff clean y'all!"

COVER:

Drawing: Sabrina Ziegler, 5th grade, New Haven Elementary

Slogan: Gabby Shierberg, 4th grade, New Haven Elementary

RUNNER UPS:

Drawing: Ella Best, 2nd grade, New Haven Elementary

Drawing: Cecilia Tran, Kindergarten, St. Paul Catholic School

JANUARY:

Drawing: Dylan Canonaco, 3rd grade, New Haven Elementary

Slogan: Brooklyn Adams, 3rd grade, Kelly Elementary

FEBRUARY:

Drawing: Riley Lyons, Kindergarten, New Haven Elementary

Slogan: Code Lenhof, Kindergarten, New Haven Elementary

MARCH:

Drawing: Brody Buschmann, 4th grade, New Haven Elementary

Slogan: Ava Loosli, 5th grade, New Haven Elementary

APRIL:

Drawing: Reece Groneck, 3rd grade, New Haven Elementary

Slogan: Kenzi Wilkinson, 4th grade, New Haven Elementary

MAY:

Drawing: Bella Rains, 1st grade, New Haven Elementary

Slogan: Jasmine Brearton, 1st grade, New Haven Elementary

JUNE:

Drawing: Akshath Pagadipala, 1st grade, New Haven Elementary

Slogan: Abigail Hall, 1st grade, Kelly Elementary

JULY:

Drawing: Eastynn Stone, 1st grade, New Haven Elementary

Slogan: Emma Lynn, 3rd grade, New Haven Elementary

AUGUST:

Drawing: Levi Estey, 2nd grade, New Haven Elementary

Slogan: Aubrey Blackburn, 2nd grade, Thornwilde Elementary

SEPTEMBER:

Drawing: Mallorie Schlueter, 4th grade, St. Paul Catholic School

Slogan: Bella Sargent, 3rd grade, Kelly Elementary

OCTOBER:

Drawing: Steven Hatfield Withrow, 4th grade, New Haven Elementary

Slogan: Keller Tammaro, 5th grade, New Haven Elementary

NOVEMBER:

Drawing: Alex Scott, 5th grade, New Haven Elementary

Slogan: Lilliana Napier, 5th grade, New Haven Elementary

DECEMBER:

Drawing: Mark Dianova, 3rd grade, New Haven Elementary

Slogan: Addison Schneider, 2nd grade, Kelly Elementary

Household Waste Voucher Program

Household waste vouchers are continuing throughout 2022!

Vouchers cover one truckload or one 8-ft trailer load down to Bavarian Waste Landfill for free.

These vouchers do expire June 30, 2022. For more information, please visit www.boonecountyky.org/voucher.

Household Hazardous Waste Collection Event totals

On November 6, 2021, over 350 volunteers safely gathered to collect Northern Kentucky's household hazardous waste — the biggest hazardous waste event in Kentucky! Over 2,500 residents dropped off a total of 256,763 pounds of hazardous waste, all of which were diverted from the landfill.

Big Blue Bins

To find a Big Blue Bin near you, visit www.boonecountyky.org/recycle.

ACCEPTED ITEMS:

- Plastic bottles & jugs
- Glass bottles & jars
- Metal cans
- Mixed paper
- Cardboard



Paper Shredding Days

Get your paper shredded with us! Please REGISTER for a time slot online at www.boonecountyky.org/recycle under 'Events'. This service is for Boone County residents only. Paper Shredding Days are held at the Boone County Recycling Center (3275 Maplewood Drive, Burlington).

- Feb. 26, 8 am - noon
- March 26, 8 am - noon
- June 25, 8 am - noon
- Sept. 24, 8 am - noon
- Dec. 17, 8 am - noon

Boone County Solid Waste Management

Boone County Solid Waste Team

- **Mike Wilson**, Solid Waste Services Supervisor
859/334-3629; mike.wilson@boonecountyky.org
- **Megan Clere**, Community Outreach Coordinator
859/334-3151; mclere@boonecountyky.org
- **Dennis Gosney**, Recycling Operations Manager
859/334-4808; dgosney@boonecountyky.org

Sign up for our newsletter, *The Recycler*, online! Updates for upcoming cleanup events, litter issues, educational opportunities, recycling information, and more can be found on www.boonecountyky.org.

City of Florence upcoming events

ALL EVENTS / INFORMATION SUBJECT TO CHANGE

For additional upcoming events and information, visit the City of Florence website at Florence-ky.gov. Current events and cancellations will be updated on our website and social media.

Easter Egg Eggstravaganza

Sponsored by the Florence Police Department, the City will hold their annual Easter Event on **Saturday, April 16**. The free program is designed for toddlers and children up to age 10. Check our website at Florence-ky.gov for additional information.



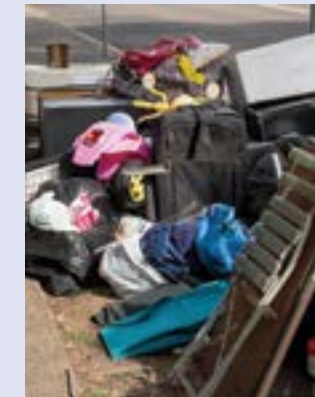
Independence Day Celebration

Join us as we celebrate the nation's birthday on **Sunday, July 3**. For additional information, call 859/647-8177 or check our website at Florence-ky.gov.



Spring Cleanup Program

The week of **April 25 - May 1** is Spring Cleanup week in Florence. Florence residents (must show proof of residency) may bring their unwanted trash and debris (excluding hazardous waste) to the Public Services Maintenance Facility located at 7850 Tanners Lane for disposal. Facility hours are 7 am-7 pm Monday through Friday and 9 am-7 pm on Saturday and Sunday.



Memorial Day Program

The City of Florence will hold their annual Memorial Day Program on **Monday, May 30** at the Boone County Veterans Memorial located on the campus of the Florence Government Center. The program will begin at 11 am and will feature displays by various divisions of the armed services. Call 859/647-8177 for additional information.



City of Florence



F R E Q U E N T L Y C A L L E D N U M B E R S

Administration.....	859/647-8177	Public Services.....	859/647-5416
Finance.....	859/647-5413	Rentals.....	859/647-5425
Fire/EMS Administration.....	859/647-5660	Senior Activity Center.....	859/282-4061
Police Administration.....	859/647-5420	Water/Sewer.....	859/647-5413
Police or Fire/EMS (non-emergency)....	859/371-1234	World of Golf.....	859/371-8255

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

Boone County Schools

A deeper 21st century learning experience

The Boone County School District is in the process of designing our new Strategic Plan. This will include the Portrait of a Graduate of Boone County Schools that will guide our future work and plans. Parents, business leaders and community members are an important part of this process!

Boone County Schools prides itself on parent engagement, parent empowerment and family-school partnerships. While many are already active in their student's education as a parent or just interested as a community member or business leader, we want them to be active with us in designing the future direction of education in the District.

We are holding a series of public meetings over three months. These meetings will be design team meetings where together we will discuss how the world has changed and how that relates to the essential skills and mindsets our students need to thrive in tomorrow's society. From there we will come up with a shared vision that will ultimately drive the creation of our school districts Portrait of a Graduate.

The Portrait of a Graduate is the profile that will be developed from these meetings that will define the



... together we will discuss how the world has changed and how that relates to the essential skills and mindsets our students need to thrive in tomorrow's society.

competencies that our students should possess by the time they graduate from high school. This profile will clearly articulate the process that ensures learning in the classroom and beyond to the profile's elements. Those elements are the systems and structures to be put in place for all students to receive the support that they need to meet learning targets.

Once completed, the Boone County Schools Portrait of a Graduate design will guide our next strategic planning. That will start with state and federal legislation as the framework, analyzing data on student and school performance

students while preparing them with the knowledge and skills they need for a deeper 21st century learning experience.

There are other ways for the community to engage in the process. Watch for correspondence coming after the February 1st meeting on our website and please participate in any surveys you receive. Your input in this process will help shape future generations.

and finally, recommendations from school board members, administrators, teaching staff students and community stakeholders. The Strategic Plan will be a living document that guides decision making at both the district and school levels. Ultimately, the strategic plan design will allow schools to engage with

DESIGN TEAM MEETINGS

Ignite Institute, 6:30 pm
37 Atlantic Ave., Erlanger, KY

Tuesday February 1

Thursday February 24

Tuesday March 15

Tuesday April 19

Boone County Schools

8330 US Highway 42, Florence, KY 41042
Phone: 859/283-1003 • Fax: 859/282-2376



Follow us on social media!

