

WHAT'S *Happening!*

in Boone County, Kentucky

29 years of good news!

Winter/Spring 2020



For information about Boone County Schools, visit www.boone.kyschools.us

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Get outdoors with us!

There are lots of opportunities to get outside and explore Boone County's natural resources! The Boone County Conservation District (BCCDKY) is teaming up with the Boone County Parks Department to host free outdoor family programs every month, and homeschool field trips each season. For registration information and program details, visit bccdky.org/calendar-of-events/.

To schedule a custom program for your school, scout troop, or club, call 859/568-6277.

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

- February 22:** All About Beavers
- March 10:** Birding 101 (Homeschool Program)
- March 20:** Salamander Search
- March 21:** Salamander Search
- April 4:** Reforest NKY
- May 9:** Wildflower Walk
- June 9-12:** Conservation Kids Camp
- June 20:** ORSANCO River Sweep
- June 27:** Boone County Farm Tour



There are lots of opportunities to get outside and explore Boone County's natural resources this spring and summer!

Summer Youth Programs

Middle School families: Save the date! BCCDKY and Boone County Parks will be hosting the second annual **L.E.A.F! Academy** for 13-15 year olds July 6-10. Students in this program will experience leadership, exploration, and fun in Boone County's great outdoors as they hike, snorkel, and adventure through local forests and streams. Registration opens soon and will be limited, so subscribe to BCCDKY's

newsletter or visit <http://bccdky.org/l-e-a-f-academy/> for updates!

Conservation Kids Camp, for student aged 9-12, will be held June 9-12 at Potter's Ranch. Registration is already full, but volunteers aged 16 and up are still welcome! To inquire about volunteering with Conservation Kids Camp or any of our programs, contact Susan at susanbrown@bccdky.org.



L.E.A.F! Academy students learn about local conservation issues in Boone County.

Education grants and scholarships available

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! Grant applications are accepted until funds are no longer available.

College scholarships are also available for Boone County residents enrolled in environmental studies, agriculture, biology, or another conservation-related field.

For grant and scholarship applications and information, visit bccdky.org/grants-and-scholarships/.

Boone County Conservation District

Contact us!

6028 Camp Ernst Road
Burlington, KY 41005

www.bccdky.org
info@bccdky.org

859/586-7903

Follow us!



@bccdky

Avoiding pipe problems caused by invasive plant species

By **Mike Madden**
SD1 Asset Planning Technician

You probably know that trees and other plants require water and nutrients to grow, but did you know that when the ground lacks moisture, their roots will seek out any other available water source? This can result in roots infiltrating and causing damage to leaking or defective sewer pipes or joints.

Some trees, bushes and plants have a more invasive root system than others, so it's important to know what's growing near private or public sewer infrastructure. Soil condition can also affect how far roots will travel.

A number of factors can help determine if you might have a root issue. First and foremost: the age of the pipes. Sewer systems installed in the early 1900s were typically clay pipes in 3-foot sections mortared together at their joints. Over time, the mortar begins to crack and fall apart. In the 1960s, plumbers began using rubber gaskets when putting pipes together, but that didn't address all root issues. It wasn't until the arrival of PVC that root issues started



to diminish. But even PVC isn't fool-proof — root problems can surface if the pipe was installed incorrectly or the joints aren't glued correctly.

Recommended trees and bushes

Regardless of how old your sewer infrastructure is, it is a good idea to stick with trees and bushes that don't have aggressive root systems if planting near sewer infrastructure. The following tree species could pose problems: ash, sweetgum, poplar and cottonwood, oak (usually lowland varieties), locust, willow, basswood, tulip tree, sycamore, and many acer species (red, sugar, Norway, silver maples, and boxelder). The following

bush species also have aggressive root systems: boxwood shrubs, holly bushes and shrubs, and ivy plants.

Trees that are typically recommended near pipes include Amur maple, Japanese maple, dogwood, redbud, and fringetree.

Locating water or drainage lines

Of course, before you can determine the best option, you will need to figure out if there are any water or drainage lines on your property. The first thing you can do is to survey your property for manhole covers, water meter covers, and cleanout caps (used for inspection and access points for sewage lines). If you suspect you may have some pipes in areas near trees, you can request a map from public utilities or call 811 to have utilities marked. You can view a map of SD1 infrastructure at <http://www.sd1.org/CustomerService/GISMaps.aspx>.

If you suspect your pipe could be affected by roots, you can have a plumber run a camera through the pipe to inspect for trouble areas. This service usually costs between \$200

and \$300, which may seem pricey, but keep in mind that if you wait until there is a problem, you may end up with two inches of water in your basement and spend thousands on cleaning and restoration.

A service line inspection will tell you where your line goes and what condition the line is in. This helps to avoid surprises and lets you address small issues before they become big issues.

So to recap — the best way to avoid root issues is to:

- Know where your pipes are and what condition they're in
- Replace old pipes
- Plant trees and bushes that don't have aggressive root systems near pipes, and make sure they have plenty of room to grow.
- If installing new pipe, consider using solid barriers such as plastic, wood, or metal. Chemical barriers such as sulfur, sodium, zinc, borate, salt, or herbicides can also create barriers around pipe.
- If you prefer faster-growing trees and plants, plan to replace them every 8-10 years.

SD1 recognized for innovative collaboration

SD1 has received a Leaders Innovation Forum for Technology (LIFT) Intelligent Water Systems Challenge Award from the Water Environment Federation and Water Research Foundation for supporting innovative excellence in intelligent water system practices and promoting meaningful opportunities for fostering the adoption of smart water technologies.

The award was the result of an international research competition

in which SD1 partnered with APTIM, Covington-based technology firm Global Quality Corp. (GQC), the Metropolitan Sewer District of Greater Cincinnati (MSDGC) and Northern Kentucky University (NKU).

The team, led by GQC President Dr. Sudhir Kshirsagar, evaluated how next-generation telemetry communications, 3-D printing and sensors found in household appliances can be combined with cloud computing to provide wastewater utilities with

low-cost remote sensing alternatives to monitoring sewer overflows and water quality conditions during wet weather events.

The prototype sensors developed by the team are being refined by GQC based upon the team's initial findings and will be tested in real sewer conditions in the near future by SD1. In the meantime, the research will be presented by Dr. Kshirsagar at the World Environmental & Water Resources Congress in May 2020.

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

Household Hazardous Waste Collection Event

On November 2, 2019, over 200 people gathered to collect Northern Kentucky's household hazardous waste — the biggest household hazardous waste event in Kentucky! In six hours, 2,696 residents dropped off over 370,000 pounds of waste, all of which was diverted from the landfill. If you participated this past year, give yourself a pat on the back!

RESULTS	
Paper	30,800 lbs
Cardboard	7,000 lbs
Batteries	12,072 lbs
Flammables/Corrosives/Pesticides/Etc.	32,205 lbs
Propane/Freon/Helium/Etc. Tanks	5,818 lbs
Paint	118,058 lbs
Bulbs	2,970 lbs
Oil/Antifreeze	24,422 lbs
Electronics	141,249 lbs
TOTAL	374,594 lbs

Join us!

Spring Cleanup: April 15 -18
Two locations: Boone County Public Works* & Union Park FKA Union Pool
**Paper shredding only accepted at Boone County Public Works at this time.*

Trash for Cash: April 1-September 30
Get your applications in after March 12!

River Sweep: June 20
Five locations: Giles Conrad Park, Bellevue Bottoms, Boone's Landing, Petersburg Park & Rabbit Hash

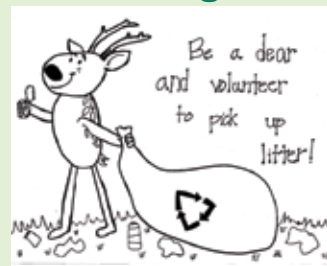
Visit our website for more information about any of these events.

Quit the Littering calendar contest winners

We are excited to announce our 28 winners of the 2020 'Quit the Littering' calendar contest! This annual contest is open to all Boone County elementary-age kids. The goal of this contest is to educate students about litter – where it comes from, why it exists, and how to stop it. With over 400 entries, we were so excited to see the creativity and awareness of our students!

A huge thank you to all of our schools' principals, teachers, staff, and parents for making this possible. A special thank you to our calendar judges, as tough decisions had to be made!

Winning cover art and slogan



"Treat her like a queen, keep Mother Earth clean!"

Cover — Art: Alex Kramer, Shirley Mann Elementary (4th); **Slogan:** Nathan Huff, Shirley Mann Elementary (4th)

Runners Up — Art: Brooklynn Ackeret, St. Paul (3rd); **Art:** Ethan Hupp – Collins Elementary (5th)

January — Art: Hannah Magouyrk – New Haven (1st); **Slogan:** Collin Williams, New Haven (2nd)

February — Art: Jordan Schowalter, North Pointe (K); **Slogan:** Claire Ewing, Burlington (2nd)

March — Art: Max Parsons, Shirley Mann (4th); **Slogan:** Kipton Pohlman – Collins (4th)

April — Art: Kirsten Bradbury, New Haven (4th); **Slogan:** Alexis Pingleton, Stephens (3rd)

May — Art: Josie Kopser, New Haven (5th); **Slogan:** Julio Plumitallo, New Haven (1st)

June — Art: Grace Maldonado Granillo, Collins (3rd); **Slogan:** Brayden Huff,

Shirley Mann (4th)

July — Art: Kimber Rohig, Goodridge (5th); **Slogan:** Samuel Burstein, Longbranch (5th)

August — Art: Savannah Fister, Shirley Mann (3rd); **Slogan:** Kirstin Fox, Thornwilde (1st)

September — Art: Carter Young, New Haven (2nd); **Slogan:** Carter Keyser, New Haven (2nd)

October — Art: Annie Kopser, New Haven (5th); **Slogan:** Cameron Rahshulte, New Haven (4th)

November — Art: Averie McKibben, New Haven (2nd); **Slogan:** Adia Wilcox, Longbranch (3rd)

December — Art: Layan Wazwaz, New Haven (4th); **Slogan:** Karingtyn Bremer, Longbranch (1st)

What's the big deal about litter?

The kids learned – now it's YOUR turn!

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! The estimated cost of litter pickup is 30 cents per piece of litter. With one mile of highway containing approximately 16,000 pieces of litter, that's almost \$5,000 of work!

So... What can I do? There are a few things that can help our case of the litter. Here are some easy ones:

- NEVER LITTER!

- Talk with friends, parents, and anyone who will listen about littering and its effects
- Secure loads and remove any loose trash in your car
- Never throw a cigarette butt on the ground – use a cup as an ash tray instead!
- Pick up litter in your neighborhood – if you don't, who will?
- Don't throw food out the car window – animals are attracted to the scent and usually end up as roadkill or cause accidents

Boone County Solid Waste Management

Boone County Public Works Division of Solid Waste Management

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

Updates for upcoming cleanup events, litter issues, educational opportunities, burn bans, recycling information, and more can be found on www.bigbluebin.com and Public Access TV (Channel 15).

Student Ambassador Program

The City of Florence provides an opportunity for teens entering grades 6-12 to participate in the youth leadership program, Student Ambassadors. This program allows

selected students to represent the city and our community at city-sponsored events. They can enhance their profiles through community service, public speaking, government opera-

tion, and exposure to community organizations. Applications available online at florence-ky.gov on March 1, 2020 and are due March 27, 2020.

DATES TO REMEMBER

For additional information visit the City of Florence website at florence-ky.gov.

February 17
Presidents Day Display

March 10-12
Youth in Government

April 7
Safe Sitter Training

April 11
Easter Egg Hunt (UC Health Stadium)

April 20-26
Spring Clean Up Week

April 25
Great American Clean Up

May 17
Summer Tennis Clinic (first session)

May 19
Florence Public Services Night Out at Florence Mall

Easter Egg Hunt: April 11

This event sponsored by the Florence Police Department in conjunction with the Florence Professional Baseball Team, begins

at 11 am at UC Health Stadium. The event is for toddlers up to age 9. Gates open at 10 am. Take photos of your child with costume characters

from 11 am-noon. The hunt begins at noon and is conducted by age groups. More information is available online at florence-ky.gov.

Memorial Day Parade and Ceremony: May 25

The City of Florence remembers American service personnel who fought to defend our country in past and present wars with a parade and ceremony. The parade begins at 10 am at Boone County High School and ends at the Boone County Veterans Memorial located on the campus

of the Florence Government Center. (No political campaigning allowed in the parade.) Parade registration forms are available at the Florence Government Center or on the City's website at florence-ky.gov. Floats are encouraged in the parade so be creative to win an award for the "Most

Patriotic Float" or group with the "Most Bikes" promoting Bike Month. The ceremony begins at 11 am at the Boone County Veterans Memorial with a tribute to our military personnel who gave the ultimate sacrifice for our freedom. For more information call 859/647-5439.

Florence Family Aquatic Center membership discount

Florence Family Aquatic Center memberships are now available. Purchase your membership through April 30, 2020 and receive a 15% discount. Memberships can be purchased by visiting the City of Florence Finance Department located in the Florence Government Center, 8100 Ewing Boulevard or by visiting florence-ky.gov for additional information.



Join our e-news mailing list

Don't miss out on the latest and greatest Florence news and updates. Receive our e-news items announcing upcoming events and all the happenings and goings-on in your Florence community!

Subscribe today by visiting: florence-ky.gov/enews.



City of Florence



Aquatic Center.....859/647-4619
 Police or Fire/EMS (non-emergency).... 859/371-1234
 Police Administration.....859/647-5420
 Fire/EMS Administration..... 859/647-5660
 Community Events.....859/647-5439
 Public Services.....859/647-5416

Water/Sewer.....859/647-5413
 Administration.....859/647-8177
 Finance Department.....859/647-5413
 Senior Activity Center.....859/282-4061
 World of Golf.....859/371-8255

Boone County 4-H Camp: June 8-12

Boone County's 4-H Camp week for 2020 will be June 8-12 at North Central 4-H Camp in Carlisle KY. The cost for our week long camp this year is \$90 for 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 \$225, still a good deal. 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. Registration packets are available now.

Boone County 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.

Kentucky 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.

North Central 4-H Camp is located near Carlisle KY and is situated on 350 acres of rolling hills and forested land. The camp has a bird blind and hiking trail for nature classes, and a six-acre lake for fishing and canoeing. Other facilities include a lakeside campfire area, rifle and archery ranges, high-ropes challenge course, swimming pool, athletic field, multipurpose building, and a shelter house for camp group activities.

The 4-H Youth Development mission of creating self-directing, productive and contributing members of society is driven home through the camping experience. Camp empowers youth by instilling a willingness to learn. The areas of communication, self-expression, leadership, and community awareness are enhanced through camp.



Decision making and problem management are two areas that are also strengthened at camp. Putting oneself in such a diverse environment also allows for further development of interpersonal relationships with adults and other youth.

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.

Share the road!

Be aware of other drivers, especially those using yellow or orange triangle reflectors or yellow retroreflective tape — this is likely farm equipment that could possibly extend into both lanes of the road. Make a conscious effort to keep yourself and farmers safe while driving. Be mindful that when large trucks with trailers or tractors with wagons turn they need to swing out to allow for space to make the turn; this can turn into a deadly situation if someone

attempts to pass them. Please be patient during these times of the year when farmers are hauling hay, feed and grain on the roadways and always remember to follow traffic laws to make sure everyone makes it home safely!



Boone County Cooperative Extension Service



University of Kentucky
College of Agriculture,
Food and Environment
Cooperative Extension Service

Office Building: 6028 Camp Ernst Rd. • Enrichment Building: 1824 Patrick Drive
Burlington, KY 41005

PH: 859/586-6101 • FAX: 859/586-6107

E-mail: boone.ext@uky.edu



Disabilities accommodated
with prior notification.

From the desk of Gary W. Moore, Boone County Judge/Executive

A decade in review for the County



Gary W. Moore
Boone County Judge/Executive

As we begin 2020 we have all read much in recent weeks regarding the events of the last decade. A new decade does provide a perfect opportunity to “stop, pause, and reflect” on events and activities over a longer period of time. It is entirely appropriate, if not beneficial, for local communities to conduct the same assessment and look back on the events of the prior decade. Reflecting on accomplishments, reminding oneself of continuing challenges and needs, and assessing the health and trajectory of our community are all valuable and worthwhile exercises.

A review of the County’s baseline metrics from 2010 to 2020 looks as seen in the infographic to the left.

These metrics represent fundamental indicators regarding the health, condition, and overall well-being of the County as a community. The data suggests that our county is extremely healthy and fit, with a positive outlook and expectation for continuing success.

While our focus should always be on the future and not the past, it is helpful to reflect on some of our accomplishments over the last decade, affirming the results of our efforts, policies and priorities. While some of these accomplishments represent exclusive County control and ownership, many are the result of collaboration, cooperation and effective regional partnerships, aided by the policies and practices of the Boone County Fiscal Court. Some of the more noteworthy accomplishments during the past decade would include the following:

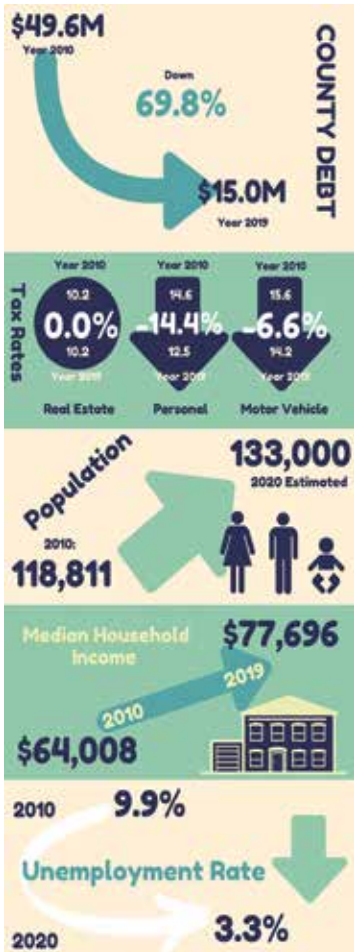
- The construction and opening of Aero Parkway in 2012, the

	Economic Development Projects	Private Capital Investment	New Jobs
2019	11	\$ 65,654,608	350
2018	12	\$ 99,719,579	438
2017	16	\$ 1,750,551,134	3,667
2016	14	\$ 268,218,144	865
2015	21	\$ 442,957,000	2,120
2014	15	\$ 191,247,054	1,377
2013	16	\$ 135,580,991	992
2012	14	\$ 168,116,360	2,942
2011	18	\$ 290,068,000	1,139
2010	14	\$ 188,163,245	1,619
TOTAL	151	\$ 3,600,276,115	15,509

largest transportation project ever managed by the County, that improved traffic flow in the middle portion of the County and introduced significant development opportunities in and around the airport,

- The construction of the Single Point Urban Interchange (S.P.U.I.) in 2014 by the state transportation cabinet at the intersection of Burlington Pike and North Bend Road, greatly enhancing the operational efficiency of one of the County’s most congested intersections,
- The construction of one of the largest public infrastructure projects in the history of the County in the Western Regional Treatment Plan and Conveyance Tunnel, representing a total investment from SD1 of 180 million dollars,

- In late 2018 the County secured a AAA bond rating by Moodys Investment Services (the highest credit rating for bonds available), the only county in the state to achieve such a designation,
- This spring, the County in partnership with Campbell and Kenton Counties, will place into operation a 20 million dollar state-of-the-art public safety communication system that will greatly enhance emergency communication capability for first responders across the region,
- In the last 10 years Boone County has partnered with local and state agencies to complete over 150 economic development projects totaling over \$3.6 billion in capital investment, creating more than 15,000 new jobs.



Continued on page 8

A DECADE IN REVIEW FOR THE COUNTY, continued from page 7

- The County conducted two separate Citizen Satisfaction Surveys during the last decade, in partnership with Northern Kentucky University, in a concerted effort to engage our residents and commit to continuous improvement as an organization.

The last decade was not just about accomplishments and success; some of the challenges along the way included the following:

- The decade began at the tail end of the Great Recession and Subprime Mortgage Crisis from 2008-2010. The County experienced 6 consecutive quarters of payroll tax decline and zero annual tax base growth in several early years of the decade. Fortunately, adequate reserves and solid fiscal policies resulted in limited impact, and early recovery, for our county.
- Shrinking state gas tax receipts, while good for the consumer, resulted in cuts to local government in funding for road maintenance, along with a reduction in state resources available for transportation and highway investment. Fortunately, as we begin a new decade, the state has made significant commitments in future projects for our county (approximately 200 million dollars) including many state route upgrades, a new I-275 interchange (Graves Road) and two new I-75 interchange reconstruction projects (Mt. Zion and Richwood Road), and
- 2015 was marked by the announcement that Toyota North America engineering and manufacturing headquarters would be



The new Single Point Urban Interchange at the intersection of Burlington Pike and North Bend Road greatly improved the efficiency of this intersection.

leaving our county, taking with it over 1200 high paying jobs. The loss of the company, while regrettable, has been followed with many new projects and expansions that have more than replaced the lost jobs and revenue. Toyota graciously donated one of its campuses that is the home of the new Ignite Institute for science and technology educational facility.

The upcoming decade will present challenges that the County will need to focus on and address including:

- The management of growth in our community that aligns private investment and job growth with required infrastructure and preserves quality of life for our residents,
- Encouraging a local economy that is diverse, sustainable and

provides the type of quality jobs that can be aligned with the skills of our residents,

- Developing policies and partnerships that can extend essential services (e.g. public water, high speed internet, etc.) in unserved areas without inviting urban sprawl, and

- Continual focus on the delivery of core public services that our residents expect such as public safety, transportation, recreation and planning.

Just as the past has affirmed, the next decade will once again be full of opportunities for success, challenges, and no doubt some surprises. While nothing is guaranteed, a track record of success is a powerful asset and contagious mindset. I believe our county is fully prepared, well-positioned, and most importantly hungry for the same type of success and upward trajectory that we have experienced during the last decade. The leadership of the elected body, power of regional cooperation, and a community of stockholders expecting continuing dividends from return on investment in their county will continue to drive us toward this destination. On behalf of all of your elected officials and County staff, we will continue to pledge our very best effort as we work toward this end. Let's all keep working together to make the next decade even better than the last!

Sincerely,

Gary W. Moore

Boone County Fiscal Court

Boone County Fiscal Court

Gary W. Moore, Judge/Executive
Cathy Flaig, Commissioner
Dr. Charlie Kenner, Commissioner
Jesse Brewer, Commissioner

2950 Washington St.
P.O. Box 900
Burlington, KY 41005-0900
phone: 859/334-2100
fax: 859/334-3105

Boone County Parks and Recreation wants your input!

Envision Boone County Parks 2030

Boone County is beginning the process of preparing a Parks and Recreation Master Plan to improve opportunities and services for our residents and visitors. We need your input to determine priorities for the future.

Follow the links below to participate! (Links are also on our website):

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/BCParks>
<https://bcparcs.mindmixer.com/>

PUBLIC MEETINGS:

Tuesday, Feb. 18, 6-7:30 pm — Hebron Library
Wednesday, Feb. 19, 6-7:30 pm — Walton Senior Center
Thursday, Feb. 20, 6-7:30 pm — Main Public Library
Tuesday, March 3, 6-7:30 pm — Ferguson Center in Burlington
Wednesday, March 4, 6-7:30 pm — Scheben Library in Union

For more information please visit our website at www.boonecountyky.org/parks or contact the Parks Office at 859/334-2117.

Attention landlords!

Having trouble renting your apartment or house? Why not partner with the Boone County Assisted Housing Department to assist you? Whether you have a single family dwelling, a multifamily building, or an apartment community, we are always looking for more properties. There are advantages to leasing your property to someone with a Housing Choice Voucher:

- All potential clients have to pass a criminal background check prior to lease up.
- Our portion of the rent is always paid on time via direct deposit.
- We inspect the unit prior to a participant moving in and annually thereafter, which will help to maintain your investment.
- Becoming a Section 8 landlord has proven to be a rewarding



Becoming a Section 8 landlord has proven to be a rewarding experience to help families who need assistance.

experience to help families who need assistance.

Please contact Ruth Tanner at 859/334-2105 for further informa-

tion. We will be glad to work with you.

Boone Links Golf and Event Center

Boone Links Golf and Event Center is the perfect setting for your special day. A stunning renovation 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 at 859/334-4853.



Don't like playing golf in the cold?

It's always 70 degrees in our simulator lounges!

Simulator rates are \$35 per hour on weekends, holidays and weekdays

after 3 pm; \$30 per hour on weekdays before 2 pm.

Call 859/371-7550 to reserve or visit our website at www.boonecountygolf.com.



Enjoy practicing or playing golf no matter the season or weather. Call 859/371-7550 or visit www.boonecountygolf.com to make a reservation for our simulator lounge.

Boone County Youth Cabinet

The Boone County Youth Cabinet (BCYC) is a leadership program for students in their junior year of high school who reside in Boone County. Established by the Boone County Fiscal Court in 2002, the BCYC helps students develop in the areas of leadership and civic responsibility by offering youth perspectives to the Judge-Executive and Fiscal Court; encouraging students to become familiar with the legislative process, the judicial process, and public service opportunities; engaging them in decision-making and service-learning; and

offering youth opportunities to influence public policy.

BCYC begins with breakfast and team building in August and draws to a close in April. Approximately once a month, students are provided access to a variety of state and county officials, in order to learn from them, ask questions, and make suggestions. Members also participate in a service-learning project around the annual homeless census in January.

Applications for the 2020-2021 BCYC are available on the Boone County Human Services website (https://www.boonecountky.org/departments/human_services/

[boone_county_youth_cabinet.aspx](https://www.boonecountky.org/departments/human_services/boone_county_youth_cabinet.aspx)) and are due by 4:30 pm on March 31. You can also find us on Facebook and Twitter!



How we did — 2019 in review



Population Served

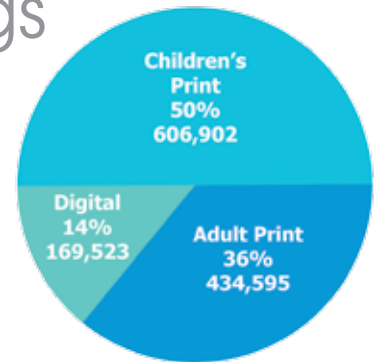
130,611

BCPL Card Holders

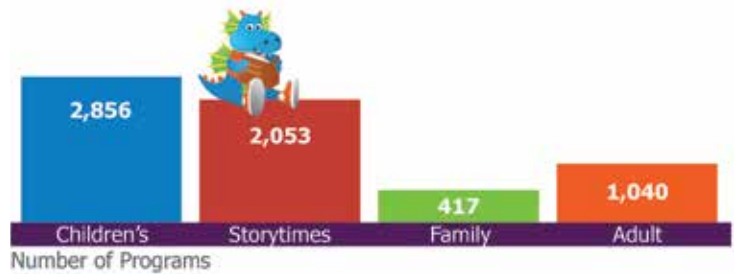
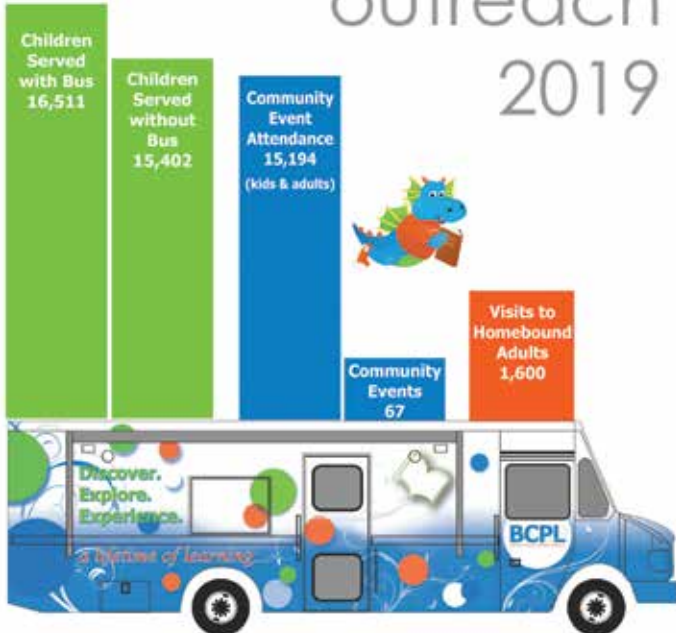
80,005

how things moved in 2019

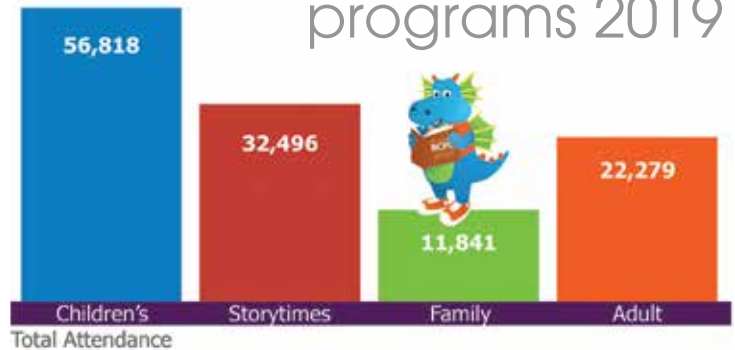
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University of Kentucky College of Medicine welcomes inaugural class

The University of Kentucky College of Medicine welcomed its first class of medical students who will pursue education at its new Northern Kentucky Campus. The College of Medicine gathered 35 students this school year for the inaugural class's White Coat Ceremony, an annual event that commemorates the beginning of medical training. UK partnered with St. Elizabeth and Northern Kentucky University to make this expansion possible.

"These three institutions are working together to transform health science education and better prepare future healthcare workers," said Steven Haist, MD, associate dean for the Northern Kentucky campus. "Through this partnership we can help advance medical education and access to health care within our state."

The Northern Kentucky site comes one year after the UK College of Medicine opened a campus in Bowling Green, Ky., through a partnership with Med Center Health and Western Kentucky University.

The four-year medical school campus in Northern Kentucky will complement the educational programs offered at the UK College of Medicine's sites in Lexington,



The University of Kentucky College of Medicine welcomes medical students at its new Northern Kentucky campus during the inaugural class's White Coat Ceremony.

Morehead, and Bowling Green. Onsite faculty will have UK College of Medicine appointments, teach in small groups and provide simulated and standardized patient experiences with live-streamed lectures delivered from the Lexington Campus.

"Seeing the first cohort of medical students welcomed into the UK College of Medicine is an important moment on our campus," said NKU President Ashish Vaidya. "The col-

laboration with UK and St. Elizabeth to establish the Northern Kentucky medical school campus addresses the physician shortage in the region and aligns with our commitment to serve the needs of the area and address a critical population health issue."

"We are thrilled to partner with the University of Kentucky and Northern Kentucky University to invest in the future of health in our community," added Garren Colvin,

President and CEO of St. Elizabeth. "With this partnership we will be able to provide additional benefits to both organizations as well as the region by directly assisting in medical school support and recruitment for the Northern Kentucky Campus. Together, this is another step to help lead Northern Kentucky to become one of the healthiest communities in America."

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 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

St. Elizabeth expands Lung Cancer Screening Program

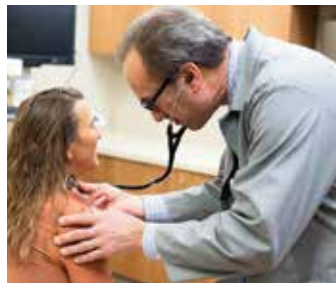
Since its 2013 launch, St. Elizabeth's successful Lung Cancer Screening Program has taken direct aim at the disease in the Northern Kentucky region, completing more than 11,000 screenings and identifying over 100 lung cancers under Stage III, when it's at its most treatable. But to the Thoracic Oncology Disease Management and Lung Cancer Screening Teams at St. Elizabeth, that wasn't enough. Noticing a screening gap in those current or former smokers who may be at risk but do not meet typical insurance screening guidelines, St. Elizabeth has decided to expand the Lung Cancer Screening Program with a retail option. The goal is simple — to reach even more people at risk, catch cancer even earlier and open the door to treatment.

The Retail Lung Cancer Screening Program is the first of its kind in the region, featuring an affordable \$99 low-dose CT scan that can identify earliest stage lung cancers for people ages 50–80 years old who fit the following criteria:

- Current or former smoker.
- Have a 20-pack year or greater smoking history (equivalent of one pack of cigarettes per day for 20 years).
- Have at least one additional risk factor such as COPD, pulmonary fibrosis, history of other smoking-related cancers or family history of lung cancer.
- Currently lack any overt signs of lung cancer, such as unexplained weight loss or coughing up blood.

Typically, insurance carriers require those eligible for a lung cancer screening to be a current smoker or someone who has quit within the last 15 years, between 55-77 years old with a 30-plus pack-year history. The St. Elizabeth Retail Lung Cancer Screening Program broadens the requirements to reach a wider audience of smokers and former smokers.

To lead this expansion for the Lung Cancer Screening Program, Dr. Michael Gieske, a primary care physician at St. Elizabeth Physicians,



More than 11,000 lung cancer screenings have been completed since 2013.

has been named Medical Director of Lung Cancer Screening.

Lung cancer screenings are available at one of six convenient locations in Covington, Edgewood, Florence, Ft. Thomas, Grant County and Hebron. To determine if you are a candidate for lung cancer screening or the new retail lung cancer screening option, contact your primary care provider or visit stelizabeth.com/lung to take a free quiz. Call the St. Elizabeth Lung Screening Nurse Navigators at 859/301-4072 for additional questions.



The American Legion Riders held its 10th annual Teddy Bear Ride to benefit children in the emergency room at St. Elizabeth Florence. Since its inception, more than 30,000 bears have been donated, creating 30,000 smiles on a child's face.

St. Elizabeth named Best Hospital by U.S. News and World Report

U.S. News & World Report released its annual Best Hospitals rankings. St. Elizabeth Edgewood has been named a best hospital in the recent rankings, climbing to #2 overall in the state of Kentucky. Now in its 30th year, the rankings recognize hospitals that excel in treating the most challenging patients.

The Best Hospitals specialty rankings assess hospital performance in 16 specialties. The process is represented by two factors. One is a hospital's

ability to develop and sustain a system that delivers high-quality care as determined by the surveys of board-certified physicians, and the other is overall patient experience.

"We have always placed emphasis on delivering excellent overall patient experiences by providing high quality care," said Garren Colvin, President and CEO of St. Elizabeth Healthcare. "Being named second overall in the state of Kentucky is a prestigious honor which exemplifies outstanding

and extraordinary performance by St. Elizabeth's physicians, associates, and volunteers."

The measures to be ranked include hospital volume, nurse staffing and other resources that define the hospital environment. The data source used for most measures is the American Hospital Association annual survey. Additional resources include the National Cancer Institute's list of NIH-designated cancer centers and the American Nurses Credential-

ing Center's roster of Nurse Magnet hospitals.

U.S. News publishes Best Hospitals to help guide patients who need a high level of care because they face a particularly difficult surgery, a challenging condition, or added risk because of other health problems or age. Objective measures such as patient survival and safety data, the adequacy of nurse staffing levels and other data largely determined the rankings in most specialties.

The Northern Kentucky Addiction Helpline

The Northern Kentucky Office of Drug Control Policy provides resources to individuals and families regarding substance use 24 hours a day, 7 days a week through the Northern Kentucky Addiction Helpline. The Helpline consists of trained, professional and compassionate staff who are knowledgeable in navigating local treatment services and resources to assist callers. Services offered by the Helpline include:

- Frequently Asked Questions
- Treatment placement assistance
- Casey's Law support
- Linkage to recovery and reentry services
- Diversion and Quick Response Team (QRT) support

The Northern Kentucky Addiction Helpline operates with the understanding that substance use disorder is a disease that affects individuals and families. It also impacts the community's health and public safety. According to the Mayo Clinic (2017), a substance use disorder is a disease that affects a person's brain and behavior, and leads to an inability to control the use of a legal or illegal drug, medication, and/or alcohol. Through this lens, the Helpline provides compassionate, trauma-informed, person-centered care to each caller, understanding that callers and their families have very complex barriers to substance use treatment and recovery.

The Helpline, through community partnerships, can assist callers with inpatient and outpatient treatment options, often for the same day. The Helpline also works to navigate other barriers callers face, including homelessness, employability, mental and physical health concerns,

broken family relationships, and incarceration. Above all, the Helpline believes there is **NO WRONG DOOR INTO TREATMENT.**

The Northern Kentucky Addiction Helpline also serves as a regional hub for diversion programs, and provides outreach and support through Pre-Arrest Diversion and Quick Response Teams. Through this initiative, Helpline Care Coordinators partner with local first responders by visiting the homes of

those who have overdosed and their families, providing substance use treatment and other resources. These visits give the Helpline the ability to connect community members who are in need of treatment to same day detoxification and inpatient services.

The Northern Kentucky Addiction Helpline is funded by Boone, Campbell and Kenton County Fiscal Courts, and St. Elizabeth Healthcare. Oversight of the Northern Kentucky Addiction Helpline is provided by

the Board of Directors, which is comprised of members from each of the funding entities, staff from the Northern Kentucky Health Department and the Northern Kentucky Drug Strike Force, and legislative liaison, State Representative Kim Moser.

If you or a loved one have questions and/or are in need of treatment services, please call the Northern Kentucky Addiction Helpline at 859/415-9280.

Recovery is possible.
Speak to someone 24/7
about your treatment
options.

859/415-9280



Hepatitis C — Are you at risk?

The Northern Kentucky Health Department recently declared an end to the hepatitis A outbreak affecting our region; however, there is another kind of hepatitis causing concern in our region – hepatitis C. Acute hepatitis C rates in Northern Kentucky (NKY) are among the highest in the nation. NKY makes up 10.3% of Kentucky’s population, yet has 36.1% of the hepatitis C cases in the Commonwealth. In 2015, acute hepatitis C rates in NKY were:

- 3.5 times higher than the rate of the rest of Kentucky
- 11.9 times higher than the rate of the entire United States

Hepatitis C is a liver infection caused by the hepatitis C virus (HCV). Hepatitis C can range from a mild illness lasting a few weeks, to a serious, lifelong illness. Approximately 75%-85% of people who become infected with HCV will develop a chronic infection. The virus is spread by contact with infected blood. Today, most people become infected with HCV by sharing needles or other equipment to prepare or inject drugs. However, people born from 1945–1965 are also at increased risk for hepatitis C.

Liver damage from hepatitis C can be prevented by early diagnosis and timely access to care and treatment. Unlike hepatitis A and B, there is no vaccine to prevent hepatitis C; however, hepatitis C can be treated and cured!

Testing and treatment for hepatitis C

NKY Health has a new program which provides free testing, as well as referrals for those who need treatment. For a free hepatitis C test, call to make an appointment at your

NEARLY **2.4 MILLION** AMERICANS ARE LIVING WITH HEPATITIS C*

1/2 MAY NOT KNOW THEY'RE INFECTED†

Visit www.cdc.gov/hepatitis for more information

*Among adults aged ≥18 years
†Based on the 2014 study, "Prevalence of Chronic Hepatitis C Virus Infection in the United States: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis"

NKYHEALTH
NORTHERN KENTUCKY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

CDC

county health center (below). For more information, a list of free community testing events, or to schedule a community testing event, call 859/363-2090.

Boone County Health Center
7505 Burlington Pike
Florence, KY 41042
859/363-2060

For more information on hepatitis C, please visit <https://nkyhealth.org/individual-or-family/individual-health/addiction-response/hepatitis-c/> or <https://www.cdc.gov/hepatitis/hcv/>.

NKY Health

NKYHEALTH
NORTHERN KENTUCKY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Boone Co. 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

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

TANK

TANK System Redesign

For nearly 50 years, TANK's network has remained relatively the same, even as our community has changed in many ways. It's time to better align transit services for the Northern Kentucky of today and the future. The redesign has been underway for the last year.

Recommendations and a proposal for how the system might look are now available. Visit www.tankbus.org/redesign to view the proposed changes to the TANK network. The redesigned network will bring many changes to TANK service. Those changes are not expected to go into effect until late in 2020. TANK has

received much feedback on the proposal. The staff and consultant team are working to make any possible adjustments this spring. The final plan will be posted on the TANK website when it is approved by the TANK Board of Directors. Once the final plan is determined, a full implementation plan will be communicated so that passengers will know when they can expect changes to their route.

The planning process is nearly complete, but the redesign work is still very much in process. Stay tuned!



Download the Transit mobile app for simple, reliable, real-time data to help you plan and pay for your next trip on TANK.

Boone County TANK Routes:

Local

#1 Dixie Highway/Florence

Express

#1X	Houston Road/ Mineola Pike Express	#32X	Burlington Express
#2X	Airport Express	#35X	East-West Express
#22X	Richwood/ Walton Express	#39X	Petersburg Rd/ South Hebron Express
#28X	Empire Dr./ Industrial Rd Express	#40X	Worldwide Blvd/ North Hebron Express
		#42X	Florence Hub Express

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!

