

WHAT'S

20
years!

Happening!

in Kenton County, Kentucky TM

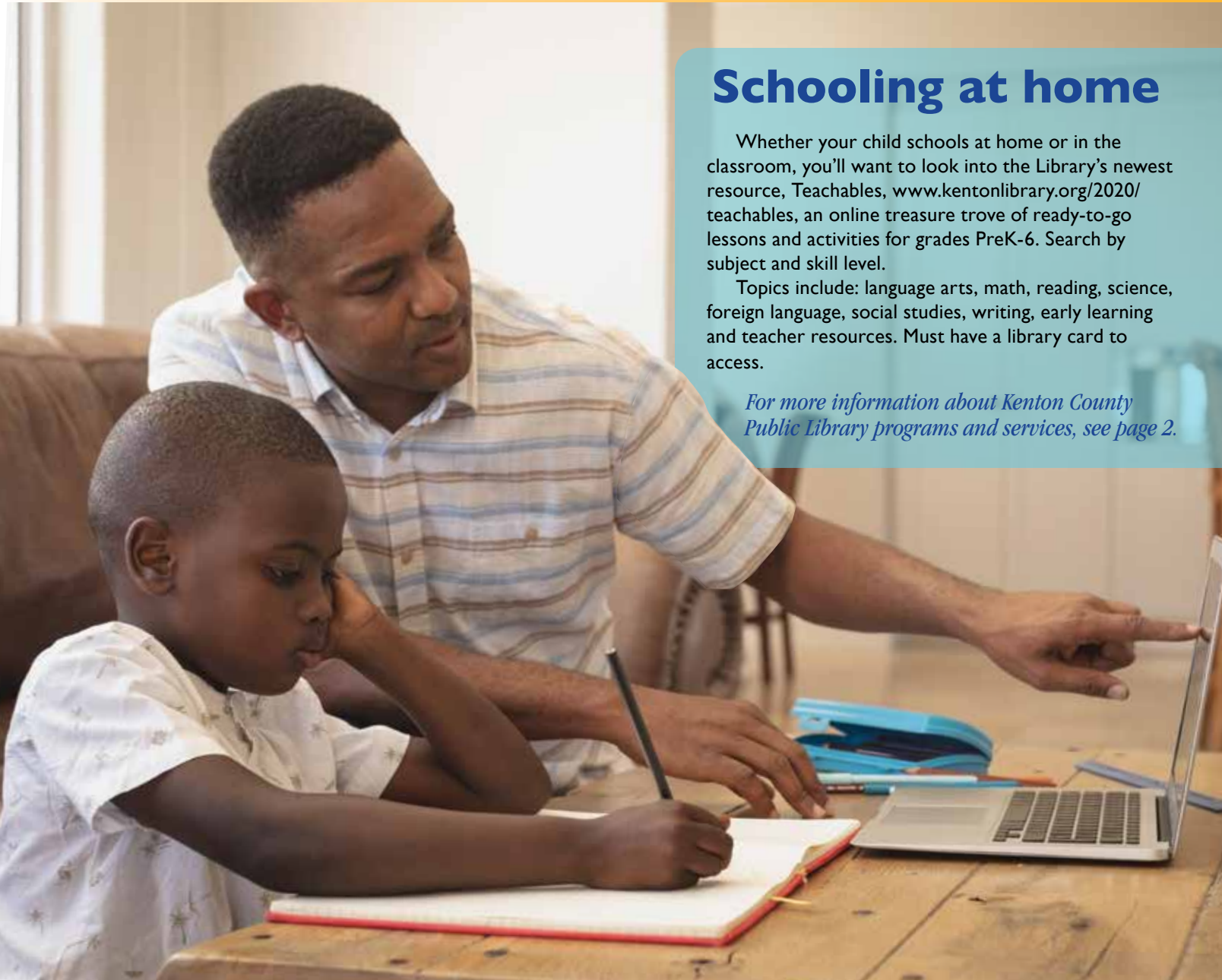
Fall/Winter 2020

Schooling at home

Whether your child schools at home or in the classroom, you'll want to look into the Library's newest resource, Teachables, www.kentonlibrary.org/2020/teachables, an online treasure trove of ready-to-go lessons and activities for grades PreK-6. Search by subject and skill level.

Topics include: language arts, math, reading, science, foreign language, social studies, writing, early learning and teacher resources. Must have a library card to access.

For more information about Kenton County Public Library programs and services, see page 2.



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Library programs and services

Programs

The Library has many online and Facebook live programs available, including Yoga, Spanish storytime, tech tips, preschool storytimes, how-to sessions, presentations for job seekers and more. Visit the events page for online programs or the Library's Facebook and YouTube pages for dates, times and past program recordings.

This fall watch for details on the drive-in movie program, trunk or treat and a night of fright with our drive thru haunted house!

Summer Reading Celebration

Enter to win prizes for reading through August 31. There are options for children, teens and adults. You can download the Library's app to track your reading online to participate. Visit www.kentonlibrary.org/src.

Grow with Google

Do you need to learn how to use email, or use electronic calendars, create a basic resume, or figure out how to look for jobs? If you said yes to any of those questions then you'll want to check out the Library's Grow with Google classes. The free classes are available online at home or you can use a Library computer. Each session covers a different topic. Visit the Library's events calendar for dates, times and registration information.

Career & Job Services

If you are looking for a job, check out the online resources and programs available at the Kenton County Public Library. The Library offers options for all levels of job seekers, from entry-level to professional. This includes but is not limited to:

Monthly Job Search Assistance Programs:

- Help with resumes, cover letters, personal branding, interview preparation
- Workshops to analyze your unique transferable skills & strengths to identify new career options
- Job Search Support Group for professionals in career transition
- Classes to update your computer and software skills
- Classes to get an email account, use an electronic calendar, learn to search for jobs
- Access to a wide variety of community job search resources

Further information can be found at the Job Search Central link on the Library's website.

Homebound delivery

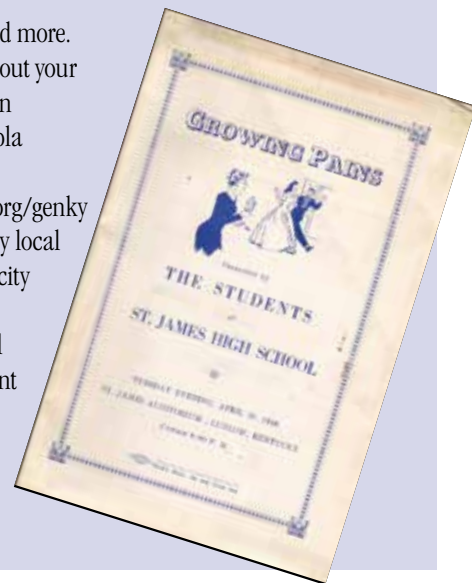
During this pandemic, we have all learned how important it is to stay engaged both socially (from a distance) and mentally. If you or a loved-one are unable to visit the Library, you may qualify for delivery service.

Is Grandma lost? Find her with local history & genealogy resources!

Use your library card to search for your ancestors in online newspaper databases including the Historical Cincinnati Enquirer, Kentucky Post, Chicago Defender, Historical Louisville Courier Journal and more.

Read a local author or about your hometown by downloading an e-book or audiobook on Hoopla or OverDrive.

Visit www.kentonlibrary.org/genky to discover Northern Kentucky local history, including indexes to city directories, Kenton County coroner's reports, high school keepsakes like commencement and sports brochures, church records from the past and more.



Residents of Kenton County qualify if:

- They have a disability or medical condition which precludes them from visiting a library. A note of medical confirmation stating these limitations may be required.
- They are a caretaker of a person with a disability or medical condition and their caretaking schedule precludes them from visiting a library.

Call 859/962-4062 or email homebound@kentonlibrary.org with questions.

Get a library card

Free to anyone living in the Greater Cincinnati/NKY area and all residents of Kentucky. Go to www.kentonlibrary.org/library-card

New Hours:

Monday through Friday:
9 am to 7 pm*
Saturday: 10 am to 5 pm
Sunday: Closed

*The first hour of each weekday is reserved for seniors age 60+ and those higher risked individuals.

The Local History & Genealogy Department will have the same hours as the Covington Branch.

Kenton County Public Library



All three branches: 859/962-4000

Covington Branch Library 502 Scott Blvd., Covington, KY 41011

Durr Branch Library 1992 Walton-Nicholson Rd., Independence, KY 41051

Erlanger Branch Library 401 Kenton Lands Rd., Erlanger, KY 41018

Stay Connected! Follow the Library on these sites:



A Column by Judge/Executive Kris Knochelmann



Kris Knochelmann
Kenton County Judge/Executive

“Whatever adversity we face, we will confront it together and work relentlessly to overcome it, as all great communities do!”

Adversity seems to be the theme of 2020, but I have faith that we will emerge on the other side of this time stronger and better than ever. Your team at Kenton County is working toward that end, and will remain working every day with that as our goal.

I want to start by thanking Garren Colvin and the entire St. Elizabeth Healthcare team. There’s much we still don’t know about COVID-19, but one thing is clear – a well-managed hospital system in your community is absolutely critical to fighting this pandemic. Keeping your ICU functioning at the highest level, and taking care of your frontline staff so they can provide the best possible care to the community, is key to keeping people healthy and alive. By my observations, St. Elizabeth Healthcare has done this for Northern Kentucky, and Garren Colvin has been a tremendous leader in the effort.

We also need to thank the other critical members of our COVID-19 team. From the Northern Kentucky Health Department to our First-Responders to our Emergency Management personnel, and numerous others, so many men and women

worked tirelessly in difficult circumstances to keep our people safe.

Finally, I want to thank our community. Yes, it is disconcerting sometimes to see folks wearing a mask around their chin, with their nose and/or mouth uncovered, but, in the whole, the numbers reflect that our people have so far exercised appropriate judgment when managing their lives in the face of this invisible threat. I trust the members of our community and believe they’ll likewise continue to adjust as circumstances develop to keep themselves, their families, and their friends and neighbors safe from this virus.

And special thanks to County Clerk Gabrielle Summe and her team for executing a well-run primary election on June 23rd. A hallmark of our democracy is that we carry out elections no matter the obstacles, whether they be wars or pandemics, and Gabe Summe and her team made it happen for all of Kenton County this June. As you’ll read elsewhere in *What’s Happening*, we have a much greater challenge this November for our presidential election. We need poll workers and, if your health permits

and you’re so inclined, it would be great to add you to Gabe’s election day team.

As we continue to work through the impact of COVID-19, Kenton County government remains open for services. While we adjusted processes for some of these operations, our teams continue to develop solutions to maintain safety and meet

your service needs. Our priority is to keep you and our employees safe while conducting county operations. Thank you for your patience and understanding as we learn to work, live, and do business while fighting the COVID-19 pandemic.

I count myself as blessed to work every day with Commissioners Jon Draud, Joe Nienaber and Beth Sewell. Like you, they love our country and community, and are committed to serving it. I am honored you placed your trust in me to serve as Kenton County Judge/Executive, and will work hard for this county. Whatever adversity we face, we will confront it together and work relentlessly to overcome it, as all great communities do!

Kenton County Judge/Executive

Kenton County Fiscal Court

Fiscal Court

Judge/Executive Kris Knochelmann

Kris.Knochelmann@KentonCounty.org

Commissioner Beth Sewell - District 1

Beth.Sewell@KentonCounty.org

Commissioner Dr. Jon Draud - District 2

Jon.Draud@KentonCounty.org

Commissioner Joe Nienaber - District 3

Joe.Nienaber@KentonCounty.org

Administration: 859/392-1400

CONNECT WITH US!



[Facebook.com/Kentoncounty](https://www.facebook.com/Kentoncounty)



[Twitter.com/Kentoncounty](https://twitter.com/Kentoncounty)



[Instagram.com/Kentoncountyky](https://www.instagram.com/Kentoncountyky)

NKY Household Hazardous Waste Collection Event

Saturday, November 7, 9 am-2 pm • UC Health Stadium, 7950 Freedom Way, Florence

The NKY Household Hazardous Waste Action Coalition and the Kentucky Division of Waste Management partner to offer the annual Household Hazardous Collection Event for residents of Boone, Campbell, and Kenton Counties.

ACCEPTED ITEMS:

- Paint (limit of TEN cans per vehicle)
- Hazardous materials (flammables, combustibles, corrosives, fuel, kerosene, pesticides, aerosal cans, etc.)
- Oil/antifreeze
- Light bulbs
- Electronics (computers, monitors, keyboards, cell phones, etc.)
- TV's (limit of 2 per vehicle)
- Propane tanks (20 lbs. only)
- Toner/ink
- Batteries

NOT ACCEPTED:

- Appliances (please contact your County Solid Waste Coordinator for disposal)
- Fertilizers
- Mercury-containing devices
- Medications or prescription pills
- Tires

Questions? Call your County Solid Waste Coordinator before the event day. Learn more by visiting: www.NKYHHW.org

Please bring a completed registration form with you to the event on November 7. This will help with the flow of traffic and will reduce your wait time.

HOUSEHOLD WASTE COLLECTION EVENT REGISTRATION FORM

November 7, 2020 9 a.m. – 2 p.m.

City you live in: _____

County you live in: _____

Please place a check in the box next to the type of waste you will be recycling (select all that apply).

- Paint**
(All types – limited to 10 cans per vehicle)
- Hazardous Materials**
(Flammables, combustibles, corrosives, fuel, kerosene, pesticides, aerosol cans, etc.)
- Oil/Antifreeze**
(All types)
- Bulbs**
(4ft. & 8ft. fluorescent tubes, etc.)
- Electronics**
(TVs – limit of 2 per vehicle, computers, DVD players, etc.)
- Propane Tanks**
(20 lbs. only)
- Toner/Ink**
(Color and black and white)
- Batteries**

Please bring this completed form with you to the recycling event.

Sick of litter? Pick-it-up and earn cash!

Kenton County's new Trash for Cash Program

Kenton County's new Trash for Cash Program is a litter pick-up fundraiser for non-profit organizations (501C). Funding for this program comes from Kentucky Division of

Waste Management and Annual Litter Abatement Grant Program. Funds are limited each year and it's first come, first serve.

For more information, please contact the Kenton County Solid Waste Management Coordinator at 859/392-1919.

NKY Waste Tire Collection

Date and location to be decided

The Waste Tire Collection Program, established in 1998, is part of the Energy and Environment Cabinet's ongoing effort to rid Kentucky's landscape of waste tires. During a waste tire collection event, individuals can drop off their unwanted tires at a specific location within their county at no cost. Date and location will be determined in August. Please check website for updates on the Kenton County website: <https://www.kentoncounty.org/239/Solid-Waste-Management>



The Waste Tire Collection Program is part of an ongoing effort to rid Kentucky's landscape of waste tires.

Fall Clean-up

October 1-3, 8 am-4 pm

*Kenton County Public Works
420 Independence Station Rd.
Independence, KY 41051*

Kenton County residents only (you may be asked to show proof of residency). No businesses including side junk/ construction removal businesses are permitted.

ACCEPTED ITEMS:

- Appliances (Freon containing appliances accepted -no food waste inside)
- Furniture
- Yard debris
- Household trash
- Scrap metal
- Electronics (anything with a power cord, one TV per vehicle)
- Vehicle and rechargeable batteries
- 20lb propane grill tank
- Oil and Antifreeze Accepted (containers must be labeled)
- Tires are accepted, (8) tires free, (8+) \$3.00 fee per tire

- Recyclables (Cardboard, Aluminum, Plastics #1 & #2)
- All fluids (Oil/Gas) must be removed from lawn equipment

NOT ACCEPTED:

- Hazardous materials
- Pesticides
- Paint/Stains
- Liquid Waste
- Fire Extinguishers
- Tanks/Cylinders
- Fluorescent Bulbs
- Shingles
- Concrete, Brick, or Dirt.
- No junk vehicles (including boats)

Due to COVID Guidelines, all participants are required to unload their vehicle. No County assistance will be provided.



Kenton County Solid Waste Management Coordinator

Melissa Grandstaff
859/392-1919
melissa.grandstaff@kentoncounty.org

Kenton County Animal Services — Moving forward and saving lives



“Unadoptable cats are no longer being brought into the shelter, which is a major contributing factor in the decrease in euthanasia. The Community Cat Diversion Program gives us another life saving option.”

- Becky Reiter, KCAS Director

with a grant from the Joanie Bernard Foundation.

The Community Cat Diversion Program involves trapping, spaying/neutering, ear tipping, and returning cats back to their home territory. The purpose of this program is to create safer communities and promote public health by reducing the number of unvaccinated cats. Sterilizing community cats reduces, or even eliminates, the behaviors that can lead to nuisance complaints.

“Since these cats are often feral and unable to be placed into homes, the Community Cat Diversion Program allows us to address the concerns related to stray cats, including the never ending cycle of capture and euthanize” said Reiter. “Unadoptable cats are no longer being brought into the shelter, which is a major contributing factor in the decrease in euthanasia. The Community Cat Diversion Program gives us another life saving option.”

Partnerships with rescues and other organizations

KCAS also started increasing their partnerships with rescues and other animal organizations for assistance with dogs that required special attention.

“Many dogs that come to the shelter have experienced some form of trauma. Loss of the family, mistreatment, and physical trauma are just a few reasons that can cause them to fear or not trust people,” said Reiter. “They need time to decompress and the overstimulation of the shelter activity sometimes compounds the issue so we rely on our rescue partners to

Kenton County Animal Services (KCAS) has made significant changes in order to increase the live release rate of animals and reduce the euthanasia rate. In just seven short years, KCAS’ live release rate went from 30% to 93%, which places them in the no-kill shelter category (90% live release rate or higher). The goal of reaching a 90% live release rate is just the beginning.

The first step was identifying areas for improvement. The Northern Kentucky animal shelter directors

came together to assess the animal control and sheltering programs to see how they could end the euthanasia of healthy animals as a means of population control.

“We started with very basic questions for each area of service — why are we doing it this way and is it working? We then researched the best management practices and developed a plan based on what changes would have the highest impact on saving lives,” said KCAS Director Becky Reiter.

Community Cat Diversion Program

The highest intake and euthanasia rate was cats and kittens. About 85% of the kittens entering the shelter were from outdoor sources versus in-home. In-place population control was needed instead of impounding. To solve this issue, the development of a Community Cat Diversion Program was established through a partnership with the Northern Kentucky Area Development District and funded

EUTHANASIA STATISTICS - 7 YEAR COMPARATIVE SUMMARY							
Type of animal	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Dogs	913	825	602	227	93	45	45
Cats	2263	1906	1431	732	224	62	88



Meghan Kinman, Licensed Veterinary Technician for KCAS, preps an animal for surgery in the new suite.

help with these special needs cases.” The process for owner surrender animal intake has also changed, now requiring an appointment to talk with staff about other options and getting a better understanding of the animal. Sometimes, the shelter is not the best environment for an

animal and a rescue organization may be a better fit.

“Part of reducing euthanasia relies on us doing a better job of managing the shelter’s population. One area is where the animal isn’t in immediate danger.” Reiter explained. “We ask people who need



to rehome a pet to reach out to our rescue partners first and leave the shelter as a last resort. Knowing the number of animals coming in increases efficiency and helps us to organize our limited resources.”

Medical care

Medical care is challenging in a shelter setting and KCAS needed to address how they helped animals with a good prognosis that required time and veterinary care. The team added a licensed veterinary technician who plays a critical role in addressing medical needs. Quick assessments by trained medical staff allows KCAS to quickly isolate illnesses and monitor animals in their care and reduces the need for euthanasia.

A generous donation in memory of Jessie C. Eppinghoff provided the shelter with a surgery suite for

in-house spay/neuter surgeries. The funds saved by bringing those services in-house were redirected to cover medical costs of treatable conditions for animals that were traditionally euthanized.

“We will continue to strive to give each animal individual consideration, helping those we can with the resources currently available,” said Reiter.

Other changes

Other changes included utilizing social media and technology, staff and volunteer training, and improved communication.

“These were big changes and our staff and volunteers were on-board from the start. We never looked back,” Reiter said. “We will continue to make life-saving decisions and continue to be a community partner for Kenton County.”

Data-driven process drives roadway priorities

Kenton County Public Works is responsible for the maintenance of 250 lane miles of Kenton County's roadways, signage, and County bridges. All other roadways in Kenton County are maintained by either a city or the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet.

With so many miles to cover, Kenton County has once again partnered with Infrastructure Management Services (IMS) for use of their Pavement Management System. IMS uses high-tech laser equipment to objectively measure roadway distresses. After the data is collected, a sophisticated computer program rates each roadway segment and ranks them in order of priority for work. This allows the County to prioritize road repairs and budgets for the next four years based on objective criteria.

"Though a relatively new process for Kenton County, this approach to surface data collection has been the standard for the state of Kentucky and

many municipal governments for several years. Put simply, this is the most objective approach to data collection in our industry," said County Engineer & Director of Public Works Nick Hendrix. "Kenton County's partners in this effort include the cities of Edgewood, Elsmere, Fort Mitchell, Independence, Villa Hills, Florence, and Boone County. This collaboration is a big win for constituents served by these local governments."

This system supports long-range planning for resurfacing and routine maintenance projects and has become an integral part of the budgeting process.

To find out which organization is responsible for maintaining your road, visit: <https://www.kentoncounty.org/237/Road-Maintenance>

If you would like to report a roadway condition or issue in Kenton County, visit: <http://bit.ly/kcroadreporter>



Kenton County partnered with IMS, a company that uses high-tech laser equipment to measure roadway distresses.

Election officers needed

Kenton County is always in need of responsible, registered voters to serve as a precinct election officer in their county's elections. A precinct election officer is a very important person who works the polls all day on Election Day to ensure that voting is conducted fairly and orderly in each precinct for the community. Without election officers we wouldn't be able to conduct elections.

The Kenton County Board of Elections needs approximately 550 people each election to serve in order to meet the required four precinct election officers at each of our precincts. The Clerk is responsible for the e-poll book, voter identification and completion of required forms. The two Judges are responsible for setting up and operating the voting machines for voters. The Sheriff is responsible for working with the Clerk and enforcing the electioneering laws within 100 feet of the polling place.

Each election officer must attend a two-hour training before each Primary and General Election, the compensation rate for attending this training is \$20. Election officers will also receive \$150 for serving at the precinct on Election Day.

Requirements to serve as an election officer:

1. An election officer must be a qualified voter in the county her/she serves in. Registered 17 year olds may serve in the Primary Election if they will be 18 years old on or before the day of the General Election.

2. An election officer cannot have changed their party affiliation for one year prior to their appointment.
3. An election officer must be able to read and write English.
4. An election officer must attend the required two-hour training session before each Primary and General Election.
5. An election officer cannot be a candidate for office during the Election year.
6. An election officer cannot be a spouse, parent, brother, sister, or child of a candidate to be voted for at that election in the precinct in which they will serve on Election Day.
7. An election officer must be able to work from 5 am to 6 pm, or until the polls close, to stand for long periods of time, and lift up to 25 lbs. The polls are open from 6 am to 6 pm.
8. An election officer must have transportation to election training and to the precinct on Election Day.

To become an election officer please contact the Kenton County Board of Elections at 859/392-1620 and one of the County Board of Elections Representatives will return your call. We hope you will consider serving your community as an election officer.





College of Agriculture,
Food and Environment
Cooperative Extension Service

Need Answers? *It starts with us...*



COLLEGE OF
AGRICULTURE,
COMMUNITIES AND
THE ENVIRONMENT

Kenton County Cooperative Extension Service

Open for business — Just a little differently

The past several months have been a challenge for all of us. Work and family life has been especially perplexing, as each of us try to maintain a healthy environment. Most of our regularly scheduled activities at the Extension Office had to be cancelled, or taken to an online format. Our employees have continued to work through a rotation of remote and in-office staff as we kept in compliance with the directives of our governor, the University of Kentucky and Kentucky State University.

While we make plans for the fall, we are faced with even more challenges. How will programs look by the time September or October rolls around? Our traditional ways of instruction included mainly face-to-face interactions through teaching others in individual and group settings. As of the writing of this article, our office is opened, staff are working inside, but with visitors by appointment only. We hope to be open soon for group instruction, but realize that we must maintain safe health practices, including keeping facilities sanitized and maintaining social distancing among all individuals.

Classes and some programs are scheduled for the fall. At this time, we are proposing a mix of limited

“face-to-face” interactions with programming, but also including many computer based learning opportunities. None of us can predict the future, so we are unable to make concrete plans at this time. Our recommendations are as follows:

- If you are interested in a program listed in this publication, please register. This can be done by calling our office at 859/356-3155, or through our online registration program. Visit our office website <http://kenton.ca.uky.edu/> and click on the “on-line registration” tab. Our staff will keep in touch with those who register with details regarding the class or program, and how it will be conducted.
- Our office has many resources to assist you with the COVID-19 situation. Start by accessing our “Healthy at Home” newsletter at: <https://extension.ca.uky.edu/healthy-home-newsletter>. You can view current and past issues at this site. These issues include a variety of articles for individuals and families to navigate COVID-19 with Cooperative Extension.
- Continue to contact individual staff members through phone calls and emails. A staff directory

link is included on our website home page <http://kenton.ca.uky.edu/>. We are available to help with client questions or recommendations.

- Visit us through our various social media opportunities.
 - Facebook: facebook.com/UKKentonExt/
 - Twitter: twitter.com/UKKentonExt
 - Instagram: [@ukkentonext](https://www.instagram.com/ukkentonext)
- Your Kenton County Extension Service also has a Youtube channel with various educational videos already available.

Some important reminders

- The Kenton County farm tour, scheduled for Saturday, September 19 has been cancelled for this year. This is anticipated to only be cancelled for 2020, so check back with us next year!
- Kenton County Farmer’s Markets are up and running. Visit one of our many locations for fresh produce and to support your local farmers. (See listing of Farmers Markets on next page.)
- As you know, the traditional Kenton County Fair was cancelled this year, with the exception of many of our youth projects.

Those with open class exhibits in the Home Economics area will be able to enter items in next year’s fair.

We continue to strive to provide assistance to our county clientele. The University of Kentucky Cooperative Extension Service says: **Our mission, simply stated, is to make a difference in the lives of Kentucky citizens through research-based education. Jointly with our other land-grant partner, Kentucky State University, we take the University to the people in their local communities, addressing issues of importance of all Kentuckians.**



The Kenton County Extension office offered a “drive-thru” Earth Day Recognition event this year.

Kenton County Cooperative Extension Service

Farmers Markets in Kenton County

Covington Farmer's Market	Saturday	9 am-1 pm May-October	Third St. & Court St., Covington 41011 • Contact: alexaabner@rcov.org
DCCH Farmer's Market of Ft. Mitchell	Saturday	10 am-2 pm May-October	75 Orphanage Rd., Ft. Mitchell 41017 • Contact: Jeannie Carnes, 859/393-8477 or dcchfarmersmarket.com
The Dixie Farmer's Market	Thursday	2-6 pm April-October	Erlanger Baptist Church, 116 Commonwealth, Erlanger 41018 Contact: jenifer.megerle@cityoferlanger.com
Independence Farmer's Market	Saturday	8:30 am-1 pm May-October	Next to Courthouse - 5272 Madison Pike, Independence 41051 • Contact: Sharon Wright, 859/640-1609
Crestview Hills Farmer's Market	Saturday	10 am-2 pm May 30-Sept. 26	Crestview Hills Towne Center (Front parking lot -Dixie Hwy. side) Contact: Jessica Searcy, jsearcy@anderson-realestate.com or 859/341-4353

Kenton County NEP helps Kentuckians live healthier lives

Within the University of Kentucky Cooperative Extension Service, we are fortunate to house the Kentucky Nutrition Education Program, two U.S. Department of Agriculture programs that provide nutrition-related educational resources to limited-resource audiences. The Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program (EFNEP) and the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP-Ed) help Kentuckians live high quality lives, raise healthy families, and provide resources to be "healthy at home."

NEP is in all 120 Kentucky counties. Cooperative Extension agents and NEP

assistants deliver educational programs to help improve the health outcomes of some of the state's most vulnerable residents. We teach a variety of audiences how to improve their diets, stretch their food dollars, increase their physical activity and safely handle and store food. We also support community efforts that provide limited-resource audiences with better access to healthier foods and help community members increase their physical activity.

Our programs produce positive results. Here are some of the highlights from our 2019 survey of adult participants:

- 97% reported improvement in at least one aspect of their diet.
- 92% improved their food safety practices.
- 91% showed improvement in managing their food resources.
- 84% increased their physical activity.

Angela Baldauff and Dorisa Johnson welcome partnerships with agencies and individuals that may benefit from this FREE program. Angela and Dorisa assist families and individuals who would like new and fun ideas for feeding their families healthy foods while saving time and money. To find out more about local

Nutrition Education Program educational offerings, contact 859/331-1712 and visit www.PlanEatMove.com, www.facebook.com/NKYNEP or www.YouTube.com/UKKYNEP for healthy at-home tips and recipes.



Your Kenton County Extension Service's NEP assistants are Angela Baldauff and Dorisa Johnson-Hickman.

Welcome to our new employees!

The Kenton County Cooperative Extension office has had several staff changes this spring. Our Horticulture Extension Agent, Michele Stanton has resigned and moved out west to be closer to family. She will be missed! This spring we welcomed...



Sarah Dolly started at the Kenton County office in February of this year as Staff Assistant Bookkeeper. She had previously worked as an Administrative Staff

Assistant at the Boyd County Extension Office near Ashland, Ky. Sarah is a University of Kentucky alumna and is on track to complete her Master's Degree from UK in Retail & Tourism Management in May 2021. When

Sarah isn't working or doing homework she enjoys participating in and teaching yoga classes, going to Reds games, and exploring all the Cincinnati area has to offer.



Prior to working for the Extension Office **Nicole Kallmeyer** held a variety of jobs, most notably as an Investigations and Assessment worker for Children

Services in Hamilton County and a Residential Treatment Specialist for Children's Home of Northern Kentucky. She also has a background in illustration and graphic design with a passion for sharing information and gaining new knowledge across a broad spectrum of content areas. Nicole is working as program assistant for Family and Consumer Sciences.



Stacy Whelan lives in Southern Kenton County with her husband and twin daughters. Before coming to work at the Extension office, she worked with the

YMCA as a program director for the 21st Century community learning centers. In her free time she enjoys music, gardening and reading. Stacy is working as a staff assistant, primarily with the Agriculture and Horticulture program areas.

Cooperative Extension Service
Agriculture and Natural Resources
Family and Consumer Sciences
4-H Youth Development
Community and Economic Development

Educational programs of Kentucky Cooperative Extension serve all people regardless of economic or social status and will not discriminate on the basis of race, color, ethnic origin, national origin, creed, religion, political belief, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, pregnancy, marital status, genetic information, age, veteran status, or physical or mental disability. University of Kentucky, Kentucky State University, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and Kentucky Counties, Cooperating.
LEXINGTON, KY 40546



Disabilities accommodated with prior notification.

CLASSES

KENTON COUNTY EXTENSION CLASS SCHEDULE

FALL 2020

Visit

www.kentoncountyextension.org
for class descriptions.

Exciting Opportunities with 4-H!

Registration required for all classes. Some classes may require a fee.
Register online at kentoncountyextension.com, in person, or call 356-3155.

4-H Horse Programs

All interested youth desiring to participate in horse programs must enroll in 4-H and complete six hours of instructional training in order to be eligible for horse participation. Certified horse hours are offered September through March. Youth must complete the educational programs during this time period. Please contact the Extension office by October 1 to become involved in horse projects. If you are new to 4-H, please call us for additional information.

4-H Sewing Bring a Buddy

This is the first 4-H sewing unit for clothing construction. Completion of this class is required for youth to participate in more advanced sewing projects and special sewing days. Any youth (4-H age 9-18) and an adult buddy will learn how to operate a sewing machine, choose fabric, cut out a pattern, sew seams and make a casing. The youth will complete one or more of the following projects during the class: shorts, skirt, or pants. Sewing machines are provided. Participants will purchase one pattern, fabric and matching thread during the class. Class fee is \$15 per youth. The classes are once a week for 6 weeks beginning Jan. 26, 2021. Please call the office to indicate interest in this class.

4-H "It's Your Reality"

Offered October through April to schools 8th through 12th grades. Please call for additional information, two months prior to scheduling. 4-H "It's Your Reality" allows youth to receive a career based on their educational goals. Participants then visit "stores" to provide for their needs and the needs of their family. The store process helps young people determine whether their career aspirations provide the income for their desired lifestyle as an adult.

4-H Livestock Educational Programs

All Livestock Educational Programs will be held at our Marshall Road location.

If you would like to participate in showing livestock, beef, sheep, swine, dairy, goats or country ham next summer, the educational meetings will have to be completed before your animal is tagged and weighed in. The livestock education meeting dates include: Sat., Oct 24, 8:30-11:30 a.m.; Thurs., Nov. 12, 6-8 p.m.; Tues., Nov. 24, 6-9 p.m.; Mon., Dec 7, 6-8 p.m.; Sat., Jan 9, 8:30-11:30 a.m.; Wed., Jan 13, 6-8 p.m.; Sat., Jan 16 – Snow date if needed (time to be announced).

County Fair Animal Projects

Tuesday, Sept. 22, 6:30 pm
Marshall Rd. location

Are you curious what it would take to show a

pet or livestock project at the County Fair? This information-filled class is designed to help you decide. In addition to learning about the different projects from leaders and 4-H members, you will learn about community 4-H clubs that are specific to pets or farm animals.

4-H Clover Bud Meetings

Third Thursday of each month at 7 pm,
starting in September at Kenton Lands
location

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

4-H Rough Riders Club

Third Thursday of each month at 7 pm,
starting in September at Kenton Lands
location

This is a 4-H Community Club that meets once a month and focuses on projects that can be entered in the Kenton County Fair. These projects include Crafts, Fine Arts, Home Environment, Photography and many more.

**4-H programs are for youth aged 9-18,
unless otherwise specified.*

Additional Extension Classes

Backyard Butterflies – ZOOM SESSION

Wednesday, Aug. 19, 1:30 pm

Presenter - Lacey Kessell, Boone County Natural Resource and Environmental Agent
Learn the backyard butterfly basics! This presentation will teach you about different species of butterflies you might find in your own yards and how to attract these wild beauties so you can enjoy more frequent visits! You must register for this online ZOOM session by August 18.

Parenting A Second Time Around (PASTA)

Aug. 21, Sept. 18, Oct. 16, Nov. 20, Dec. 18
Noon-1:30 pm, Kenton Lands location
or online

Support group and educational resources for relative and non-relative caregivers of children.

Fall Lawn Care

Thursday, Aug. 27, 6:30 pm
Marshall Rd location

Fall is the best time to improve and maintain

your lawn. Learn about the basics of fertilization, weed control and preparing for new lawn plantings.

Learn from Home: Vegetables — Jewels of Health

September – Artichokes

October – Peppers

November – Onions

December – Cauliflower

Vegetables are beautifully colored, nutrition-filled foods. Learn in-depth information about some of these treasures in a new format. Each month you'll receive a self-study package and recipes to explore four different vegetables. You'll also receive a link for optional online video materials. You must register to participate and you must return evaluation materials each month to continue receiving information. Self-study package can be distributed online or through the US mail.

*Provided by Kenton and Boone County Cooperative Extension Offices.

Developing a Mental Health Action Plan

Thursday, Sept. 3, 6-8 pm

Kenton Lands location or online

Overview of mental health and things to do when you or someone you love is in crisis.



The image features a central circular graphic with the text "Farm to Table" in a stylized font. Surrounding the circle are silhouettes of a fork, a knife, and a spoon. Below the graphic, the text reads: "Kenton County 4-H Farm to Table Dinner Fundraiser cancelled due to COVID-19. Go to: kentoncountyextension.org"

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

NOTE: Classes may need to be conducted via computer learning.

Registrants will be kept informed.

All checks payable to "Kenton Co. Extension District Board."

Visit our website at www.kentoncountyextension.org for complete details.

Kenton County Cooperative Extension Service

CLASS SCHEDULE, Continued

One Pan Meals

Meal preparation is always a challenge. During this 3-part series, we will discover ways to prepare one pan meals in totally different ways. Participation is available for one, two, or all three sessions.

• **Freezer Meals** – Friday, Sept. 11, 1:30 pm, *Kenton Lands location*
Make your many meals ahead of time, freeze, and cook later.

• **Bowls** – Friday, Oct. 9, 1:30 pm
Kenton Lands location
Combine protein, vegetables, greens or grains with a tasty sauce—all in one bowl!

• **Food Processor meals** – Friday, Nov. 13, 1:30 pm
Kenton Lands location
After mastering chopping and slicing various foods, it's time to use this versatile machine to make some meals.

Re-Entering the Workforce

Tuesday, Sept. 15, 1:30 - 3:00 pm
Kenton Lands location or online
Strategies for a successful job search and re-entraining a new career path post COVID-19

Social Security Questions?

Tuesday, Sept. 22, 6 - 7:30 pm
Kenton Lands location or online
Turning 65 have questions on Social Security? Class will cover the basics of Social Security

Table Top Gardening

Thursday, Sept. 24, 6:30 pm
Marshall Road location
Make gardening easier by learning how to build a heavy duty table that is easy and accessible.

Would Your Kitchen Pass a Food Safety Inspection?

Thursday, Sept. 24, 6 pm
Kenton Lands location
The past several months have made many of us concerned about preparing food in a clean and safe environment. Learn the correct way to clean food, meal preparation areas, and

kitchen tools safely and efficiently while storing food for the best shelf life.

Cook Together, Eat Together

**This is an online series only*
Tuesdays, Sept. 29, Oct. 27, Nov. 17 & Dec. 15, 4:30 pm*

During this 4-part, online program, learn to cook some healthy and affordable recipes with your child or other youngster. Recommended for youth-ages 4-12. Get tips to make cooking fast, fun and delicious.

*These programs may also be recorded and available to view at later dates. Registration is necessary for live or recorded participation.

Composting Basics

Thursday, Oct. 1, 2 & 6 pm
Kenton Lands Location
Learn how to build an easy compost bin for your backyard and learn the basics of how to properly make nutrient rich compost for your garden soil.

Creating and Maintaining Family Traditions

Tuesday, Oct. 6, 10:30 am
Marshall Rd. location or online
Renewing family bonds and establishing a strong family foundation that reinforces healthy relationships and communication as families face life's challenges.

Fall Perennial Care

Wednesday, Oct. 7, 6:30 pm
Marshall Road location
Learn how to prepare your perennial garden for winter temperatures. Also learn what perennials do best in our area.

Essential Estate Planning Documents and Probate Overview

Thursday, Oct. 15, 6-7:30 pm
Kenton Lands location or online
Living trust, living will, last will ... they all sound similar but do very different things! Come find out how probate works and how estate documents make it that much easier!

Planning Your Spring Landscape

Tuesday, Oct. 20, 6:30 pm
Kenton Lands location
It is never too early to be planning your home landscape. Learn about plant selection, planning for growth of plants to full size, and ideas on how to update your home landscape.

Medicare

Thursday, Oct. 22, 6-7:30 pm
Kenton Lands location or online
Approaching that milestone birthday of 65 and have questions about your Medicare benefit? This class will assist in understanding this benefit.

Prepare to Care

Tuesday, Oct. 27, 6-8 pm
Kenton Lands location or online
Strategies for beginning the conversation about caregiving and preparation for potential care needs in late life.

Discover ALT-Meat

Wednesday, Oct. 28, 6 pm
Kenton Lands location
During this program we will explore the many new plant-based meat products on the market. Discover facts about their nutritional content and uses in recipes.

Planning Your Digital Estate

Thursday, Oct. 29, 6-7:30 pm
Kenton Lands location or online
Have you ever wondered who will have access to your online bank accounts, email accounts, and even your social media accounts after you pass away? Because so much personal information is stored online, new strategies must be undertaken in order to protect one's digital assets. Digital estate planning helps loved ones to locate and access important digital information, it may clarify disputes regarding final will and testament, and it may simplify the transition for family members. You'll learn to take inventory of your digital assets and write a digital estate plan.

Invasive Species in Our Forests

Thursday, Nov. 5, 6:30 pm
Kenton Lands Location
Learn what is on the list of invasive plants and insects. How to get rid of them, and what plants could be good replacements.

Holiday Foods

Tuesday, Nov. 10, 1:30 pm
Marshall Road location
Join Kenton County FCS agents as they share some tasty treats for you to make for the holidays.

Ever Had a Leak? "Urine" Not Alone!

Tuesday, Nov. 17, 1:30 pm
Online (registration required)
Learn about the common issue of bladder leakage faced by up to 75% of women of all ages. Strategies to strengthen your pelvic floor and other tips will be shared.

Plan for all Stages, Retirement Planning for All Stages of Life

Tuesday, Nov. 17, 6-7:30 pm
Kenton Lands location or online
This lesson will provide tips for planning retirement at beginning of your career, middle, pre- and post-retirement.

Holiday Evergreen Wreath

Wednesday, Dec. 9
Kenton Lands Location
Times will be by appointment, so call to set up your appointment.
Make and take a fresh wreath for your holiday decorations. Fee, \$29 due by December 1.



Kenton County Cooperative Extension Service

Marshall Rd. Location:

10990 Marshall Rd., Covington, KY • Office Hours: 8 am-4:30 pm, M-F

Kenton Lands Location: 450 Kenton Lands Rd., Erlanger, KY
Office Hours: 8 am-4:30 pm, M-Th; Closed Noon-1 pm

phone: 356-3155 • fax: 356-0363
e-mail: DL_CES_KENTON@EMAIL.UKY.EDU

Kenton County Cooperative Extension Agents

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

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

COOPERATIVE EXTENSION



Follow us on social media!



All Northern Kentucky schools go tobacco-free

During the 2019-2020 academic year, all Northern Kentucky school districts committed to becoming 100% tobacco-free schools. This is an amazing accomplishment and a great step toward creating the healthiest environments for Northern Kentucky students to learn and grow. Kentucky House Bill 11 was passed in 2019, prohibiting the use of any tobacco products, alternative nicotine products, or vape/e-cigarette products on Kentucky school property. School boards were given three years to either opt-out or adopt the 100% tobacco-free policy, which would include all property, vehicles and school-related trips or activities. The Northern Kentucky school districts

quickly moved to pass or update their tobacco-free policies.

This policy intervention was one of many efforts to curb the rise in youth e-cigarette use. E-cigarette aerosol contains high levels of addictive nicotine and other harmful chemicals such as heavy metals, volatile organic compounds and ultrafine particles that can be inhaled deep into the lungs. According to the 2018 Kentucky Incentives for Prevention (KIP) Survey, 2 out of every 10 tenth graders in the greater Northern Kentucky region used e-cigarettes at least once in the last 30 days.

There are free resources available for Northern Kentucky teens wishing to address their cigarette or

e-cigarette use. *My Life My Quit* is free, confidential and made for teens. Through this program you can text a quit coach or call for support, learn how to cope with stress in healthy ways, and get tips and the support you need to quit for good.

For more information, visit <http://mylifemyquit.com/>.

The Northern Kentucky Health Department serves more than 400,000 residents of Boone, Campbell, Grant and Kenton Counties. Our goal is to prevent diseases, promote wellness and protect against health threats. The health department's vision for Northern Kentucky is to "be a valued leader and community partner, with the resources needed to

effectively address public health challenges so Northern Kentucky is the healthiest region in the nation."

For any questions or for assistance in strengthening your school's smoke-free policy, please contact Cady Cornell at 859/363-2082 or visit www.nkyhealth.org.

**WELCOME TO OUR
TOBACCO-FREE
CAMPUS**



MY LIFE MY QUIT

WIC is here for you

What is WIC?

WIC (Women, Infants and Children) is a federal program administered by the USDA that provides specific nutritious foods along with nutrition and breastfeeding education at no cost. More than 7,000 individuals participate in WIC in Northern Kentucky. WIC services are provided to income eligible

and nutritionally at-risk pregnant, breastfeeding and postpartum women, infants and children up to 5 years old.

WIC brings more to the table than good food

■ **WIC is for good health.** At WIC, you can get answers to your health and nutrition questions. WIC helps families

make infant feeding choices and encourages breastfeeding, childhood shots and children's growth checkups.

■ **WIC helps families save money.** WIC families get monthly supplies of foods high in protein, iron, vitamin C and calcium, including milk, eggs, cereal and juice.

■ **WIC is for all kinds of families.** It is short-term assistance that helps families help themselves. You can receive WIC even if you are working. Eligibility requirements include:

- Be a pregnant, breastfeeding or postpartum woman; OR an infant/child up to 5 years old
- Have a household income at or below 185 percent of the poverty level

- Meet income guidelines, OR have a Kentucky medical card, receive Kentucky Transitional Assistance Program (K-TAP) benefits or food stamps (SNAP), or have a pregnant woman or infant in the family who receives Medicaid or K-TAP
- Be a resident of Kentucky

■ **WIC supports our local economy.** Last year, more than \$5.2 million was spent in Northern Kentucky at local stores to provide nutritious foods for families through WIC.

Call the location listed below to make an appointment today!

Campbell County Health Center
1098 Monmouth St.
Newport, KY 41071
859/431-1704

WIC IS HERE FOR YOU
**We Help Families
Save On Food**



WIC is a federal program administered by the USDA that provides specific nutritious foods along with nutrition and breastfeeding education at no cost.



nkyhealth.org

NKYHEALTH
NORTHERN KENTUCKY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

859-341-4264

NKY Health



Kenton County Health Center

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

District Office

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

COVID-19 and its impact

The global COVID-19 pandemic has been extremely difficult on all of us. The PVA Office is sensitive to the impact it has had throughout our County and our hearts go out to everyone during these tragic times.

Please understand that the PVA office is charged by the Kentucky Constitution to assess all property at 100% fair market value. The assessment date (or effective date) for the valuation of all property — by statute —

is January 1. As such, for 2020, the assessment for your property is based on an estimate of value as of January 1, 2020. The impact Covid-19 may have on real estate values won't be known until the 2021 assessment

year or thereafter. As always, you have the right as a property owner to contact us any year (subject to statutory open inspection periods) in which you feel an adjustment to your assessment is warranted.

Is your mailing address current?

While the individual cities and the Sheriff's Office are responsible for the preparation and mailing of the tax bills, they utilize PVA's mailing address information. If you need to change your mailing address on record, please submit a form in writing to the PVA Office. Forms may be found at www.kentonpva.com.

Are you eligible for a reduction in your net taxable value?

Homeowners who own and reside in their homes as of January 1, who will be 65 or older this year or receive 100% total permanent disability may be eligible for the Homestead/Disability Exemption. Please visit our website at www.kentonpva.com. Valid ID or proof of disability required. It is not necessary to wait until your birthday - APPLY NOW!

2021 property review

In keeping with statutory requirements, the PVA office is required to review properties at least once every four years. The PVA office will be reviewing properties in Quad 3,

which consists of: Fairview, Independence, Ryland Heights, Kentonvale, Walton, and the Fire Districts of Boone-Walton, Independence, Piner-Fiskburg and Ryland. We will also be

reviewing properties in the unincorporated area of the County. If your property is not in any of these areas, yet you would like to discuss your assessed value, you may call our

office any time after January 1, 2021. Please visit our website for additional information on the review process.

New 2020 imagery is here!

The Eagle Has Landed! The Kenton County PVA Office has completed its 2020 EagleView/Pictometry flight. Pictometry is a patented aerial image capturing process that produces imagery showing the fronts and sides of buildings and locations on the ground. Images are captured by low-flying airplanes, depicting oblique perspectives as well as an orthogonal (overhead) view of every

parcel throughout Kenton County.

Oblique aerial images captured from the north, south, east, and west directions offer the PVA Office a 360-degree view of every property in Kenton County. Ortho imagery provides a true top-down view and is critical to the PVA Office's Sketch Department, which utilizes the ortho images to determine the perimeter square footage of all real property in

the County. Both images boost the PVA Office's ability to assess all property in a fair and equitable manner.

Pictometry is a recognized means of meeting the PVA's statutory obligation to "physically inspect" all parcels throughout the County and in an effort to capture up-to-date information, the PVA has contracted to fly every two years.

Our Covington Office has moved

The PVA Office is in the new Government Building conveniently located at 1840 Simon Kenton Way, Suite 3300 (old Bavarian Brewery), along with many other Government Offices such as the Fiscal Court, Kenton County Sheriff and Kenton County Clerk.



Kenton County PVA



WE'RE HERE TO SERVE YOU!

Darlene M. Plummer - Kenton County Property Valuation Administrator

Covington Office Hours (1840 Simon Kenton Way, Suite 3300): Monday-Friday: 8:15 am - 4:15 pm
Ph: 859/392-1750 • Fax: 859/392-1770

Independence Office Hours (old Courthouse; 5272 Madison Pike):

Temporarily closed due to COVID-19
Ph: 859/392-1678 • Fax: 859/392-1681

Mailing Address/Email Address:

1840 Simon Kenton Way, Suite 3300, Covington, KY 41011-2999 • info.kentonpva@kentoncounty.org



The PVA Office is pleased to announce its new-and-improved website! Please visit us at www.kentonpva.com. We hope you will find our new modern website much easier to navigate. If you have suggestions on content you would like to see, please don't hesitate to let us know.

As part of COVID-19 response, SD1 will see no revenue increase

SD1 is moving forward with year two of a four-year residential sanitary sewer rate restructure without a revenue increase for fiscal year 2021. All other rate classes and fees remain unchanged.

Executive Director Adam Chaney said that while SD1 had anticipated a 5 percent revenue increase this year, the circumstances surrounding

COVID-19 and its impacts on our community made it inappropriate to raise revenues at this time.

In 2019, a majority of the three county fiscal courts approved a new residential sanitary sewer rate structure aimed at aligning sewer rates more closely with the actual cost of providing service. In accordance with the plan, SD1 charges a base rate

for the first 200 cubic feet (HCF) of water treated, and a variable rate for each additional HCF of water treated. Under the 4-year plan, as the base rate increases the variable rate is reduced.

While SD1 will see no revenue increase this year, individual rate payers may still see their bills increase or decrease depending on the total volume of water used. SD1 will also renew its

partnership with the Brighton Center to continue to offer a Customer Assistance Program that helps cover the incremental increase of the base rate for qualifying low-income and fixed-income customers.

For more details about rates and fees for fiscal year 2021, visit <http://www.sd1.org/408/Understanding-Your-Bill>.

SD1 turns to smart-sewer management in fight against Northern Kentucky sewer overflows

SD1 has begun a new era of smart-sewer management in Northern Kentucky that will significantly reduce the cost of complying with federal Clean Water Act regulations.

Beginning with new equalization (EQ) tanks and pump stations along Route 8, which will be used to hold mostly storm water, SD1 will eliminate about 20 million gallons of typical-year sanitary sewer overflows (SSOs), and will do so at a price tag well below what traditional overflow mitigation would cost.

“We’re going to make our sewer system smarter,” said SD1 Executive Director Adam Chaney. “We can no longer afford to simply build bigger and bigger pipes and wait for them to become overwhelmed by larger and larger storms.”

The first step toward smart sewers happens long before any work begins in the field. Working with its Updated Watershed Plan partner, Hazen and Sawyer, SD1 ran thousands of scenarios using artificial intelligence software to accurately predict what will happen throughout Northern Kentucky’s sewer system under various storm simulations.

CLEAN H2O40

The results of that work provided a blueprint – which SD1 is calling Clean H2O40 – for the most effective and affordable approach to mitigating sewer overflows. The new EQ will be the first projects constructed under the new Clean H2O40 plan.

The new tanks will ultimately use flow meter technology to signal the sewer system to store excess flow during storm events until downstream capacity is available. Once a storm has passed, the system will gradually release flow back into the pipes for transport to a treatment plant. This will minimize the risk of increased volume overwhelming the system and causing sewer overflows.

Chaney compares the technology to smart traffic lights during rush hour. As more and more cars begin to congest the road, traffic lights can be used strategically to keep things moving. SD1 will apply the same logic to Northern Kentucky’s sewer system, and the new EQ tanks are a step

toward system-wide coordination – storing flow in tanks, pipes and other structures across the region.

“This new strategy is anticipated to significantly lower project costs and associated revenue needs by hundreds of millions of dollars over the next 20 years. In addition to maintaining sewer rate affordability, the reduced overflow mitigation costs will allow SD1 to address system expansion required to support the local economy,” Chaney said.

Under the terms of an amended consent decree with the Commonwealth of Kentucky and the US Environmental Protection Agency,

SD1 must completely eliminate all typical-year sanitary sewer overflows by the year 2040. The system experiences about 115 million gallons of SSOs in a typical year. The agreement also requires SD1 to recapture at least 85 percent of combined sewer overflows by 2040.

“We’re going to use storm water storage in combination with smart sewer management to improve our system today and into the future,” Chaney said. “This new approach, along with the recent nearly 15-year extension on our consent decree deadline, will make it possible for SD1 to mitigate system overflows, improve water quality and public health, and continue supporting the economic vitality of our region without overburdening ratepayers.”

SD1



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

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

Is it allergies, cold, flu, or Coronavirus?

Does the anxiety of a national pandemic have you questioning every sneeze, sniffle, runny nose or headache? Well, you aren't alone. "What are the symptoms of coronavirus?" has been a top search term on Google for several months. The problem is that it seems there are similar symptoms for allergies, a cold, the flu, and coronavirus, also known as COVID-19.

What are the symptoms for COVID-19?

COVID-19 is a new strain of coronavirus that emerged in the United States in early 2020. This strain of coronavirus has never been seen before and scientists are still learning about how it's spread as well as the variety of symptoms in relation to different age groups. There are some common symptoms to be aware of that can range from mild to severe. Common symptoms include:

- Fever or chills
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing

- Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches
- Headache
- New loss of taste or smell
- Sore throat
- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea

What are the symptoms of seasonal allergies?

The overlapping symptoms between seasonal allergies and COVID-19 are mostly respiratory, but every little cough or sniffle seems to cause anxiety. Before you panic, check your temperature. Seasonal allergy sufferers do not have a fever, whereas fever is the top symptom for COVID-19. The most common symptoms related to seasonal allergies include:

- Sneezing
- Runny or stuffy nose
- Watery and itchy eyes
- Itchy nose, throat, sinuses

It is rare to have a headache, or shortness of breath with seasonal

allergies, but some people may experience those symptoms as well.

What are the symptoms for a cold?

The common cold is an infection of your nose and throat. It can be annoying and drag on for days. The symptoms are very similar to the flu, but less severe. Over-the-counter medications can be help to manage symptoms of the cold. Symptoms of the common cold include:

- Body aches
- Cough (producing phlegm)
- Post-nasal drip
- Sneezing
- Sore throat
- Runny or stuffy nose

What are the symptoms for the flu?

When you have the flu, it usually hits you like a ton of bricks. You are fine one minute, and the next minute you don't want to get out of bed. The flu is a virus that can affect your upper respiratory system (nose,

throat, lungs). Common symptoms of the flu include:

- Body aches
- Chills and fever
- Cough
- Fatigue
- Headache
- Sore throat
- Stuffy nose

If you are experiencing mild respiratory symptoms, we recommend self-isolation at home, taking care of yourself and contacting your primary care provider to determine next steps. If you are experiencing serious symptoms, such as difficulty breathing or chest pain, call 911 immediately.

Taking these precautions can prevent the spread of disease and help protect your health and the health of those around you. If you have questions about any of these illnesses or concerns about COVID-19, call 1-800-737-7900 to schedule a virtual video visit with your provider from the comfort of your home. For more information visit stedocs.com/our-services/virtual-health.

Renowned mitral valve heart specialist joins St. Elizabeth



Mario Castillo-Sang, MD

Cardiothoracic surgeon Mario Castillo-Sang, MD, has joined St. Elizabeth Healthcare, bringing to the Northern Kentucky

community leading expertise in minimally invasive mitral valve surgery and left ventricular assist device (LVAD) implant surgery for advanced heart failure.

After completing a fellowship in cardiothoracic surgery at

Washington University School of Medicine/Barnes-Jewish Hospital in St. Louis, Mo., Dr. Castillo-Sang established a minimally invasive mitral valve surgery program at the Medical University of South Carolina, Charleston, S.C., and more recently built a similar program at The Christ Hospital in Cincinnati.

He has performed nearly 400 minimally invasive mitral valve surgeries, repairing or replacing the mitral valve that regulates blood flow from the left upper chamber of the heart (atrium) to the left lower chamber (ventricle). He has

distinguished himself nationally with his skill and success with complex mitral valve surgeries. In addition, he performs the highest volume of LVADs implant surgeries for advanced heart failure in Greater Cincinnati.

Dr. Castillo-Sang also is among Greater Cincinnati's most experienced LVAD surgeons and performs a wide range of other heart surgeries. LVADs are permanent heart pumps implanted to help patients who have severe heart failure live longer. Dr. Castillo-Sang plans to establish

an LVAD program at St. Elizabeth Heart and Vascular Institute.

"I think that the spirit of the people who work at St. Elizabeth is what drew me here," Dr. Castillo-Sang says. "Everyone on this team treats patients as if they are somebody's son or somebody's father. These are people who will listen to you, who will be there for you and not treat you as a number. This team offers truly compassionate care that is at the highest of the spectrum in quality and technical prowess. It's not common that you have a center with the offerings we have here."

National consortium studying cancer patients with COVID-19

St. Elizabeth is part of a group of cancer centers and other organizations joining together to form the COVID-19 and Cancer Consortium (CCC19) to collect and share data about cancer patients infected with the coronavirus (COVID-19).

“We’re really trying to get an idea of how this virus impacts the cancer population. We’re studying as many patients as we can who’ve been impacted by cancer and COVID-19 to determine what the outcome might be and how that outcome might change depending on the treatment that they’re getting,” says Dr. Dan Flora, Medical Oncologist at St. Elizabeth, who is spearheading St. Elizabeth’s CCC19 participation.

CCC19 put the data to use with record speed. The registry already contains information about several thousand cancer patients with COVID-19. CCC19 released its first findings in an article published on May 28 in the leading medical journal, *The Lancet* (manuscript number THELANCET-D-20-09079R1).

The study’s findings suggest that the 30-day fatality rate for cancer patients with COVID-19 infections is about 13 percent – more than twice the rate of the general population. Early results indicate that active can-



Oncologist Dr. Dan Flora is leading an effort at St. Elizabeth to collect and share data on cancer patients infected with COVID-19 as part of a national study.

cer treatments, like chemotherapy, do not seem to impact the severity of the illness or the overall outcome of the infection. Investigators conclude that patients undergoing cancer treatments may continue with appropriate caution.

Research efforts like this will be invaluable when determining best practices for the care of cancer patients who also have COVID-19,

according to Dr. Flora. “It will help us guide our decisions,” he says.

The commitment to leading-edge research is one of the cornerstones of St. Elizabeth’s oncology services and part of an already strong foundation they intend to build upon in the future with a new Cancer Center opening this fall on the St. Elizabeth Edgewood campus, says Dr. Flora.

“Research is going to be one of the pillars of the new Cancer Center. We want to prioritize cancer research as a way to find the best possible treatments for our patients. Certainly, by studying the outcomes of cancer patients, including cancer patients with COVID-19, we can learn about how to give the best treatment safely,” he explains.

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

Working to protect our natural resources

Kenton County Conservation District (KCCD) has been working hard to protect and restore the land, in conjunction with making areas compatible for public use. Morning View Heritage Area is open for passive recreation, including hiking, nature walks, wildlife viewing and bird watching. Take a hike on one of our four trails, ranging from easy to moderate difficulty. Do not miss the breathtaking view from the top of one of our trails of the entire Morning View valley or hike our easiest trail that loops around our five constructed wetlands. We recommend using the guidelines of social distancing on the trails and in the parking area. See the kiosk at the parking area for rules and open areas.



Visit the Morning View Heritage Area!

15168 Decoursey Pike, Morning View, KY 41063
Open to the public – 7 days a week from dawn till dusk!

Conservation provides assistance

The Conservation District provides assistance to everyone, including homeowners, businesses, schools, organizations, and cities and other local governments, including: Natural Resource Management Programs, Cost-Share Funding, Equipment Rental, and Educational Workshops. Contact the Kenton County Conservation District for additional information.

The Kentucky Soil Erosion and Water Quality Cost Share Programs. These programs help to plan, design and install much needed best management practices to protect soil resources and water quality on thousands of KY farms. These annual cost share funds are administered by

Conservation Districts with priority given to animal waste related problems and agricultural district participants where pollution problems have been identified.

Technical and Program Assistance provided by/with NRCS. Technical Assistance is provided through our federal partner, Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS). County residents receive assistance with conservation planning, rotational grazing, forestry practices, storm water runoff, sediment control and other conservation needs. The Conservation District, NRCS, KY Department of Fish and Wildlife, and KY Division of Forestry all work together to assist

landowners with programs under the Federal Farm Bill.

Agricultural Districts. This voluntary program allows farmers to form special areas where agriculture is encouraged and protected. Benefits include the right to have property taxed at its agricultural value and protection from annexation without the landowner's permission.

Dead Farm Animal Program. Cost share assistance is available to farmers for the removal and proper disposal of fallen livestock. Farmers may be reimbursed for 75% of the haul bill up to \$100.

Farm Dump Removal Assistance Program. Cost share assistance is available to help farmers clean up farm dumps. If application is approved, participants are responsible for 25% of the cost of cleaning up the dump. Reimbursement will be made after the work is completed. Reimbursement is limited to 75% of the total cost for the clean-up and restoration of the site up to a maximum of \$1,875.

National Conservation Foundation Envirothon

In mid-November 2019, the Kenton County Conservation District welcomed Teacher Melissa Stolz and her AP Environmental Science class from Lloyd Memorial High School to the Morning View Heritage Area for a day of hands on Envirothon training. Professionals from KY Division of Forestry, KY Department of Fish & Wildlife, USDA Natural Resource Conservation Services, and Biose Institute provided expert knowledge to help coach and guide the students learning experience. This hands on training was an introduction for the annual Envirothon Spring Competition. The Kenton County Conservation District provided continual training to the AP Environmental Science class throughout the 2019 2020 academic year. The class of 15 students formed three Envirothon Teams to represent Kenton County at the Envirothon Spring Competition. Teams compete locally, and winners advance to the state competition. Top teams head to the North American Envirothon, a week long competition hosted by one of the states, provinces, or territories in North America, where scholarships and prizes are awarded.

Want to know more on how to form an Envirothon Team?

Contact the Kenton County Conservation District for details!



Kenton County Conservation District

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Congratulations Kenton County on 20 Years of What's Happening!

This issue marks the 20th year, the 40th issue, of *What's Happening! In Kenton County*. In spite of major events, ranging from 9/11 right up to COVID-19, the organizations you read about in *What's Happening! in Kenton County* have collaborated to keep you informed about the many programs and services available to enhance your life as County residents.

Have you ever wondered where this comes from?

It began as a little idea 30 years ago when I was a new resident in Boone County. At that time Boone County was the fastest growing county east of the Mississippi River but there was no centralized resource for information. Long-time residents knew where things like the library and parks were but it was hard for a newcomer to find that information.

In 1990, I asked to speak at a Boone County Fiscal Court meeting about this lack of centralized communication. All the counties in Northern Kentucky were projected to grow between 50 - 100% in the next 20 years so the communication problem was not going to go away.

The Boone County Fiscal Court, then under Judge/Executive Bruce Ferguson, agreed to a pilot year of a county-wide newsletter to be shared with the Boone County Schools. At the end of the year, I called a meeting of

all the organizations that received tax funds, either directly or indirectly, to see if they would be interested in going under one masthead. Many were interested and the publication grew beyond just the Fiscal Court and Boone County Schools. *What's Happening! In Boone County* is now going into its 31st year of uninterrupted publication.

What's Happening in Oldham County began in 1996. *What's Happening! In Kenton County* and *What's Happening! in Campbell County* both started in 2000. What began as a 25,000 two-color 8-page newsletter has now grown to about 500,000 four-color magazines a year. Rivertown Communications LLC, owner of the *What's Happening!* family, is still a one-woman band but has worked with a gifted graphic designer and superb web printer for much of the 30 years.

What has changed and what hasn't

Plenty of things have changed over the 30 years of *What's Happening!* including countless administrative changes, inclusion of non-political and non-religious 501c organizations, demographic and political shifts, and consolidations. Technology moved even more quickly with the advent of digital printing, search engines, websites, Adobe's Portable Document Format (PDF)



which we use for both print and web, and social media.

But some things have not changed at all. As editor and publisher of *What's Happening!*, I still have the same three principles now as in 1991:

1. No political bias or self-promotion by any individual.
2. No dirty laundry about any person, place or thing.
3. Useful information so residents know how to access services and programs for which they pay

through local, state and federal taxes and grants.

Although all information is submitted and approved by each organization, I appreciate all your feedback — both positive and negative. It has made *What's Happening!* a better resource. Thank you!

Sincerely,
Andrea Shepard Mack

Rivertown Communications




Rivertown Communications
www.whatshappeningnews.com

Andrea Shepard Mack

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

TANK

TANK 2020 Redesign: Progress report

If you are a regular bus rider or simply like to keep up on the improvements to our transit service here's an update on TANK's 2020 Redesign process.

In March and April adjustments were made to the original recommendations based on community feedback. The TANK board of Directors approved a final set of plan recommendations, pending final and formal budget approval by TANK and the three Fiscal Courts of Boone, Campbell and Kenton counties.

To read a summary of the changes as well as a full presentation of the final recommendation visit tankbus.org/learn/2020-system-redesign



Expected outcomes

The final plan represents a massive change to your region's transit system and, once implemented, will provide the following outcomes:

- The number of people within

walking distance to frequent transit will increase by 155%

- The number of jobs within walking distance to frequent transit will increase by 58%
- The number of Transportation

Disadvantaged individuals within walking distance of frequent transit will increase by 157%

- The number of revenue hours needed to operate the new system will actually decrease by 2.4%
- The number of peak vehicles needed to operate the new system will decrease by 20+%

What Happens Next?

In November be on the lookout for more specifics around routes and timetables. Our redesigned service will begin in late December 2020 or early January 2021. For updates you can follow TANK on social media and sign up for rider alerts.

JOIN OUR TEAM OF DEDICATED DRIVERS!

TANK is hiring fixed-route drivers for full-time openings. We are seeking applicants with the talent to communicate, interact and create the best experience for our riders and who strive to provide excellent service to our community.

Preferred applicants have CDL Permit or License with Class B passenger and air brake. Paid training available. We offer excellent health benefits and paid time off.

To apply visit tankbus.org/connect/careers




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!

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(Transit Authority of Northern Kentucky)

 Instagram @tankbus

