

Greetings! Here's What's Happening! For KCP&R, Wild Wednesdays AND (Almost) Every Thursday Science both begin this week! PLUS the Banklick Creek Clean-Up is Saturday! WOW! Please pass the word! Thanks - Steve

What's Happening in Kenton County's Parks? Weekly Update ~ For the Week of May 14/May 21, 2012

- *Words To Ponder...* "As you seek new opportunity, keep in mind that the sun does not usually reappear on the horizon where last seen." ~ Robert Brault
- *Did You Know...* Parks and recreation play vital roles in creating active and healthy communities! Here's what some have to say: "We all need empty hours in our lives or we will have no time to create or dream." ~ Robert Coles; and "Pausing to listen to an airplane in the sky, stooping to watch a ladybug on a plant, sitting on a rock to watch the waves crash over the quayside ~ children have their own agendas and timescales. As they find out more about their world and their place in it, they work hard not to let adults hurry them. We need to hear their voices." ~ Cathy Nutbrown. Need more reasons to play in your parks? The benefits of parks and recreation are endless! Each week, we will use Did You Know... to create awareness of the direct contribution that these essential services play in shaping community health, preserving open spaces, and benefiting the economy!
- *South Kenton News: After The Tornado*

Tornado Totem: While not a native cultural icon to Northern Kentucky, there is an opportunity to document the tornado event and response in the form of a 12-foot white pine tree that was decimated by the storm. It was spared the chainsaw and is available for an aspiring Eagle Scout or wood carver to render into a totem pole for the Piner community. The base of the log is over 36 inches and represents at least fifty years of growth. Perhaps we can get an inspired artisan to make it happen. Contact: Bill at (859) 250-3449 or billschneider919@gmail.com for details.

'Old Barn' Help: If you are up for a nice, quiet drive into beautiful southern Kenton County, plan a stop at Allen's Grocery (Piner) or Stahl's Grocery (Fiskburg) and purchase a coffee mug or T-shirt to support the fund to help individuals fix up old barns that were damaged during the tornado in March. Too many were totally destroyed, but some of these old structures sustained minor damage and just need some TLC to make them safe and weather-proof again. E-mail billschneider919@gmail.com if you have questions on the fund.
- *Missing the Trash Can and Leaving it. Littering Is Wrong, Too!*

Look around. It's all too clear that we are a messy people. Yep, messy. Join Kenton County and Keep America Beautiful in equating littering with other brainless, irrational, ridiculous, thoughtless, twisted, diabolical, rude, sinister, conniving, grievous, just plain wrong WRONGS! Litter can bring down a community in more ways than one. Most commonly it originates from pedestrians and motorists, but research shows that litter also comes from uncovered truck beds and household

trash, construction sites, and transition points like bus stops and retail entrances. Visit LitteringIsWrongToo.org to find out how you can prevent litter in your community. 'Clean' is Contagious.

- *Ten Reasons Why Children and Adults Need Vitamin N!* In 'Last Child in the Woods,' author Richard Louv focused on why children need nature. In his new book, 'The Nature Principle,' Louv tells how the whole family ~ and whole communities ~ can become happier, healthier, and smarter through more contact with the natural world. Here is the fifth of 10 reasons children and adults need nature:

- 6. Nature heals. Pennsylvania researchers found that patients in rooms with tree views had shorter hospitalizations, less need for pain medications, and fewer negative comments in the nurses' notes, compared to patients with views of brick.

Richard Louv is Chairman Emeritus of [The Children and Nature Network](http://TheChildrenandNatureNetwork).

- *More Good Stuff in this e-Edition of What's Happening...*
Shelterhouse Reservations; Weekly KCP&R Partner Spotlight ~ This week, it's [Dominach's Taekwondo Academy](#); Farmers' Markets ~ No Farms, No Food! Know Where Your Food Comes From! Support YOUR Local Farmers; and Annual Ongoing Donations Collection Update! [For the More Good Stuff details, see WAY below!](#)

- *HELP! Right now, we're looking for...*
 - [Lunch Partners for Wild Wednesdays!](#) Yep, still looking! Here's an easy and affordable way to have your business name associated positively with Kenton County Parks & Recreation and do a tremendous good by footing the bill for lunch following one or more of our Wild Wednesdays! nature programs! Call Steve today at (859) 525-PLAY (7529)! Wild Wednesdays! begins in May!

- *KCP&R Programs, Activities & Events Guide!* Our online Programs, Activities, and Events Guide is filled with all the good stuff of 2012 and we will continue updating it throughout the coming year with changes and additions. KCP&R offers many programs, activities, and events and we hope you will enjoy them all! Hey, just take a look at the Guide ~ you're sure to see something you'll want to try during the upcoming year! Visit our web site at www.kentoncounty.org, click on County Services, then on Parks & Recreation, and then on Programs, Activities & Events Guide. It's ALL in there!

- *The Scoop on Upcoming KCP&R Programs, Activities & Events!*
This list includes some of those with which we are in some way affiliated, or we feel may appeal to your sense of adventure or be right up your alley! Look for the details and more in-depth descriptions in the paragraphs below. Then, get out there! Invite someone along! Bring a friend! Enjoy! Stuff KCP&R is directly involved in is shown here in **GREEN!**

- [May 16 ~ Wild Wednesdays RETURNS to Middleton-Mills Park!](#)

- May 17 ~ (Almost) Every Other Thursday Science RETURNS to Pioneer Park!
- May 18 ~ Northern Kentucky Police Memorial Service in Covington
- May 19 ~ Kenton County Veterans Memorial 5K Walk/Run at Crescent Springs Community

Park

- May 19 ~ Banklick Creek Clean-Up at Pioneer Park!
- May 19 ~ Spring Plant Sale at Boone County Arboretum
- May 19 ~ City of Erlanger's Amazing Race Scavenger Hunt!
- May 20, 27, and June 5 ~ Ladies Instructional League at the Golf Courses of Kenton

County

• *The REST of the STORY on Upcoming KCP&R Programs, Activities & Events!*

• *May 12 ~ High School Disc Golf Championships RESULTS!* Scott HS's Ben Edwards won the Individual Championship and Anderson County (KY) won the Team Championship and traveling trophy in Saturday's High School Disc Golf Championships at Lincoln Ridge Park! Other locals: Lucas Scheper (Conner) was fourth, Andy Gergel (Scott) was fifth, Noah Smith (St. Henry) was tenth, and Jordan Scheper (Holy Cross) was eleventh! Congratulations, all!

• *May 16 ~ Wild Wednesdays RETURNS to Middleton-Mills Park!*
Discover the fascinating world of wildlife! From May 16 to August 15, join us for our 13th season of award-winning Wild Wednesdays! presented by Toyota. The free programs begin at 10:00 am, last about an hour on each of the 13 dates and are held ~ rain or shine ~ in Shelterhouse 2 at Middleton-Mills Park.

Wild Wednesdays! is for everyone! It's not just schools and school-age children who are enjoying the programs. It's all ages ~ from babies to seniors! In 2005, Wild Wednesdays! was voted Kentucky Recreation and Park Society's Outstanding Program.

All you need is a sense of wonder ~ we'll take care of the rest! Go wild! Wild Wednesdays! Don't miss a single adventure! Learn simple definitions for big words such as biodiversity, endangered, conservation, preservation, adaptation, ecosystem, indigenous, extinction, specialization, and interdependence.

Arrive early for best seating! Be sure to check pre-program start times (9:30 or 9:45 am) or post-programs (11:00 am) online, as they vary, depending upon who's there: Where you see KCPL, pre-program stories (and songs!) will be provided by Joel Caithamer or Ashley Pakulski from the Kenton County Public Library in Independence. They will be promoting the library's 2012 Summer Reading program, titled 'Dream... Read... Succeed!' Nancy Ann Wartman from Usborne Books will read us a story or two where you see UB. Errin Howard or Geri McCarthy will do a short program for RiverWorks Discovery where you see RWD. Lee Strohm from Homeplace Farm will present Planting the Seeds where you see HF. And Girl Scouts Kentucky Wilderness Road Council will present activities for all wherever you see GSKWRC.

Mike Dominach of Dominach's Taekwondo Academy will be on hand where you see DTA for a number of post-programs, demonstrating how the practice of Taekwondo is something the whole family can enjoy by helping participants develop personal skills such as focus, self-confidence, and discipline!

Here is the 2012 program schedule:

- May 16 ~ The Bird Show and The Cincinnati Zoo (GSKWRC@9:30, DTA@11:00)
- May 23 ~ J.J. Audubon and Geo. Lehman and Field Programs on Fowler Creek (HF@9:30)
 - May 30 ~ Farmer Frank & Sunrock Farm Barnyard Animals (KCPL@9:30)
- June 6 ~ Newport Aquarium's WAVE Foundation ~ Fabulous Frogs & Croc Talk (GSKWRC@9:30, UB@9:45, DTA@11:00)
 - June 13 ~ African Skulls with Critters in the Classroom (KCPL@9:30)
- June 20 ~ Farmer Joan and The Equine Show ~ Miniature Horse, Pony, and Donkey (RWD@9:30)
 - June 27 ~ Sunrock Farm Barnyard Animals w/Milking Goat (KCPL@9:30, DTA@11:00)
 - July 4 ~ NO PROGRAM ~ Enjoy the holiday week with family and friends!
- July 11 ~ Music and Animal Fun with Mr. Cowpie's Party Animals (KCPL@9:30, DTA@11:00)
- July 18 ~ Field Programs on Fowler Creek's J.J. Audubon and Fishtrap (GSKWRC@9:30, UB@9:45)
 - July 25 ~ Land Down Under and a 'roo or two with Kentucky Down Under (KCPL@9:30)
 - August 1 ~ Cincinnati Zoo's Wildlife Comes To You ~ REPTILES! (GSKWRC@9:30)
 - August 8 ~ Eagle Bend Alpacas (GSKWRC@9:30, UB@9:45, DTA@11:00)
 - August 15 ~ Raptor, Inc. with Top of the Food Chain (KCPL@9:30)

Free raffle! Hey, don't forget the free raffle of terrific donated prizes, including everyone's favorite: You know it; you love it ~ it's Beanie-of-the-Week! However, we are always in need of prizes in exchange for promotional consideration. We can use free tickets and passes, books, posters, puzzles, t-shirts, and plush animals. Please be sure to check out the free resource table stocked with interesting and informative pamphlets and brochures!

And thinking about lunch... We expect that some of our Wild Wednesdays! programs will be followed with a free lunch. If there will be free lunch provided, it will be indicated in a recognizable way! Yum!

Unfortunately, at this time, none of our lunches have been covered. However, when we have no Lunch Partner to cover the full cost, Snappy Tomato Pizza and now Subway® will be helping us out with super prices so that we can continue to provide lunches at \$1 per person for those who want to buy in. And, we are grateful to have found a 'healthy alternatives lunch' partner in Cincinnati Children's whose involvement will help offset some of the cost of Subway® lunches!

Know somebody who wants to promote their business thru KCP&R? Wanna put your name on one? Or two? It's \$150 for one or \$250 for two dates and you'll just write your check to Snappy Tomato Pizza or Subway. It's that easy! Give us a call so we can give you all the details and put on the food bag, er, fill in some of the remaining dates! Call Steve at KCP&R at (859) 525-PLAY (7529)!

Directions to Middleton-Mills Park are easy! The address is 3415 Mills Rd., Covington, KY 41015. From I-275, take Covington/Taylor Mill exit (Exit 79), go south on KY16 seven miles to Mills Road, go east (turn left) on Mills Road, go one mile to park.

Wild Wednesdays! is free to attend and enjoy. Instead of money, we collect donations of non-perishable food and personal care items for Senior Services of NKY. Your kind donations have helped way more than you know. Let's keep giving! Please remember to bring a little something each week.

• *May 17 ~ (Almost) Every Other Thursday Science RETURNS to Pioneer Park!* Whoever said "Science is boring" had to be kidding! These programs are interactive and educational. And FUN! Programs are held in Shelterhouse 1 at Pioneer Park ~ rain or shine ~ beginning at 10:00 am on each of the seven dates, mid-May thru mid-August. The free programs are delivered in 1-hour theatrical assembly presentations. And, it's not just for schools and school-age children! Our sixth season of programs has something for everyone! It's all ages enjoying the programs ~ from babies to seniors and everyone in between! And it just keeps getting better and better!

Arrive early for best seating! Be sure to check pre-program start times (9:30 or 9:45 am) or post-programs (11:00 am), as they vary, depending upon who's there: Where you see KCPL, Lise Tewes from the Kenton County Public Library in Erlanger will be on hand to read stories (and maybe sing songs)! UB stands for Usborne Books and Nancy Ann Wartman will read more stories from the Usborne line. Dan Evans and Kenton County Animal Shelter will bring some of his favorite animals to visit where you see KCAS. Sanitation District No. 1 will present exciting news about Public Service Park where you see SD1. And Girl Scouts Kentucky Wilderness Road Council staff will be on site with a short activity for all where you see GSKWRC.

The actual Science programs will begin at 10:00 am.

Mike Dominach of Dominach's Taekwondo Academy will be on hand where you see DTA for a number of post-programs, demonstrating how the practice of Taekwondo is something the whole family can enjoy by helping participants develop personal skills such as focus, self-confidence, and discipline!

Here's the 2012 program schedule:

• May 17 ~ Fantastic Plastic presented by Crystal Clear Science ~ Fantastic? Plastic?? Experiment with and amazing polymer and hand held magnifiers as we study the physical and chemical properties of plastic! Watch as we add water and be amazed as the polymer... Come and join us to find out the rest! (SD1@9:30, KCAS@9:45, DTA@11:00)

• May 24 ~ Incredible Insects presented by Cincinnati Museum Center ~ Get up close and personal with the creatures that make up Earth's largest population. Learn who is an insect and who is not, see the world through the eyes of a fly, and learn about insect defense! (KCPL@9:30)

• June 14 ~ Critters in the Crick presented by Out of Control Wildlife ~ A wade-in-the-creek-and-catch-stuff adventure! Investigating stream bed, stream banks, and everything in between! Using seines and dip nets, all aquatic life will be examined ~ insects, salamanders, fish,

frogs, and maybe even a turtle or water snake! Wear old shoes, waterproof shoes, boots, or waders. And bring a towel ~ just in case! (KCPL@9:30, DTA@11:00)

- June 28 ~ *Who Wants To Be A Paleontologist* presented by Behringer-Crawford Museum ~ Voyage into the ancient Ordovician Sea, which covered Kentucky and the Ohio Valley and find out what strange creatures lived here 450 million years ago. People from all over the world come to this area to dig for what you may have in your own backyard! Examine examples from BCM's extensive fossil collection and then become a backyard paleontologist! (KCAS@9:30, UB@9:45)

- July 19 ~ *Movers & Shakers* presented by Crystal Clear Science ~ Why does hot air rise? What causes earthquakes? Why do I sound different on a video? How can I make the most noise possible with a small piece of paper? Believe it or not, it's all about moving and shaking! (KCAS@9:30, UB@9:45, DTA@11:00)

- August 9 ~ *Chemistry 101* presented by Crystal Clear Science ~ If you ever wanted to know why some things mix together and others just won't, or wondered what the difference was between a gas and a plasma, then you won't want to miss this visit with Crystal Clear Science! (GSKWRC@9:30, UB@9:45, DTA@11:00)

- August 16 ~ *Experimenting with Physical Science* presented by Cincinnati Museum Center ~ What shapes do bubbles take? Does sound vibrate? Explore bubbles, sound, electricity, magnets, motion, light, color, mirrors, and optical illusions in this inquire-based program. Create hypotheses, perform experiments, draw conclusion, and share your discoveries! (KCPL@9:30)

Hey, Science was never so fun! And, guess what? The fine folks from Faith Community United Methodist Church will be providing free popcorn and lemonade again ~ we call 'em 'hors d'oeuvres'!

FREE LUNCH??? To top it all off, once again, Snappy Tomato Pizza ~ Ft. Wright, our Lunch Partner, will provide free pizza for lunch! That's right! A FREE pizza snack lunch following all seven weeks of the series! Science, popcorn, lemonade, and pizza! Could it get any better?

Pioneer Park is easy to find! The address is 3951 Madison Pike, Covington, KY 41017. From I-275, take Exit 80 (Covington/Independence). Go south (under I-275 overpass) and about 1 mile. You'll see the park on the right before you get to the entrance. Turn right as you enter the park and meet at Shelterhouse 1.

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

- *May 18 ~ Police Memorial Service in Covington!* Presented by the Northern Kentucky Police Chief's Association, the memorial service will be held on Friday, May 18 at 10:00 am at the Northern Kentucky Police Memorial, located at the foot of the suspension bridge in Covington, near the Kenton County Courthouse at 303 Court St.

- *May 19 ~ Kenton County Veterans Memorial 5K Walk/Run at Crescent Springs Community Park!* Start time: 8:30 am. Contact the City of Crescent Springs at (859) 341-3017 for more information.

• *May 19 ~ Banklick Creek Clean-Up at Pioneer Park!* KCP&R will sponsor a creek cleanup at Banklick Creek in the stretch which runs through Pioneer Park on Saturday, May 19, beginning at 9:00 am and ending around 12:00 pm with a hotdogs and chips picnic for all volunteers. When the creek's water level is low, we are able to access nearly all of Pioneer's one-mile of creek and, if it is low then, we should be able to really make a visible and physical difference!

Come alone or bring the entire family, church, or school group. We will be happy to sign your community service paperwork. Yes, we will have the 'Most-Unusual Find' Contest, like we do at the Doe Run Lake Spring Clean-Up, and prizes will be awarded! No pre-registration is needed ~ just show up and be willing to get a little dirty and maybe a little wet so plan accordingly! We'll feed you afterwards!

We need your help! Volunteer yourself or your group to spend a half day doin' the dirty work of cleaning up trash and litter that is polluting our creeks! Hopefully, Mother Nature will cooperate and give us a great day to work outside! Rubber gloves and trash bags will be provided. You can help make a difference by donating your time and effort to make your communities cleaner and safer environments. Need community Service hours? Bring your paperwork! We'll be happy to sign off on your labor!

Pioneer Park is easy to find! The address is 3951 Madison Pike, Covington, KY 41017. From I-275, take Exit 80 (Covington/Independence) and go south on KY Hwy. 16 about one-half mile. Turn right into the park at the light at the White Castle plant. We will meet in the parking lot by the Soccer fields at the North end of the park. See you there!

• *May 19 ~ Spring Plant Sale at Boone County Arboretum!* Looking for some unbeatable deals on plants? Come to the Spring Plant Sale in Shelter 1 at the Boone County Arboretum on Saturday, May 19 from 9:00 am ~ noon. Trees, shrubs, perennials, annuals and more! All proceeds benefit Friends of the Boone County Arboretum, located at 9190 Camp Ernst Rd. in Union, KY. Questions? Call Laura Barth at (859) 586-6101 or the Arboretum Office at (859) 384-4999.

• *May 19 ~ City of Erlanger's Amazing Race Scavenger Hunt!* It's still not too late to get a team together on May 19 and race through Erlanger to reach destinations in the City of Erlanger's Amazing Race Scavenger Hunt! It's fun! It's exciting! AND, you can win money! Teams of 2-7 persons or a car load (motorcycles are welcome) may participate. The registration fee is \$20 per team. Teams must bring a digital camera with cleared memory card or a Polaroid Camera with film, a pen or pencil, and a full tank of gas! Meet at 6:30 pm for last minute instructions. The Race begins at 6:45 and you must return no later than 8:45 pm! Registration applications may be found online at www.ci.erlanger.ky.us or on Facebook keyword City of Erlanger or can be picked up at the Erlanger City Building, located at 505 Commonwealth Ave., Erlanger, KY 41018. For details, contact Faith Woods at 859.727.2525, Option #1.

• *May 20, 27, and June 5 ~ Ladies Instructional League at the Golf Courses of Kenton County!* The Golf Courses of Kenton County are excited to continue The Ladies Instructional League in 2012! Just \$99 for the 5-week session on Sundays from 3:30 pm ~ 5:00 pm. Come out and learn to play the game of a lifetime in a casual and relaxed atmosphere. Topics covered will include swing fundamentals, chipping, putting, etiquette, and general rules and terminology. Students will receive instruction on the range each week and the final three weeks of the program will include on-course instruction. Participants will also receive driving range and golf discounts. Contact Jason for registration information at (859) 371-3200 or by e-mail at jason.laible@kentoncounty.org. The Golf Courses of Kenton County ~ "We've got your game!"

• *What's Happening in Kenton County's parks e-newsletter!* Would you like someone you know to receive this Monday's e-mail update of our once-a-week 'What's Happening in Kenton County's Parks?' Just hit 'Forward' to send to your friends and family. Or, call 525-PLAY to sign up!

• *More Good Stuff in this e-Edition of What's Happening ~ The Details!*

• *Shelterhouse Reservations for 2012!* Each year, KCP&R begins accepting reservations for the upcoming outdoor season beginning on the first Monday in February for all shelterhouses in the parks maintained by Kenton County Fiscal Court, including those located in Lincoln Ridge, Middleton-Mills, Pioneer, and Richardson Road parks.

This year, we began accepting reservations on Monday, February 6. Effective February 13, you now have the option to check availability and make Shelterhouse reservations online with Visa® or MasterCard® at www.kentoncounty.org. From the main KC Fiscal Court page, point your cursor to County Services and scroll down and click on Parks and Recreation. Scroll down the left-hand menu and click on Online Shelterhouse Reservations. From there, it's pretty self-explanatory but if you need help, just call! Of course, you will continue to be able to make reservations in person at our office any weekday (Monday ~ Friday) during regular business hours, between the hours of 7:30 am and 4:00 pm.

Our office is located at 3902 Richardson Rd., Independence, KY 41051, just inside the entrance to The Golf Courses of Kenton County. Directions: From I-275, go south on Turkeyfoot Rd. and turn left on Richardson Rd. at St. Barbara's Church. The golf course entrance is down about a mile on your right. As you turn in off Richardson Rd., look for a sign and driveway on your immediate left and turn in. Follow the driveway to the office.

Our eight shelterhouses are available by advance reservation and payment of a non-refundable permit fee. A permit entitles you to exclusive use of the shelterhouse from 9:00 am until dusk. We accept credit cards, personal checks, money orders, and cash.

Shelterhouse fees are as follows:

These five shelterhouses are each \$65 for the day:

- Lincoln Ridge #1 and #2: located in the front of the park and separated by a playground;
- Middleton-Mills #1: by the pond near the entrance to the park;
- Pioneer #2: turn left as you enter the park, near tennis and basketball courts;
- Richardson Road #1: located across from the Golf Courses of Kenton County.

These three shelterhouses are \$80 each for the day:

- Lincoln Ridge #3: located in the back of the park;
- Middleton-Mills #2: past the basketball courts and sand volleyball court;
- Pioneer #1: turn right as you enter the park, toward the Kenton Paw Park.

- *KCP&R Partners Weekly Spotlight!*

Dominach's Taekwondo Academy

Mr. D is serious about making martial arts fun and affordable for the whole family (ages 4+)! Dominach's Taekwondo Academy is a Prize Partner for Wild Wednesdays! and for the Great Pumpkin Races. Prizes include one month of unlimited Taekwondo classes including a free uniform, and one month of unlimited TKD Lite classes including free gloves. TKD Lite ~ All The Fun & Half The Fat!

DTA has sponsored The Water Show from FamilyTime Entertainment at the Kick-Off To Summer Party! DTA was a Program Partner for Go Outside (And Don't Come Home 'Til The Street Lights Come On!) at Doe Run Lake and sponsored the day's musical entertainment with The Northern Kentucky Bluegrass Band. DTA presented My Favorite Bluegrass Band at the 2011 Kick-Off To Summer Party! You may see Mr. D doing pre- and after-programs at (Almost) Every Other Thursday Science and at Wild Wednesdays!

Call Mr. D at Dominach's Taekwondo Academy at (859) 356-9976 or visit www.DomTKD.com. Dominach's Taekwondo Academy is located at 2148 Declaration Dr., Independence, KY 41051, next to ACE Hardware in the Independence Town Center.

- *Program Partners, Lunch Partners, and Prize Partners ~ OUR*

Partners! We are grateful for our many Program Partners, Lunch Partners, and Prize Partners! With helpful support generated from these partnerships, our efforts and the benefits we can provide to our community are greatly magnified. In our quest to continue to provide entertainment, educational programs, activities, and events throughout the Kenton County Parks system, KCP&R has numerous available partnership opportunities! Wanna help? You can provide your cooperative support and begin immediately to reap the benefits of associating your name with Kenton County Parks & Recreation! We want to put your name on one of our 2012 programs, activities, or events TODAY!

What do you get? Your name and a paragraph or two about you and your company (as above) will appear on our website for one full year and one Partner each week will be spotlighted in 'What's Happening in Kenton County's parks?' And, if the dollars are right, we'll even put your name on a banner! No worries ~ for the program you decide is right for you, we'll be sure you get the kudos... and plenty of them! (See Partners Spotlight at

http://www.kentoncounty.org/fiscalcourt/county_departments/parks_and_recreation/uploads/partner_spotlight.pdf).

We are, at this time, in the process of lining up Program Partners and Lunch Partners for the 2012 season of Wild Wednesdays! There are 13 total weeks of the program and we want to provide free lunch following each one! Let us associate your name with Wild Wednesdays! as Program Partner or Lunch Partner! You'll get the 'Thanks' and children and their parents or caregivers will benefit from a FREE lunch following a FREE wildlife program! Call Steve or Scott today at (859) 525-PLAY (7529) and let us match your company goals to one of our programs! It's that easy!

• *Farmers' Markets Support YOUR Local Farmers! No Farms, No Food! Here are two we like:*

• *The Dixie Farmers Market* is held every Thursday (thru October) from 2:00 pm ~ 6:00 pm in the Erlanger Baptist Church parking lot located at 116 Commonwealth Avenue in Erlanger, KY 41918. For weekend warriors who are already out tackling their flower beds, the Market has beautiful flowers for buyers to plant or purchase already potted. (Hint, hint!) These might also make great gifts for Mothers Day! For those who have a sweet tooth, stop by and try out the best honey in the tri-state area! Get to know your neighbors, trade recipes, and support local farmers!

• *The Independence Farmers' Market* runs on Saturdays from 8:30 am until 2:00 pm. The Kenton County Courthouse is located in downtown Independence on Madison Pike/Old KY 17. 'Like' them on Facebook, keyword 'Independence Farmers' Market'. The Independence Farmers' Market will be announcing the monthly basket give away on their Facebook page. This basket will contain not only samples and goodies from the vendors, but coupons and offers from all the local city businesses. Make your fresh market purchases and get your ticket for the big basket give away! The winner will also be announced at the market where they can pick it up. And, don't miss 'First Saturday of the Month Arts and Crafts', when kids and/or adults are invited to display their artistic talents! Vendor spaces are limited but just \$15 for a 10x10 space. Contact Lee Strohm at LBStrohm@insightbb.com for more information.

• *Annual Ongoing Donations Collection Update ~ We collect donations of non-perishable food and personal care items all year long!*

Here's the deal: Most of the programs, activities, and events presented by Kenton County Parks & Recreation and funded by Kenton County Fiscal Court are FREE to enjoy. We welcome you to attend and participate! That said, and as a service to those less fortunate, we collect donations of non-perishable food and personal care items at our events. Just bring 'em, we'll take 'em! Your donation will go a long, long way right here in our community ~ in OUR community ~ and are donated to Senior Services of Northern Kentucky! Your kind donations of non-perishable food and personal care items have helped way more than you know. Please ~ let's keep giving! Total number of non-perishable food and personal care item donations collected in 2011: 3,163. 2012: 0.

• *KCP&R ~ Want to know more? Want to get involved?* Check out the Kenton County Recreation web site! Log on to www.kentoncounty.org and click on County Departments, and then on Parks & Recreation, and then on Recreation. Click on the link titled Programs, Activities, and Events Guide ~ with everything arranged by date! Please use the Comments & Suggestions link to tell us how you feel about the programs we offer, what you like or

don't like, and what you'd like to see in future programs. We are always looking and listening for new ideas!

Call Kenton County Parks & Recreation at (859) 525-PLAY (7529) to ask how you can help ~ we are always in need of volunteers, Program Partners, Lunch Partners, and Prize Partners for our programs! If we're not in, please leave a message and we will return your call!

• *Unsubscribe?* If you wish to unsubscribe from the weekly "What's Happening in Kenton County's parks" list, please send an e-mail note to steve.trauger@kentoncounty.org.

Steve Trauger, Recreation Programs Coordinator
Kenton County Parks & Recreation
3902 Richardson Rd., Independence, KY 41051
859.525.PLAY (7529), fax 859.525.7265
steve.trauger@kentoncounty.org
kentoncounty.org

Member Kentucky Recreation and Park Society

2011 Dorothy Mullen Arts & Humanities Award Recipient for Sugar Camp ~ Makin' Maple Syrup

2010 KRPS Professional of the Year

2009 KRPS Outstanding Program Award Recipient for (Almost) Every Other Thursday Science

2005 KRPS Outstanding Program Award Recipient for Wild Wednesdays!

Member National Recreation & Park Association

*"We do not stop playing because we grow old; we grow old because we stop playing."
~ George Bernard Shaw*