

**KENTON COUNTY PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION**  
**Kenton County Government Center**  
Conference Room 5070  
1840 Simon Kenton Way, Covington, Kentucky 41011

**Minutes**

February 4, 2026  
12:00 PM

- I.** Attendance: Mike Litzler; Adam Davey; Brian Halloran; Kathleen Carnes; Paul Ritter; George Sparks (Speakerphone); Rhonda Ritzi, staff
- II.** Call to Order – Rhonda called to order the February 4, 2026, meeting of the Kenton County Parks & Recreation Commission.
- III.** Meeting Minutes: 11/5/2025 (BH, ML) Approved.
- IV.** Parks Projects & Capital Projects Updates
  - a) Budget Items for FY 2027
  - b) Rhonda shared an update on the most recent completed parks projects and capital projects. Projects included Pioneer Park: walking paths to be repaved, shelter 2 and baseball restrooms to be upgraded; Middleton-Mills Park: traditional playground by soccer, sports court to include basketball and pickleball; Lincoln Ridge Park: disc golf course tee signage and posts; Capital Item for FY 2027: Doe Run Lake: boat ramp; continuation of master plan of the New Kenton County Park
  - c) Mike L. commented that we have some big projects ahead.
- V.** Shelter House Reservation Annual Review
  - a) Rhonda shared charts and statistics for a 5-year comparison per shelter. Revenue was reported for the past 5 years. See attached charts.
  - b) Brian H. made the motion to keep fees at the same rate. Mike L. seconded the motion. All approved.
  - c) Brian H. suggested that we reach out to social services, i.e. senior facilities or children's home, to offer shelters if available between Monday and Thursday at no fee. We would share appropriate programs with clientele.
- VI.** Recreation Programs Updates
  - a) Rhonda shared an update on the recreation programs. See attached charts.
  - b) This included a recap of 2025 programs and showcased 2026 and new programs.
  - c) Adam D. and Kathleen C asked about the capacity of programs scheduled by Rhonda. Rhonda shared that she manages her schedule appropriately.
- VII.** Other Discussion
  - a) No discussion.
- VIII.** Adjournment: Rhonda asked to adjourn the meeting. (BH, ML). All approved.

Minutes submitted by: Rhonda Ritzi

## Shelter Reservations Capacity by Year

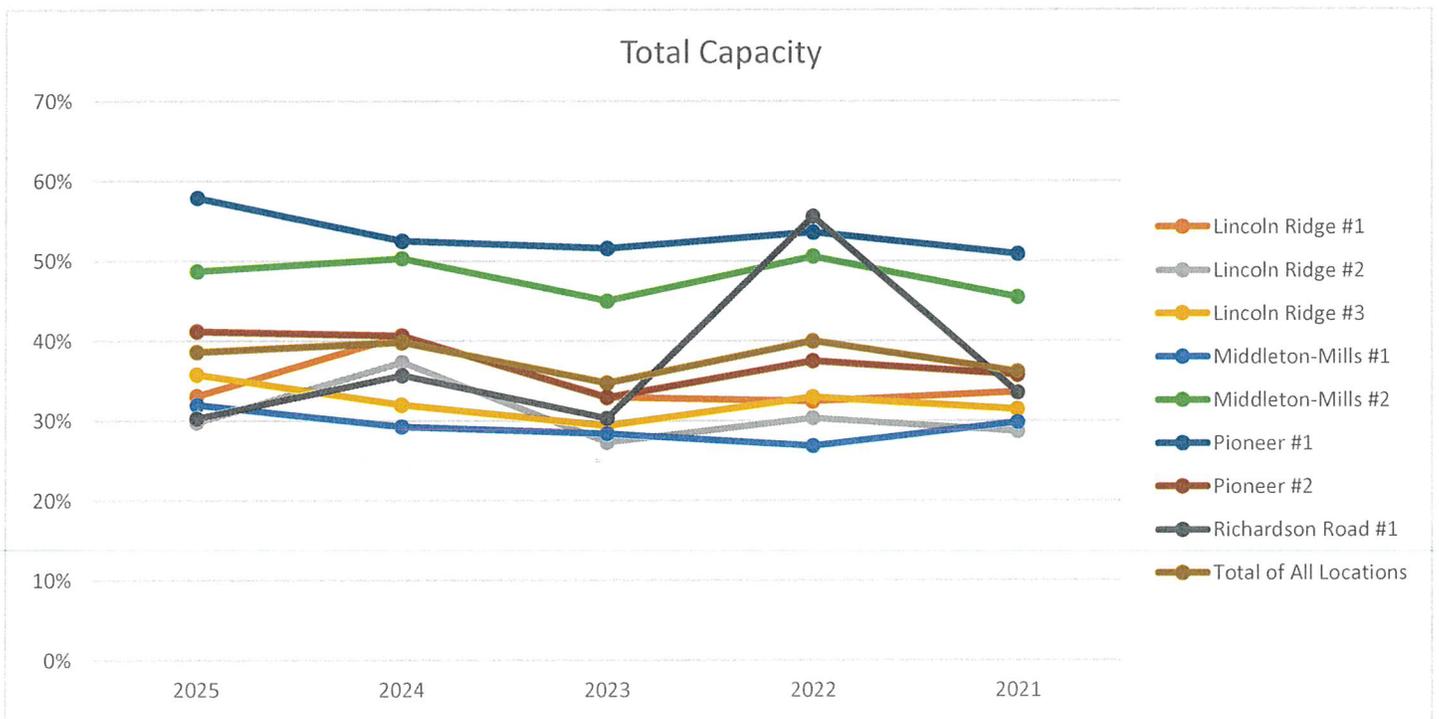
Location	Mon. - Fri. Capacity					Sat. - Sun. Capacity					Total Capacity				
	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021
Lincoln Ridge #1	9%	18%	10%	12%	9%	91%	96%	88%	86%	93%	33%	41%	33%	32%	34%
Lincoln Ridge #2	6%	13%	6%	7%	4%	87%	96%	79%	89%	89%	30%	37%	27%	30%	29%
Lincoln Ridge #3	11%	7%	4%	9%	5%	94%	93%	91%	95%	96%	36%	32%	29%	33%	31%
Middleton-Mills #1	10%	6%	8%	10%	8%	85%	85%	78%	71%	83%	32%	29%	28%	27%	30%
Middleton-Mills #2	31%	31%	25%	33%	26%	93%	96%	95%	100%	93%	49%	50%	45%	51%	45%
Pioneer #1	44%	33%	34%	39%	33%	93%	100%	97%	96%	94%	58%	52%	52%	54%	51%
Pioneer #2	19%	18%	12%	18%	11%	94%	96%	84%	89%	96%	41%	41%	33%	37%	36%
Richardson Road #1	4%	16%	14%	44%	15%	94%	83%	71%	89%	78%	30%	36%	30%	56%	34%
<b>Total of All Locations</b>	<b>17%</b>	<b>18%</b>	<b>14%</b>	<b>21%</b>	<b>14%</b>	<b>91%</b>	<b>93%</b>	<b>85%</b>	<b>90%</b>	<b>90%</b>	<b>39%</b>	<b>40%</b>	<b>35%</b>	<b>40%</b>	<b>36%</b>

Note:                    2021 Capacity was 185 days  
                              2022 Capacity was 191 days; RR was blocked for 60 days to the Court Renovations  
                              2023 Capacity was 191 days  
                              2024 Capacity was 185 days  
                              2025 Capacity was 185 days

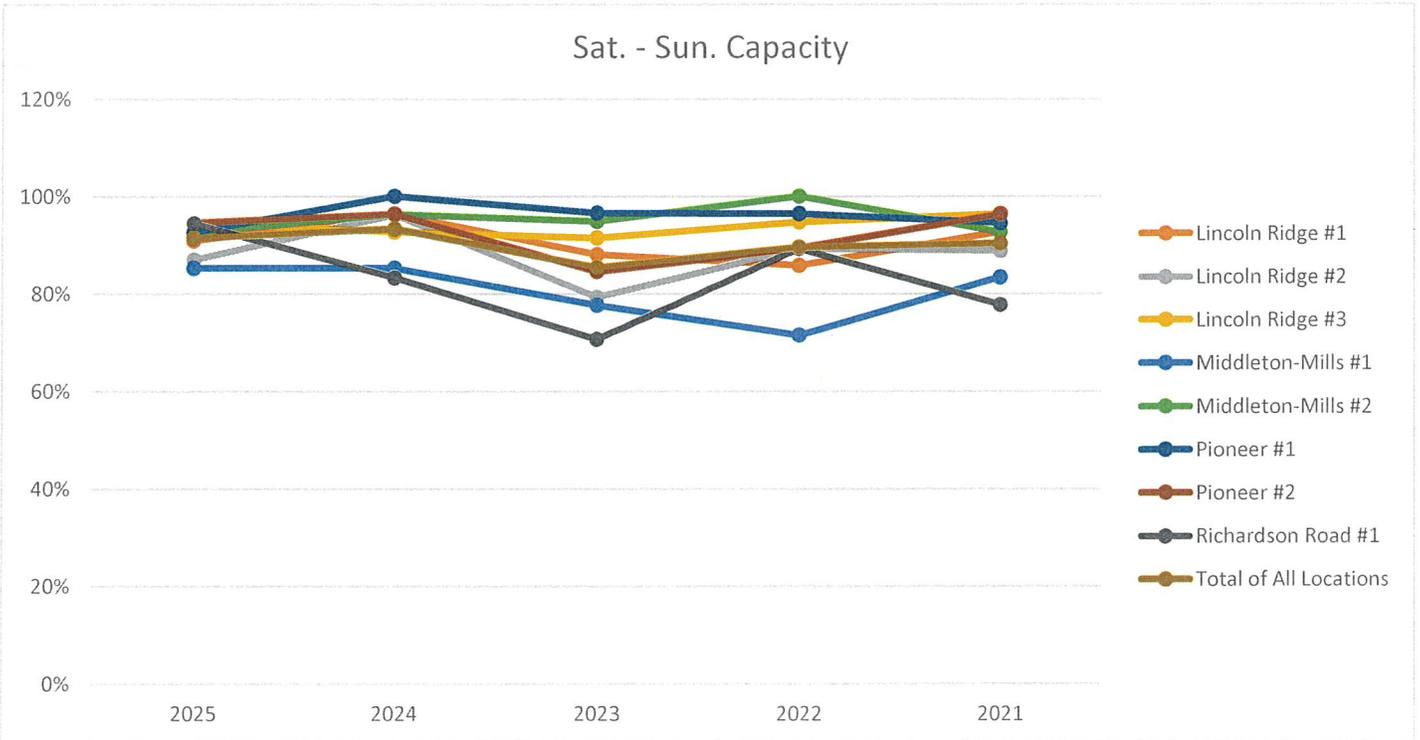
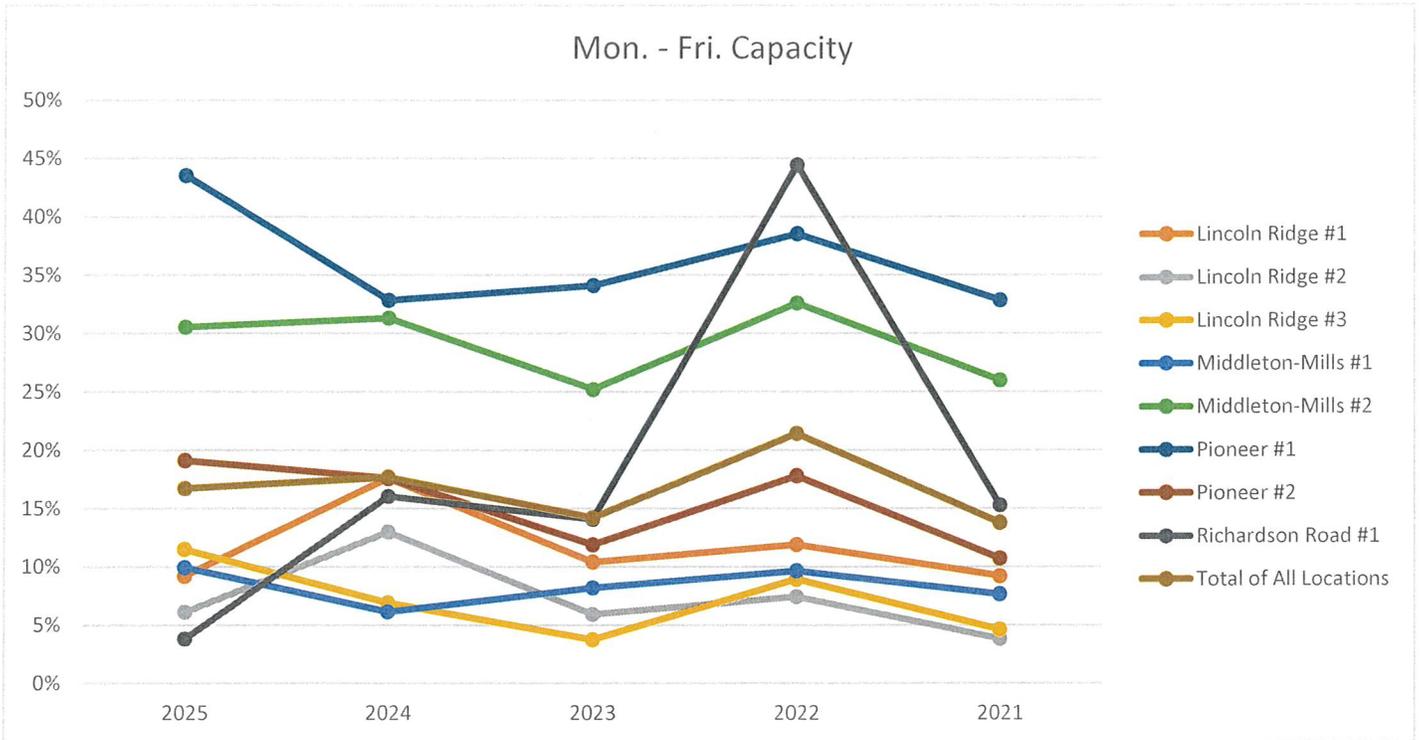
Shelter Reservation Revenue 5 YR Comparison

Location	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021
Lincoln Ridge #1	\$3,840.00	\$ 4,251.30	\$ 3,997.50	\$ 3,922.50	\$ 3,715.00
Lincoln Ridge #2	\$3,911.30	\$ 4,046.30	\$ 3,420.00	\$ 3,637.50	\$ 3,225.00
Lincoln Ridge #3	\$5,580.00	\$ 4,990.00	\$ 4,750.00	\$ 4,770.00	\$ 4,342.50
Middleton-Mills #1	\$3,030.00	\$ 2,595.00	\$ 2,955.00	\$ 2,907.50	\$ 3,470.00
Middleton-Mills #2	\$5,987.50	\$ 5,800.00	\$ 5,135.00	\$ 5,402.50	\$ 4,575.00
Pioneer #1	\$7,290.10	\$ 6,055.00	\$ 6,400.00	\$ 6,750.00	\$ 6,718.40
Pioneer #2	\$4,570.00	\$ 4,550.00	\$ 3,730.10	\$ 3,665.00	\$ 3,725.00
Richardson Road #1	\$2,250.00	\$ 2,820.00	\$ 2,055.00	\$ 1,615.00	\$ 2,337.50
<b>Total of All Locations</b>	<b>\$36,458.90</b>	<b>\$35,107.60</b>	<b>\$ 32,442.60</b>	<b>\$32,670.00</b>	<b>\$32,108.40</b>

Total Capacity



# Shelter Reservations Capacity by Year



Shelterhouse Rentals

2026 Pricing

Park	Cost				
<b>Boone County Parks</b>					<b>No change since 2023</b>
Boone Woods Park - Burlington, KY	Shelter 1 - 20'x40' (seats 80) \$45	Shelter 2 - 20'x40' (seats 80) \$45	Shelter 3 - 30'x50' (seats 100) \$75		Restroom Buildings, Grills, Electricity and Nearby Water Available
England-Idlewild Park - Burlington, KY	Shelter 1 - 30'x50' (seats 100) \$75	Shelter 2 - 20'x40' (seats 80) \$45	Shelter 3 - 20'x40' (seats 80) \$45		Port-O-Lets, Grills, Electricity and Nearby Water Available
Walton Community Park - Walton, KY	Shelter 1 - 20'x40' (seats 80) \$45	Shelter 2 - 20'x40' (seats 80) \$45	Shelter 3 - 20'x40' (seats 80) \$45		Restroom Building, Grills Electricity and Nearby Water Available
Central Park - Union, KY	Shelter 1 - 20'x40' (seats 80) \$45	Shelter 2 - 30'x50' (seats 100) \$75			Restroom Buildings, Grills, Electricity and Nearby Water Available
Giles Conrad Park - Hebron, KY	Shelter 1 - (seats 70) \$45	Shelter 2 - (seats 80) \$45			Port-O-Lets, Grill and Electricity Available
Sperti Park - Burlington, KY	Shelter 1 - (seats 25) \$45				Restroom Building, Grill, Electricity and Nearby Water Available; Limited Parking (6 spaces)
Special Permits	Pony Rides/Petting Zoos - \$50				
<b>Campbell County Parks</b>					<b>Lowered Prices during Week and Raised Prices on Weekend &amp; Adjusted Days for Rates since 2023</b>
<b>AJ Jolly</b>	\$30 - \$130	Weekday (Mon-Thurs)	\$35 - \$230		Weekend (Fri-Sat-Sun)/ Holiday
Stapleton Pavilion	\$250		\$500		
Grounds	\$100		\$200		
Red Fox (Private Picnic #1)	\$60		\$225		
Blue Heron (Private Picnic #2)	\$60		\$255		
Whitetail (Jolly Picnic #1)	\$60		\$150		
Bluegill (Whippoorwill Original)	\$25		\$125		
Cardinal (Whippoorwill New)	\$25		\$125		
Small Shelters	\$15		\$40		
Honeybee (Trail Shelter)	\$25		\$75		
Turtle (Group Camping Shelter)	\$25		\$100		
<b>Pendery</b>	\$55	Weekday (Mon-Thurs)	\$65 - \$100		Weekend (Fri-Sat-Sun)/ Holiday
Grounds	\$100		\$200		
Large Shelter #1	\$25		\$150		
Small Shelter #2-4	\$25		\$75		

Kenton County Parks					Changed for 2024
Lincoln Ridge Park	Shelter 1 - 24'x40' (seats 100/11 tables) \$40/\$70	Shelter 2 - 24'x40' (seats 100/11 tables) \$40/\$70	Shelter 3 - 27'x40' (seats 100/12 tables) \$40/\$90	Shelter Fees: Mon-Thurs \$40; Fri-Sun \$70 or \$90	
Middleton Mills Park	Shelter 1 - 38'x38' (seats 100/10 tables) \$40/\$70	Shelter 2 - 29'x40' (seats 100/10-14 tables) \$40/\$90		Shelter Fees: Mon-Thurs \$40; Fri-Sun \$70 or \$90	
Pioneer Park	Shelter 1 - 38'x40' (seats 100/12 tables) \$40/\$90	Shelter 2 - 28'x16' (seats 50/6 tables) \$40/\$70		Shelter Fees: Mon-Thurs \$40; Fri-Sun \$70 or \$90	
Richardson Road Park	Shelter 1 - 40'x40' (seats 100/9 tables) \$40/\$70			Shelter Fees: Mon.-Thurs. \$40; Fri.-Sun. \$70	
<u>City</u>					<b>Most no changes since 2023</b>
Florence (5 shelters)	\$26.50				
Covington	\$35 or \$50	Residents	\$50 or \$75	Non-Residents	
Crescent Springs	\$40	Residents	\$80	Non-Residents	
Independence					
Staggs	\$40				
Memorial	\$40 or \$55				
Edgewood (3 shelters)	Residents Only		\$42.40	Sat-Sun	
Erlanger (3 shelters)	Residents Only	Mon-Fri			
Taylor Mill		\$25 Deposit		\$75 Plus \$50 Deposit	Non-Residents
Fort Mitchell (General Ormsby Mitchell Pavilion)		\$60 Plus \$50 Deposit	Residents		
Residents		\$150	Mon-Fri	\$175	Sat-Sun
Non-Residents		\$175	Mon-Fri	\$200	Sat-Sun
Fort Thomas					<b>Raised prices and no difference based on weekday or weekend since 2023</b>
Tower #1 (seats 75/8 tables)		\$100		\$25 shelters to schools, churches and non-profits	
Tower #2 (seats 75/8 tables)		\$75			
Tower #3 (seats 50/5 tables)		\$75		Raised prices and no difference based on weekday or weekend.	
Tower #4 (seats 50/5 tables)		\$75			
Highland Hills #1 (seats 75/8 tables)		\$100			
Highland Hills #2 (seats 50/6 tables)		\$75			
Rossford (seats 75/8 tables)		\$100			

## Summary of Recreation Programs/Participation 2025

### Library Partner Programs

Kids to Parks Day! @ NKCP	22	Partnered with KCPL
Health & Wellness Expo @ Pioneer	175	Partnered with KCPL
Tales & Trails: Birds @ Mills Football (6); Water @ Pioneer #1 (18); Geology @ Doe Run Lake (12); Trees @ Lincoln Ridge #3 (4)	40	Partnered with KCPL
End of Summer Fest @ Pioneer	750	Partnered with KCPL

### Summer Programs

Wild Wednesdays @ Mills & Jaws & Slices: Back to School Bash (Rescheduled WW)	1656	11 Programs; 987 Lunches by Kenton County School District
(Almost) Every Other Thursday Science @ Pioneer	565	6 Programs; 391 Lunches by KC Parks
Art In The Park. Come All, Create! @ Pioneer	527	8 Programs; Partnered with Art Equals
Kids Fishing Derby @ Mills	115	Partnered with Northern KY Fly Fishers

### Adult Softball Leagues

KCP&R Rec Slow Pitch Softball Leagues Manager's Meeting @ Public Works	13	
KCP&R Rec Slow Pitch Softball Leagues Season	420	Season: 21 Teams with up to 20 players each

### Pickleball 101

Pickleball 101 (August 15; September 23)	38	Kathy Biedenbender & 4 instructors
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### Miscellaneous

Birding Programs: Woodcock Watch (12); Bird Walk @ Doe Run (11)	23	Partnered with Northern KY Bird Club
Maintain the Terrain @ Doe Run Lake (March 60; August 30) & TMU Service Day: Thomas More University/FORE CleanUp at Doe Run Lake (60)	150	Partnered with Sportsman's Warehouse; Banklick Watershed Council, Orsanco; FORE; KC Conservation District

### Senior Programs

NKY Senior Games (Winter Jan 230; Spring May 302)	532	Winter 12 events; Spring 14 events; held in Boone, Kenton and Campbell Counties
Senior Picnic @ KC Fairgrounds	400	

### Halloween Happenings

Halloween Happenings (Haunted Trail) @ Mills	1699	7:00PM to 10:00PM; Haunted Trail (1621 and 78 volunteers, \$887 door, \$107.08 donation, 734 non-perishable items)
Halloween Happenings (Boo Bash & Trail Trek) @ Mills	517	1:00PM to 3:00PM; Boo Bash & Trail Trek (462 and 55 volunteers, \$64, 380 non-perishable items)

### Letters to Santa/Letters from Santa

Letters to Santa/Letters From Santa	1898	1898 letters sent; 2072 letters received; 722 non-perishable items (692 lbs)
Letters to Santa/Letters From Santa Compilation Night	14	In-House Support & Volunteers

<b>Total Participants</b>	<b>9554</b>
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# New Recreation Programs for 2026

## Library Partner Programs

New Partnership

## Summer Programs

Addition of 4 programs and Lunches by Kenton County School District

Addition of Lunches by Kenton County School District

## Adult Softball Leagues

Moving the Season from April to August to June to September

## Pickleball 101

Add more Pickleball lessons and a tournament

## Miscellaneous

Birding Programs:

## Senior Programs

Became Co-Chair (Logistics & implementation) in 2025.  
Addition of Bingo at Kenton County Public Library; 18 Hole Golf at KC Golf Courses for 2026

## Halloween Happenings

Addition: 2 night event (Fri & Sat)

## Letters to Santa/Letters from Santa

## New Programs:

Wine Down Wednesdays

Murder Mystery Dinner

Reforest NKY

Back to School Bash

Family Game Night

Continue:

Kids to Parks Day! @ NKCP

Health & Wellness Expo @ Pioneer

End of Summer Fest @ Pioneer

Environmental Programs

Summer Reading Kickoff

Continue:

Wild Wednesdays @ Mills (10 Programs); Lunches by Kenton County School District

Science Thursdays @ Pioneer (10 Programs); Lunches by Kenton County School District

Art In The Park. Come All, Create! @ Pioneer (8 Programs); Lunches by Kenton County School District

Kids Fishing Derby @ Mills

KCP&R Rec Slow Pitch Softball Leagues Season (Season: up to 22 Teams with up to 20 players each ) & Manager's Mtg

Continue:

Pickleball 101

Continue:

NKY Bluebird Trail Monitors/Nest Watch Training; Bird Walk @ Doe Run

Maintain the Terrain @ Doe Run Lake (March & September) & TMU Service Day: Thomas More University/FORE CleanUp

Continue:

NKY Senior Games (Winter Jan 275; Spring May)

Senior Picnic @ KC Fairgrounds

Continue:

Halloween Happenings (Haunted Trail) @ Mills

Halloween Happenings (Boo Bash & Trail Trek) @ Mills

Continue:

Letters to Santa/Letters From Santa

Music/Wine/Beer/Food @ Farmer's Market (5/27 & 8/26)

Murder Mystery Dinner (TBD)

Partnership with NKY Community Urban & Forestry Council

Giveaway School Supplies; Partner w/ Christ Chapel Church

Board games; Play extra large board games (TBD)