

CONTACT WITH Kettering

Community Magazine Winter 2024



CITY OF KETTERING *is home*

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Mayor's Welcome

Dear Neighbors:

As the crisp air begins settling over our beloved city, it seems almost impossible that the holiday season is practically upon us again. The twinkling lights will soon begin adorning our streets and the festive spirit in the air remind us that another year is drawing to a close, with new beginnings just around the corner.

In these shorter days and longer nights, I find myself reflecting on the countless blessings we've shared as a community over the past 12 months. Kettering has continued to thrive, thanks to the dedication and spirit of our residents, the innovation of our local businesses, and the tireless efforts of our city staff. The engagement from our residents is also a huge piece of our success. This year our community-driven strategic plan was completed, and planning for growth and unity has begun. Teams for the six goal areas of high-quality services, economic opportunity, engaged and active lifestyle, livability, sustainability and Kettering story are working together on strategies and prioritization to bring this from a plan to a reality. I am optimistic and excited for the future as we begin moving into the implementation process.

As we approach the New Year, I'm filled with pride as we celebrate our accomplished missions – from community improvement projects to successful events that have brought us closer together. I'm also mindful of the challenges we've faced and overcome as a united community.

This season invites us all to hold our loved ones a little tighter, cherish the moments we share, and look forward with hope and excitement to the opportunities that lie ahead. Whether it's gathering for our annual tree lighting ceremony, supporting our local shops during holiday shopping, or simply enjoying a peaceful walk through our beautiful parks, Kettering offers so many ways to embrace the magic of this season.

As your Mayor, I'm grateful for your trust in me and our city government. Together, we've achieved so much and I'm excited about our plans to make Kettering an even better place in the coming year. I am proud to call Kettering home and I hope you and your family are as well.

Peggy Lehner

Peggy Lehner, Mayor of Kettering



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City of Kettering, Ohio – Government



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@Kettering_OH



City of Kettering



SCAN ME

Scan the QR code and sign up to receive **The Starter – Kettering's monthly e-newsletter** to get all the latest news and events going on in Kettering.

Our website is your 24/7 digital city hall. Find answers to common questions, submit a concern, complete forms, search jobs & make payments right on the homepage.

www.ketteringoh.org



SCAN ME

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

Veterans Day Ceremony

Monday, Nov. 11 at 11 a.m.
Veterans Plaza at Delco Park
1700 Delco Park Drive

Fall Leaf Collection

Please have leaves raked to the curb by
Monday, Dec. 2 for the final pass.

Mayor's Christmas Tree Lighting

Friday, Dec. 6 from 6 – 8 p.m.
Lincoln Park Civic Commons

Yard Debris Center

Winter Hours Begin
Dec. 7 through March 1
Open Saturdays from 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Kettering Christmas Day Gathering

Wednesday, Dec. 25 from 11 a.m. – 2 p.m.
Free Event at Charles I Lathrem Center



CITY OF KETTERING
Kettering Mayor & Council

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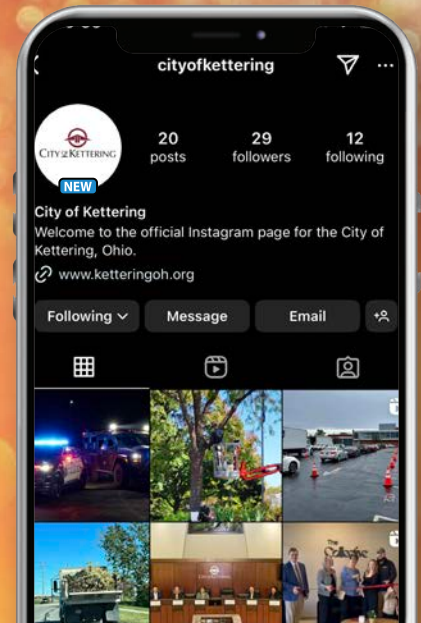


New City of Kettering Instagram Account

The City of Kettering now has an official Instagram account. Please follow us at **cityofkettering** for the latest city-wide updates and events, photos and videos for all things Kettering!



SCAN ME



Help Shape the Future of the Miami Valley



The City of Kettering has partnered with surrounding jurisdictions and the Miami Valley Regional Planning Commission (MVRPC) to gather input toward a Comprehensive Climate Action Plan. Your time to complete the online survey will directly impact prioritization and strategies for reducing greenhouse gas emissions and tackling climate change.

Please scan the QR Code and take a few minutes to help us make the Miami Valley greener and more sustainable for everyone!



SCAN ME

The Yard Debris Center will be accepting live Christmas trees after the holidays.

1840 Woodman Center Drive
Winter Hours begin Saturday, Dec. 7 and will be open on Saturdays only from 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Rumpke will also collect Christmas Trees through Jan. 15 of each year. Simply place at the curb on your regular collection day. Please make sure to remove all ornaments, lights and tinsel. Trees longer than nine feet must be cut in half.



NOVEMBER

LEARN MORE

Native American Heritage Month
Nativeamericanheritagemonth.gov/about

National Congress of American Indians
www.ncai.org/initiatives/native-american-heritage-month

Bureau of Indian Affairs
www.bia.gov

NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

Kettering's Board of Community Relations encourages you to learn more about Native American Heritage this month – and any time – because Kettering is home to all of us!

The first "American Indian Day" was celebrated in New York in 1916, eight years before Native Americans were granted U.S. citizenship in a land they had inhabited long before Europeans arrived. There are 574 federally recognized tribes across the U.S., and 175 different Indigenous languages spoken. This month we celebrate the vast culture and traditions of Indigenous people, while recognizing the struggles and challenges they have faced.



Capital Improvement Projects

The City of Kettering manages a comprehensive annual Capital Improvement Program (CIP) for city streets, storm water drainage, sidewalks, bridges and City facilities. The proposed 2025 CIP budget totals \$14.4 million, with approximately \$3.7 million of the total being funded by outside grants. Over \$10.5 million will be budgeted in 2025 for improvements to the City's roadway, sidewalk, and drainage infrastructure.

CITY FACILITIES

During 2025, approximately \$2,480,000 of improvements will be made to City facilities. At the Kettering Recreation Complex, improvements include activity floor refinishing, replacement of the parking lot lights with LED fixtures and roof repairs. At the Adventure Reef Water Park, slides will be resurfaced and soft surfaces will be replaced. Also, several water toys in the tot pool will be replaced. The Parks Maintenance Facility on Valleywood Drive will begin the first of several phases of campus improvements to allow for more efficient operations. Other miscellaneous facility improvements include a new water service line at the Government Center and the first phase of replacing the City's disaster sirens.

PARKS INFRASTRUCTURE

Over \$800,000 of improvements will be made to our Parks infrastructure in 2025. Improvements include repairs to walking paths, concrete, fences and amenities. The wood chip playground surface at Walther Park will be replaced with a new soft surface. Landscape irrigation improvements will be made at Rosewood Arts Center, and a portion of the ADA accessible playground at Indian Riffle Park will be replaced. The Parks Division will apply for a \$150,000 NatureWorks grant to offset the cost of the playground equipment. Tennis courts at Southern Hills Park and Walther Park will receive a new color coat surface. Also, the main parking lot at Polen Farm will be resurfaced.

TRAFFIC SIGNALS

In 2011, the City began a phased traffic signal replacement project that has converted over a dozen traffic signals from span wires to mast arms. The mast arm signals have a longer life span and are more resilient to high wind events. In 2026, the City will begin the fourth phase of signal replacements at several intersections: along Research Blvd at County Line Road and at Founders Drive; Wilmington Pike and the east entrance to Meijer; Dorothy Lane & Delco Park Drive; and the Woodman Drive & Vale Drive intersection. In 2025, the City will be acquiring right-of-way to complete these projects.





THOROUGHFARE RESURFACING

Several significant thoroughfare resurfacing projects are being planned for 2025. The largest project, at nearly \$3.5 million, will resurface over 3 miles of Dorothy Lane, from South Dixie Highway to just west of Wilmington Pike. This project has received a \$1,810,000 grant from the Miami Valley Regional Planning Commission (MVRPC). Other thoroughfare resurfacing projects include Whipp Road from Bigger to Millshire, Patterson Road from Woodman Drive to the Kettering-Dayton corporation limit at Watervliet Ave, and East Stroop Road in front of Town & Country Shopping Center. Also, Far Hills Ave (State Route 48) south of David Road to Talawanda Trail, and Research Blvd (State Route 835) between Woodman Drive and County Line Road will be resurfaced by ODOT.

RESIDENTIAL STREET RESURFACING

For asphalt resurfacing, \$1,675,000 is budgeted to resurface various neighborhood streets. The main focus area in 2025 will be the neighborhood southeast of the Woodman & Stroop intersection, including Kenmar, Santa Rosa, Burning Tree, Cherry Oak, Green Springs, Hazelhurst, Sillman, Wallington, Woodner, Clarendon, Hemphill and Appleton. Ansel Drive, west of Wilmington Pike, will also be resurfaced. Concrete repairs to Flesher Ave, north of Patterson Road, are also planned.

SIDEWALK PROJECTS

In 2025, the second and final phase of new sidewalk construction will be completed along the north side of West Stroop Road, between Stonebridge Drive and Ridgeway Road. The first phase was recently completed between Overland Trail and Southmoor Circle. Once the project in 2025 is complete, Stroop Road will have a continuous sidewalk along the north side of the road through its entire 8 mile length through Kettering.



GOLF CLUB ESTATES

Significant improvements to the street and storm water drainage infrastructure in the Golf Club Estates neighborhood will be completed in 2025, representing a \$2.7 million investment. This neighborhood is located south of Dorothy Lane and west of Southern Blvd, behind Southdale Elementary School. This neighborhood has seen investment in the utility infrastructure in recent years, with a water main replacement project completed by Montgomery County Environmental Services; a CenterPoint Energy natural gas main replacement project; and the City replaced a large diameter storm sewer early in 2024 at the south end of the neighborhood along Fairway Drive. For 2025, a second phase of storm sewer work will be completed along Belvoir Drive, followed by curb, sidewalk, and drive approach repairs for the entire neighborhood. Once all the work is complete, the affected streets will be resurfaced with new asphalt. The streets included in this project are Ridgeview, Brookview, Belvoir, Wrenford, Bellflower, Regent, Miramar, Fairway and Atherton.



During 2025, please visit the Engineering Department's web page to learn more about these projects and to stay up to date on their status. Visit www.ketteringoh.org/departments/engineering-department or scan the QR code to learn more, or call the Engineering Department at 937-296-2436.



SCAN ME

Curb, Sidewalk & Driveway Approach Repair Program

As the City of Kettering ages, it is our responsibility to ensure that appropriate maintenance is scheduled to preserve the safety and appearance of our infrastructure, including roadways and sidewalks. Each year, the City's Engineering Department conducts the Curb, Sidewalk, and Drive Approach Repair Program. The program calls for a different section of the City to be inspected and appropriately maintained each year. The goal is to cover every area of the City within a 20 to 25 year period. In 2025, streets in the Golf Club Estates neighborhood will be included in the Curb, Sidewalk, and Drive Approach Repair Program.

Similar to many communities, Kettering property owners are responsible for the curb, sidewalk, and drive approaches abutting their properties. In Ohio, state law provides for this practice on the premise that property owners get the most benefit from these items because they are available for their use, and it enhances the value of their property. Typically in the Fall, the City Engineering Department inspectors review curb, sidewalk, and drive approaches and mark the sections that must be replaced based on established criteria. After the marking is complete, the affected property owners are mailed a letter, which contains a list of the required work, a pre-bid estimated cost, and the options for completing the work. If there is a disagreement between the inspector and the property owner regarding replacement orders, the City Engineer will re-examine the curb, sidewalk or drive approach in question and make the final determination.



The two options for repairing curb, sidewalk, and drive approach are:

1. The property owner may hire a contractor. The contractor must obtain a right-of-way construction permit to replace the curb, sidewalk, and/or drive approach. The contractor has 30 days from the time the permit is issued to complete the work. The contractor must post a performance bond which will remain on file with the City for a period of 12 months. The contractor must also provide proof of insurance, listing the City of Kettering as an additional insured. The work must also have a final inspection from the City inspector. You may contact the Engineering Department at **937-296-2436** to check on contractor's bond and insurance status.

2. The contractor the City hires may complete the work. In the spring of the year the work is to be performed, the project is bid out to contractors. The lowest and best bid is selected, and the residents receive a letter stating the post-bid estimated cost. Once the work is complete, a final letter of the actual cost is sent to property owners. The property owner may either pay cash/check to the City or have the actual cost, plus interest and a County collection fee, assessed to their property taxes.

Curb, sidewalk, and drive approach repair is a vital part of neighborhood pride, as well as overall community spirit. If everyone does their part, improvements will be a lot easier. Property owners who have questions about the program may contact the Engineering Department at **937-296-2436, Monday – Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. or at KetteringEngineering@ketteringoh.org**

Wintertime Tips: Stormwater Management Information

Excess salt and other deicing chemicals can harm aquatic life in our streams and impact drinking water supplies. This winter, you can help by following these environmentally friendly snow removal practices:

- Shovel snow before it turns to ice to limit the need for deicing chemicals like rock salt.
- Shovel snow onto non-paved surfaces such as landscaped and/or grassy areas. As the snow melts, it will soak into the ground rather than flow directly into a nearby storm drain or stream.
- Sand and sawdust can be used as an environmentally-friendly alternative to commonly used salt products. Cracked corn has been suggested as an alternative because animals can eat it before it gets washed into the storm sewers in the spring.
- After snowmelt, sweep up residues, including sand, to prevent it from washing into storm drains and streams.



Using the old fashioned approach of a shovel means eliminating ice and snow without harmful chemicals and with all the added benefits of physical exercise!

Winter Safety Tips for Older Adults

Stay Warm Indoors

- Keep the thermostat at 65°F or warmer to prevent hypothermia.
- Dress in layers even when indoors. Use blankets to stay warm.
- Close off unused rooms to conserve heat.

Prevent Falls

- Keep walkways clear of snow and ice. Use ice melt or sand.
- Wear nonskid, rubber-soled shoes to avoid slipping.
- Use handrails when navigating stairs and walkways.

Avoid Hypothermia and Frostbite

- Dress in layers when going outside. Wear a hat, gloves, and a scarf.
- Stay dry. Wet clothing chills the body quickly.
- Know the signs of hypothermia: cold skin, shivering, confusion, and slurred speech.
- Recognize frostbite symptoms: numbness, white or grayish-yellow skin, and hard or waxy skin.

Stay Safe While Shoveling Snow

- Avoid shoveling if you have heart problems or other health issues.
- Take frequent breaks and don't overexert yourself.
- Ask for help if needed.

Emergency Preparedness

- Keep a list of emergency contacts handy.
- Stock up on essentials like food, water, and medications.
- Have a battery-operated radio and extra batteries in case of power outages.

If you have any questions or need any assistance, please call the Senior Service Coordinator Natalie Storms at **937-296-3356**.



BLOOD PRESSURE CLINIC DATES

Blood Pressure Clinics at the
Dayton Metro Library –
Kettering-Moraine Branch
3496 Far Hills Avenue
in the back study room

FREE!

November Dates

Wednesday, Nov. 6
9:30 – 11:30 a.m.

Wednesday, Nov. 13
9:30 – 11:30 a.m.

Wednesday, Nov. 20
9:30 – 11:30 a.m.

Wednesday, Nov. 27
9:30 – 11:30 a.m.

December Dates

Wednesday, Dec. 4
9:30 – 11:30 a.m.

Wednesday, Dec. 11
9:30 – 11:30 a.m.

Winter break from
Dec. 12 – Jan. 1, 2025
Returning Jan. 8, 2025

Medicare Open Enrollment October 15 – December 7

Medicare's Open Enrollment Period (Oct. 15 – Dec. 7) is indeed a crucial time for beneficiaries to ensure their healthcare coverage aligns with their current needs. It's advisable to thoroughly review the Annual Notice of Change received from your plan, which details any changes in coverage, costs, or service area that will take effect in January.

Assessing your coverage needs allows you to determine if your current plan still matches your health requirements and financial situation. Lastly, consulting with a trusted advisor or using the available Medicare resources can provide valuable guidance in making informed decisions about your healthcare coverage.

Please reach out to the City Of Kettering's Senior Resource Coordinator Natalie Storms at **937-296-3356** or Natalie.Storms@Ketteringoh.org with questions about Medicare or Medicare resources.



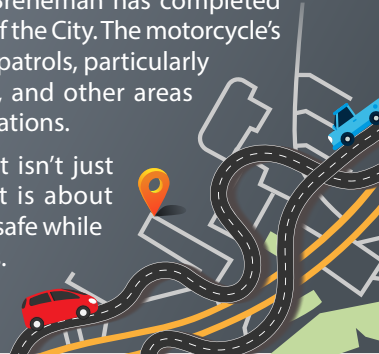


New Motorcycle Cop

The Kettering Police Department is excited to announce the addition of a second motorcycle unit to our police force, enhancing our ability to serve and protect our community. Ptl. Breneman has completed specialized training and has begun his patrol of the City. The motorcycle's maneuverability will allow for more efficient patrols, particularly during community events, in school zones, and other areas where traditional patrol cars might face limitations.

The addition of the second motorcycle unit isn't just about adding a new vehicle to our fleet it is about expanding our capabilities to keep Kettering safe while strengthening our connection with residents.

Congratulations Ptl. Breneman on the new position!



To Paw-test and Serve: New K9 Blu & K9 Ox Retirement

KPD is happy to welcome K9 Blu as the newest member of the K9 Unit! He and his handler, Ptl. Stull, attended the Kettering K9 Academy and will hit the streets together soon.

K9 Blu is a 1 year old blue Malinois imported from Holland and hand selected from Shallow Creek Kennels. He was purchased through generous donations from Sandy's Towing and Mrs. Teresa Huber.

K9 Ox officially retired on September 2, 2024. In retirement, Ox will make being the Stull family pet his number-one priority.

Many thanks to K9 Ox for his service and congratulations on a fantastic career. We wish him the best in retirement.



Veterans Day Ceremony

Monday, November 11 at 11 a.m.

Veterans Plaza at Delco Park, 1700 Delco Park Drive



A Veterans Day celebration will be held at Veterans Memorial Plaza, Delco Park, 1700 Delco Park Drive, Monday, November 11, at 11 a.m. The City invites you to share in this wonderful opportunity to show our respect and appreciation for veterans and active duty service members in our families, community and around the world. Rain or shine. Cancelled if severe weather is in the vicinity.



Special Deliveries By KFD

Kettering Fire Department members have delivered two babies in the field in the past several months!

The first delivery was in March of this year with the crews as follows: Captain Kent Denlinger and Firefighter/Paramedics Chad Beekman, Greg Chadwell, Amber Duritsch and Kyle Lupton.

The second delivery was by Kettering Firefighter/Paramedics Greg Chadwell and Danielle Walter where they assisted in the delivery of a baby boy in a resident's home. Both the mother and baby are doing well thanks to the quick response and professional treatment and transport. Kettering Health Medical Center awarded the two firefighter/paramedics stork pins as a memento and token of appreciation.



Lifeline Award From The American Heart Association

The Kettering Fire Department is proud to be nationally recognized by the American Heart Association for their commitment to providing research-based, high-quality heart attack and stroke care with a Mission: Lifeline achievement award.

The Kettering Fire Department applies the most up-to-date evidence-based treatment guidelines to improve patient care and outcomes in our community.



Smoke Detectors: Make Them Work for You

This year, Fire Prevention Week's campaign is "Smoke Alarms: Make them work for you!" and strives to educate everyone about the importance of having working smoke alarms in the home. Proper smoke alarm maintenance is essential for ensuring the safety of your home and loved ones in the event of a fire.

- Install smoke alarms in every bedroom, outside each separate sleeping area (like a hallway), and on each level (including the basement) of the home.
- When installing, follow the instructions that come with the alarm.
- For the best protection, interconnect all smoke alarms. When one sounds, they all sound. It is important to have interconnected smoke alarms if you sleep with the bedroom door closed.
- Test smoke alarms at least once a month by pushing the test button.
- Replace all smoke alarms when they are 10 years old or stop responding when tested.
- There are two types of smoke alarms: ionization and photoelectric alarms. Ionization smoke alarms are more responsive to flaming fires and photoelectric are more responsive to smoldering fires.



Our very own Kettering Firefighters made a fun and informative video for Fire Prevention Week, scan the QR code to watch a short video about smoke detectors! These tips can save your life.



SCAN ME

New Assistant City Manager: Bryan Chodkowski



We are thrilled to take this opportunity to welcome and congratulate Mr. Bryan Chodkowski as Kettering's newest Assistant City Manager. Bryan joins our esteemed team with over 20 years of invaluable experience in economic development and planning experience.

Bryan's extensive knowledge and commitment to collaborative problem-solving will be essential in helping our city maintain and enhance its redevelopment, economic, and community development objectives. Drawing on his proven expertise, Bryan will work closely with our Planning & Development team to foster sustainable growth, drive innovative economic initiatives, and retain cherished local businesses.

We are truly honored to have Bryan as part of the Kettering leadership team, and we are excited about the potential his addition, coupled with our new strategic plan, holds for the future of our thriving community. With Bryan's visionary guidance and our residents' support, we are confident that Kettering will continue to be a vibrant hub of economic vitality, community engagement, and unparalleled quality of life.

Dayton Regional STEM School

The Dayton Regional STEM School hosted a groundbreaking ceremony for its new elementary building in Kettering's Miami Valley Research Park. This expansion will allow the school to include grades K-5, which will extend the educational option to the youngest learners in our region. The location of Miami Valley Research also provides an exceptional opportunity for collaboration. The new school will have the ability to house approximately 400 elementary students and 45 staff members. The new STEM School will begin accepting elementary admissions applications this December for fall 2025.



Old Tenneco Building Upgrades

Upgrades to the interior and exterior of the building that previously housed Tenneco on Woodman Drive are currently underway. The building owners are working hard to make the building marketable for future development and in doing so, the look and feel of the building has already improved immensely. The updates thus far have included multiple demolitions and renovations. Stay tuned for the potential business development in the future.

Old Vs New



Route 28 Bus Stops

Kettering Recreation Complex	Stroop @ Southmoor
Dorothy @ 2001 Dorothy	Kettering Medical Center
Stroop @ Woodman	W Dorothy Ln @ Far Hills Ave
Stroop @ Far Hills	Dorothy @ Woodman



For more info, visit the RTA website at www.iritdta.org

SHOP LOCAL



**Support Kettering
Small Businesses!**

As the holidays approach, consider supporting Kettering's local small businesses, restaurants and service providers. Kettering offers a wide range of unique options for gifts from exceptional small businesses.

By choosing local retailers, you're not only finding special items but also contributing to the wellbeing of the Kettering community and the livelihood of your neighbors.



**Saturday, Nov. 30 is
Small Business Saturday!**

Welcome to Kettering!

Fyzical specializes in physical therapy and balance and is focused on achieving optimal health and wellness. Be sure to reach out to them for your wellness needs. Fyzical is located at 4052 Wilmington Pike. Thank you, Fyzical, for choosing to call Kettering home.



State Representative Andrea White, Vice Mayor Jacque Fisher, City Council members, City staff and many patrons welcomed Socialite Cafe to our community at its grand opening on Friday, Aug. 30. This European-style café, located at 4011 Marshall Road, is open 7 a.m. to 9 p.m., Monday through Saturday. Stop by and enjoy coffee, tea, sandwiches and more! Check out their menu and discover the inspiring story behind this local gem at www.socialitecafe.com.

Dunkin' on Stroop Road reopened on Sept. 18. Be sure to stop by to see the updates and renovations, which include a side-by-side drive-thru to make 'running on Dunkin' even faster and more convenient.



The Collective Salon opened Oct. 6 and is located in the Kettering Towne Center Shopping Center at 2124 East Dorothy Lane. Please be sure to visit them for your massage, aesthetician, waxing and hair styling service needs.



Is your business celebrating a milestone or anniversary?
Call our Economic Development Department at 937-296-2412 and let us know so we can help you celebrate!

Cities of Service and Make A Difference Day Efforts

The goal of the Cities of Service (COS) Initiative is to celebrate and strengthen our city, one neighborhood at a time. The 2024 COS Neighborhood is Wiles Creek, bordered by Hale Road, West Avenue, E. Dorothy Lane, Haig Avenue, and Wilmington Pike.

The kickoff took place in June along Wiles Drive with a neighborhood block party featuring games, music, hot dogs and other snacks, giveaways, door prizes, and information on city programs such as senior services and public safety. Neighbors spent the afternoon getting to know one another, members of city council, and city staff representing a variety of city departments.

Oct. 26 was National Make A Difference Day, celebrated in many communities across the country. Here in Kettering, volunteers of all ages worked on several projects throughout the City. Volunteers in the Wiles Creek, Cities of Service Neighborhood, cleared alleyways and assisted residents with tasks like raking, light pruning, and brush removal. Others helped with the continued expansion of

the native plant raingarden in Van Buren Park. This project is three years strong thanks to funding through the 2024 Keep Montgomery County Beautiful Beautification Grant. A gathering at Victory Christian Church worked inside to make blankets for Project Linus, a non-profit focused on providing children who have suffered illness or trauma a comforting blanket to help in the healing process. And finally, throughout September and October, many people checked out kits to make holiday cards for active-duty military at home. These cards will be distributed through Blue Star Mothers to service men and women around the world.

If you missed this opportunity, there are still many ways to get involved! Contact the City of Kettering Volunteer Office at 937-296-2433, visit our website at www.ketteringoh.org/volunteer-opportunities, or scan the QR code to learn more!



SCAN ME



Upcoming Events

Annual Volunteer Recognition Lunch

Kettering is proud of the many dedicated volunteers that give so selflessly to our community! We will say "Thank you" during our annual Volunteer Recognition Lunch on Nov. 21 at the Presidential Banquet Center.

Christmas Day Open House

The Christmas Day open house will take place again at the Charles I. Lathrem Center located at 2900 Glengarry Dr. from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m on Dec. 25. Be ready to smile with Santa, enjoy festive activities and come hungry to enjoy good food and holiday treats!

If you are interested in helping, we need volunteers to help set up, serve food, take pictures, lead activities, and clean up when the day is done. Please reach out to the Volunteer Office at 937-296-2433, or visit our events page at: www.ketteringoh.org/volunteer-special-events or scan the QR code to sign up.



SCAN ME

Dawn Kirchner Receives the Dorwood Optimist Club Friend of Youth Citizen of the Year Award

Dawn Kirchner has been the City's outstanding Volunteer Administrator since 2021. Volunteers (both adult and youth volunteers) bring an irreplaceable sense of enthusiasm and dedication to our city that provides a multitude of benefits to individuals, organizations, and activities in our community. As coordinator and administrator of all the City's volunteers, Dawn sets a perfect example of the type of unselfish, talented, enthusiastic, and dedicated service that serves the citizens of this community so well!

Dawn's fit in this critical position began with her own volunteering activities in high school at Chaminade-Julienne in Dayton. She volunteered at the former St. Elizabeth Hospital in Dayton. She also assisted local families with exterior home maintenance and helped remove invasive plants at Wegerzyn Gardens. Over the years, she continued her volunteering spirit, serving as a volunteer judge at science fairs and as a volunteer coordinator for the Knockout Dayton Charity Boxing event. She has served as a mentor



through the Montgomery County College Promise Program working with high school students and served on the Dayton Public Schools Foundation Board of Directors.

Prior to joining the City of Kettering, Dawn gained experience as the Senior Museum Educator at the University of Kansas Museum of Natural History, a Zookeeper and Presenter at the Boonshoft Museum of Discovery, the Coordinator of Family and Community Programs at the Boonshoft Museum, the Boonshoft Physical Sciences Coordinator, and as Boonshoft's Manager of School and Teacher Services. She came to Kettering after serving most recently as the Vice President of Education at the Dayton Society of Natural History.

Dawn leads by example, is an engaging public speaker, and has a strong commitment to building teams of adult and youth volunteers that serve the citizens of Kettering very well. She is an extremely valuable asset to our Kettering community – and a great "Friend of Youth!" Congratulations!

Neighborhood Pride Program

2024 has proven to be another fantastic year for the Neighborhood Pride Program. Each award winner demonstrated significant improvement and/or upkeep to their properties. Mayor Peggy Lehner recognized all award winners at the Sept. 24 Council Meeting at the Government Center.

Please visit
www.ketteringoh.org
to view photos and
a video of the 2024
award-winning
properties.



SCAN ME

June Winners

District 1	Austin Cline 2124 Craig Dr.
District 2	Philip & Kristen Bower 2479 Galewood St.
District 3	Steven & Vicky Rhoades 2750 E. Stroop Rd.
District 4	Steven & Annette Herman 2760 E. Rahn Rd
District 5	Anthony & Joni Kralich 853 E. Dorothy Ln.
District 6	Michael Pentecost 208 Oakview Dr.
District 7	Ronald Kindell 4319 Miriam Dr.
District 8	Canterbury Dr.
District 9	Robert & Laura Faircloth 4691 Mad River Rd.
District 10	Michael & Jacqueline Borchers 300 Tait Rd.
District 11	Richard & Diane Wonderling 1449 Abingdon Rd.
District 12	Michael & Dianne Price 3477 Valleywood Dr.
Commercial	Flying Ace Express Car Wash 4035 Wilmington Pike

July Winners

District 1	Steve & Lisa Morgan 2160 W Bataan Dr.
District 2	Allen & Susan Flowers 2906 Kerwood Dr.
District 3	Cindy & David Blumenstock 3082 Mountville Dr.
District 4	David & Amy Shafner 4671 Glenheath Dr.
District 5	Ronald & Linda Caldwell 2923 Harvey Ave.
District 6	Mark & Julie Fisher 321 Lewiston Rd.
District 7	Donald Davies 936 E. Stroop Rd.
District 8	Earl & Kim Graeter 3448 Lenox Dr.
District 9	Cody & Kara McMillen 4482 Silverwood Dr.
District 10	Gladys Whitmer 1129 Belvoir Ave.
District 11	Lydia & William Ingram 2805 Hilton Dr
District 12	Victoria Lee 1336 Rochelle Ave
Commercial	Tami Holmes Realty 3390 Woodman Dr.

August Winners

District 1	William Trent 1937 Courtland Ave.
District 2	Richard & Megan DelGrosso 2669 Camino Place East
District 3	Neal & Barbara Charske 4192 Braewick Cir.
District 4	John & RoseAnn Venis 5698 Oak Valley
District 5	Emily Rohm 2758 Winton Dr.
District 6	Brian & Jennifer Welch 129 Lincoln Park Blvd.
District 7	Jonathan & Jeanette Hobbs 4351 Andrea Dr.
District 8	Chris & Amanda Harold 300 Canterbury Dr.
District 9	Chad & Stacey Gemin 538 Timberlea Trl.
District 10	Colleen Tincu 3210 Regent St
District 11	Stuart & Michelle Williams 1266 Brooklands Rd.
District 12	Paula Dixon 1648 Windemere Dr.
Commercial	Riegel Financial 313 E. Stroop Rd



**Sustainable
Landscape Award**
Christ Church
United Methodist
3440 Shroyer Rd.



This is the second year presenting the Sustainable Landscape Award. This award is presented to a home or business owner who has incorporated sustainable practices into their landscaping.

Possible projects include reduction of water usage through reclamation or incorporation of drought tolerant plant species, installation of energy efficient exterior lighting, use of sustainable materials such as recycled composite, runoff reduction through rain gardens or permeable surfaces, or the addition of multiple native plants in landscaping.

The winning property must comply with city ordinances and is reviewed using the Neighborhood Pride Scoring parameters.

This program would not be possible without the time, talent, and commitment of the Neighborhood Pride Committee! Thank you to the Neighborhood Pride Co-Chairs: Gail Carone, Mark and Carol Messer, and Brian Moore and David Buhrman, and Committee members: Tom Cope, Chuck Dickerson, Pat Ferguson, Karen Howard, Kathy Waker, and Maureen Willits for their many hours of reviewing nominations!

New Year, New You: Transform Your Fitness Journey

This winter there's no better time to invest in your health and well-being than by joining the Kettering Parks, Recreation and Cultural Arts Department's fitness community! We invite you to kick start your "New Year, New You" journey with a fitness pass designed just for you!

Why Choose Kettering Fitness?

Affordable Memberships:

We offer budget-friendly options to fit every lifestyle.

Convenient Locations:

Choose between the Kettering Recreation Complex and Kettering Fitness & Wellness Center.

Unmatched Amenities:

Experience facilities that go above and beyond your typical gym.

What We Offer:

- **State-of-the-Art Equipment:** Our cardio and strength training machines are top-of-the-line, ensuring an effective workout every time.
- **Relaxation Facilities:** At the Kettering Recreation Complex, unwind in our sauna, steam room or whirlpool after your workout.
- **Indoor Tracks:** Both locations feature indoor tracks, perfect for walking or jogging regardless of the weather.
- **Flexible Pass Options:** We understand that one size doesn't fit all. That's why we've designed pass options to suit YOUR unique needs and schedule.

Start Your Transformation Today!

Don't wait for the New Year to begin your fitness journey. Winter is the perfect time to establish healthy habits that will carry you into 2025 and beyond. Our supportive community and expert staff are here to guide you every step of the way.

Taking the first step on your fitness journey is easy, call us at **937-296-2587** or visit **www.playkettering.org/fitness**. Make 2025 the year you prioritize your health and fitness. With our fitness passes, you're not just joining a gym – you're becoming part of a community dedicated to wellness and personal growth.



SCAN ME



Job Opportunities for Everyone at Kettering PRCA

The Kettering Parks, Recreation and Cultural Arts Department is actively seeking passionate team members to join our team! Whether you're looking to gain experience, develop leadership skills or simply want to be part of a vibrant community, we have opportunities for you.

Ice Arena Opportunities

Showcase your skills at the Kettering Ice Arena! We are hiring cashiers and ice guards who play essential roles in ensuring our guests have an exceptional experience.

- **Cashiers:** Responsible for checking in arena guests and providing excellent customer service.
- **Ice Guards:** Focused on the safety and enjoyment of our skaters on the ice.

Candidates aged 16 and up are encouraged to apply for these rewarding positions anytime!

Aquatics Team

Make a splash with our aquatics team! We are continually hiring lifeguards and swim instructors at the Kettering Recreation Complex indoor pool.

- **Lifeguards & Swim Instructors:** Join a dedicated team committed to water safety and teaching valuable swimming skills.

We offer American Red Cross lifeguard training and certification throughout the year for those who need it. Best of all, the training program is free for individuals who join our team after certification!

Sports Staff

Score big with our sports programs! Our sports staff plays a vital role in positively impacting youth and adults through various leagues and activities.

- **Part-Time Positions:** We are always on the lookout for talented individuals to join our sports team and help facilitate engaging programs.

Go to **playkettering.org/jobs** or scan the QR code to browse open positions!



SCAN ME

Celebrate the Season at the Mayor's Tree Lighting

Join us for a magical evening as Mayor Lehner and the Kettering community come together to illuminate Lincoln Park for the holidays on Friday, Dec. 6 at Lincoln Park Civic Commons. This cherished annual tradition is always free and a festive celebration for all ages.

As usual, the event will feature a special tree lighting ceremony where Mayor Lehner will officially kick off the holiday season by lighting the Kettering Christmas Tree and Lincoln Park. Attendees can enjoy heartwarming performances by the Kettering Children's Choir, filling the air with beloved holiday tunes. To keep everyone warm, complimentary hot chocolate and cookies will be available, as well as other fun giveaways!

You can bring your furry friends for a

special photo opportunity with Santa Paws! We'll have props and festive backgrounds set up for the perfect holiday pet portrait.

The event is scheduled for Friday, Dec. 6 from 6-8 p.m. at Lincoln Park Civic Commons. It is free and open to all.

Don't miss this opportunity to create lasting holiday memories with your Kettering neighbors. Join us as we light up the night and spread holiday cheer throughout our community!

Did you know the Parks Workers started decorating Lincoln Park on Oct. 1? It takes over 2 months to deck out the park for the Mayor's Tree Lighting on Dec. 6!

This year, we have a new festive section planned! Park Service Worker Nick Brahm explained: "In the natural area of Lincoln Park, we are planning to put up a light tunnel. It will be about 20 feet long and fully illuminated. This new, fun feature for kids and families will offer an excellent opportunity for a great photo op."



CITY OF KETTERING REPRESENTED AT THE INTERNATIONAL CITY/COUNTY MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION (ICMA)



Cultural Arts Manager Shayna McConville and Assistant City Manager Steve Bergstresser represented the City well at the ICMA conference on Sept. 23. They, along with artist Cliff Garten, presented to City and County Management nationwide on our marriage of public art and functionality.

The presentation was selected from hundreds of submissions. It highlighted our ability to positively impact the community through collaboration and creativity, specifically how to create a sense of place and community identity. Our Ridgeway Bridge project inspired people across the country.



Image by Jeremy Green, courtesy of Cliff Garten Studio

Image by Jeremy Green, courtesy of Cliff Garten Studio

Play Dates

Join your Parks, Recreation and Cultural Arts for fun this season!

These events are family friendly and free.

Details are at www.playkettering.org

Holiday Arts & Crafts Show

Saturday, November 9

Lathrem Senior Center & Kettering Recreation Complex

Rosewood Gallery Exhibitions

Mayuko Ono Gray Drawings
Allyson J. Barton Photography

November 25 – January 4

Rosewood Gallery

Mayor's Christmas Tree Lighting

Friday, December 6

Lincoln Park Civic Commons

A Rosewood Holiday Arts Festival

Saturday, December 7

Rosewood Arts Center



Braving the Storm: Shred Day Success

Despite Hurricane Helene hitting the same weekend as Kettering's annual Shred Day, many residents, even without power, still showed up to shred documents and recycle Styrofoam and small electronics.

The results are in: 24,560 pounds of paper and 4,950 pounds of electronics were recycled, while 3,046 pounds—enough to fill two semi-trucks—of Styrofoam were collected!



Thank you to everyone who participated, and a special thanks to our volunteers who braved the elements to help make a positive impact on our local environment.



CITY OF KETTERING

Contact Numbers

Emergency

Police/Fire/Paramedic Emergency 9-1-1

Non-Emergency

Police and Fire Dispatch 937-296-2555

Frequently Called Numbers

Animal Control 937-296-3266
Building Permits & Zoning 937-296-2441
City Income Tax 937-296-2502
Government Center 937-296-2400
Housing Rehabilitation 937-296-2441
Polen Farm 937-435-5787
Property Maintenance Hotline 937-296-3286
Recreation Complex/Water Park/Pool 937-296-2587
Rosewood Arts Center 937-296-0294
Senior Adult Recreation 937-296-2480
Street Division Hotline 937-296-3255
Trash Information 937-29-TRASH
Volunteer Office 937-296-2433

Contact with Kettering is published quarterly by the City of Kettering to inform citizens about services, programs and issues in Kettering. Comments or suggestions are welcome and should be sent to the City of Kettering, 3600 Shroyer Road, Kettering, OH 45429.

Amanda Harold, Editor
Leah Cultice, Editor & Design

The City of Kettering invites people with disabilities to enjoy our programs, services, parks and facilities. Please call 937-296-2439 for more information about accessibility or to request a modification. For TTY assistance, contact Ohio Relay Service at 800-750-0750.