

CONTACT WITH Kettering

Community Magazine Fall 2025



CITY OF KETTERING *is home*

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Mayor's Welcome

Dear Neighbors:

As we hesitate to say goodbye to the slower pace and longer days of summer, there's something magical about the promise of fall. A new school year begins, and kids of all ages are opening new chapters, learning amazing things and reconnecting with friends and educators. As the air cools and our city comes alive with the colors autumn brings, I feel blessed to call Kettering home, and I hope you feel it, too.

Kettering residents enjoy so many opportunities to celebrate and support their community throughout the year; and, there are plenty outlined in this magazine for you!

Labor Day weekend in Kettering offers an array of activities to savor the last days of summer. Take one last dip into fun at Adventure Reef Water Park or cool off at the J.F. Kennedy Park Splash Pad. Try your hand at games of chance and enjoy catching up with friends and neighbors at AlterFest. And, enjoy this year's Holiday at Home festivities on Sunday and Monday for family games, free live music, arts and crafts, food trucks, car shows and the best hometown parade around! This year's Holiday at Home theme is "Holiday at Home Going Country". Visit www.holidayathome.org/ for more information.

As we speak of hometown celebrations and community spirit, we want to take a moment to express our heartfelt gratitude to Councilmember Jyl Hall, who will be stepping down from her role at the end of August as she begins her next chapter. Jyl has been an invaluable member of our City Council, contributing immeasurably to Kettering's success through her dedication, insight and commitment to our residents. Her thoughtful leadership and genuine care for our community have made a lasting impact on countless initiatives and improvements throughout our city. Jyl's passion for public service has been instrumental in advancing Kettering's goals and enhancing the quality of life for all who call our city home. She will be greatly missed by her fellow council members, city staff and the entire Kettering community. We wish Jyl all the best in her future endeavors and thank her for her years of exceptional service to our city.

If you are thinking about ways to serve your community, please consider applying for a job with the City of Kettering! Whether you are interested in a part-time or full-time position, Kettering's job opportunities welcome a broad spectrum of talents. Visit www.ketteringoh.org/jobs to check out the opportunities that might align with your skills and goals. If you would rather we reach out to you, just sign up for our job notification emails to be the first to know when new opportunities are available.

Thank you for making Kettering your community of choice. Kettering is home because of its rich history, great schools and caring residents. The small town feel and community spirit are constant reminders that there is nowhere else I'd rather live. I look forward to seeing you Labor Day weekend.

Until then,

Peggy Lehner, Mayor of Kettering

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

EcoFest

Saturday, Sept. 20
Lincoln Park Civic Commons

Shred Day & Styrofoam Recycling Event

Saturday, Oct. 11
950 Forrer Blvd.

Fall Leaf Pickup Begins

Monday, Oct. 20
Starting in district 1

Make A Difference Day

Sunday, Oct. 25

Beggar's Night

Friday, Oct. 31



CITY OF KETTERING Kettering Mayor & Council

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- City of Kettering, Ohio – Government
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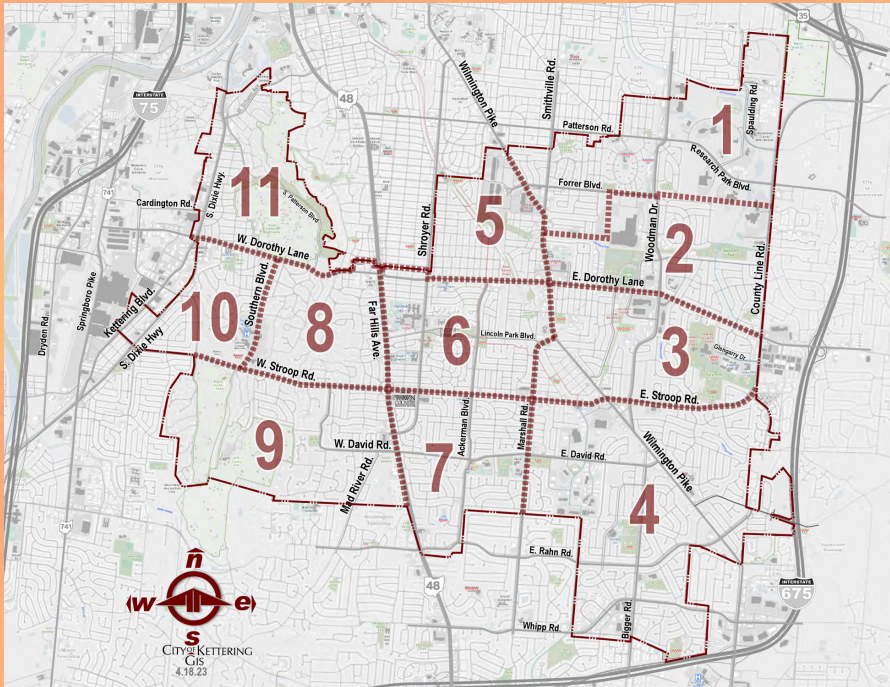


Annual Report available on Labor Day at

www.ketteringoh.org/city-of-kettering-annual-reports

Please request paper copies by calling 937-296-2400, if necessary.

Leaf Collections Begins Oct. 20!



One of the most unique and highly valued services the City of Kettering offers residents is free curbside collection of leaves each fall. Leaves are picked up by City crews and taken to the City's leaf composting center to be converted to mulch and compost, then offered free of charge to residents each spring. The City will begin in District 1 on **Monday, Oct. 20**, and will continue leaf pickup until early December. Please note that all leaves should be raked to the curb by **Monday, Dec. 1**, for the final pass for fall collection.

Please remember the following tips for leaf pickup:

- Know your leaf collection district. Reference the above map to find your district or visit www.ketteringoh.org and enter your address in the My Services tab on our home page.
- Don't wait until our crews are near your district to rake leaves. As leaves begin to fall, rake piles to the edge of your lawn. We will make several passes through each district for collection.
- Call **937-296-3255** (FALL), check the Kettering website or follow us on Facebook to determine the current location of leaf pickup crews.
- Do not bag your leaves.
- Make sure leaves are not under, between or around parked cars.
- Prior to collection, rake your leaves to the edge of your lawn, but not into the street where they will block traffic and cause a hazard to storm drains. Do not block storm drains or waterways.
- Don't rake anything except leaves to the curb for pickup. Branches, sticks, grass and other yard waste clog the machinery and throw the crews off schedule.
- Leaf piles containing branches, grass, etc., will not be collected. You may take your tree branches and brush to the City's Yard Debris Drop-Off Center located on Woodman Center Drive or put them in your Rumpke cart for pickup on your normal trash collection day.

Yard Debris Center
1840 Woodman Center Dr.

**Winter Hours begin Saturday,
Dec. 6 and will be open on
Saturdays only from 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.**

Farewell to Council Member Jyl Hall

As Councilmember Jyl Hall prepares to step down at the end of August, we want to express our heartfelt gratitude for her dedicated service to our community. Jyl's love for Kettering has been evident throughout her tenure, from her appreciation of our city's responsive government to her admiration for the beauty of our neighborhoods.



During her time on Council, Jyl has advocated for housing, public transportation and childcare options while supporting small businesses and enhancing our arts and recreation programs. We're especially grateful for her work with Partners for Healthy Youth and her leadership in expanding Welcome Dayton to promote inclusivity.

As Jyl and her family relocate to Kentucky, she continues her commitment to service by helping expand CarePortal in her new state. Thank you, Jyl, for your leadership and dedication—you will be greatly missed. Best wishes in your next chapter!

Holiday @ Home

This year's Holiday at Home theme is "Holiday at Home Going Country." The Holiday at Home Planning Committee works each year to bring the Kettering community together. Join the fun on Sunday and Monday of Labor Day weekend for games, live country music, arts and crafts vendors, delicious food concessions, VW car show (Sunday) and invitational car show (Monday). Start your Labor Day off with the Holiday at Home Parade beginning at 10 a.m. sharp on Monday morning! For more information about Holiday at Home, visit: www.holidayathome.org



Roadway Improvements

Roadway improvements on East David Road between Far Hills and Ackerman Boulevard were recently completed. The work included concrete repair, asphalt resurfacing and reconstruction of a traffic signal and school flashers.

The largest Engineering project of 2025, Dorothy Lane Resurfacing (South Dixie Highway to Wilmington Pike), was recently completed. 60% of the \$2,600,000 project was funded through the Miami Valley Regional Planning Commission.

Other resurfacing projects include:

- Far Hills Avenue (south of David Road)
- Research Boulevard (Woodman Drive to County Line Road)
- Whipp Road (between Millshire Drive and Bigger Road)
- Patterson Road (Dayton to Woodman)
- East Stroop Road (Far Hills Avenue to Shroyer Road)
- Neighborhoods – Wilmington Hills, Wilmington Heights, and Parkview Estates



The sidewalk under construction on West Stroop Road (Stonebridge Road and Ridgeway Road) is the final link of missing sidewalk on the north side of Stroop Road from Beaver Creek to Moraine. 50% of the \$550,000 project was funded through the Miami Valley Regional Planning Commission.

The Golf Club Estates Phase 2 project includes storm sewer improvements, replacement of concrete curb, sidewalk, and drive approach and resurfacing of the asphalt pavement.



Stormwater Alerts

Yard debris, including leaves and other organic plant materials like shrubbery trimmings and grass clippings, are a significant source of stormwater pollution. Plus they clog storm drains! Debris can carry fertilizers and pesticides from your yard and deposit them in our rivers and streams.

Ways you can help right on your own property:

- Don't use your hose as a broom. Sweep up yard debris rather than washing it down the driveway or street. Compost or recycle your yard waste.
- Fertilize in the fall to encourage strong root growth and reduce the risk of runoff into streams.
- Do a soil test and consider phosphorus - free fertilizers. Contact your OSU County Extension Service office for more information.
- Choose fertilizers with "slow release" forms of nitrogen which are less likely to leach untreated from your yard through the storm drains into our rivers, creeks and streams.
- Read and follow manufacturer's instructions.

Future of Far Hills

We're excited to announce that the City of Kettering has been awarded \$2.3 million in funding for significant improvements along Far Hills Avenue between Stroop and Dorothy. These improvements will transform this vital corridor for our community and enhance safety, walkability and accessibility for residents and visitors alike.

The comprehensive improvement project will implement a road diet design that eliminates one traffic lane, creating a more pedestrian and cyclist-friendly environment. The transformation will feature new street lighting funded by the Miami Valley Regional Planning Commission (MVRPC) and expanded sidewalks designed to accommodate pedestrians and bicycles safely.

These improvements represent a transformative change for this stretch of Far Hills Avenue, shifting the focus from high-speed vehicle traffic to a more balanced, community-oriented streetscape that serves all users. The enhanced lighting will improve visibility and safety, while the wider sidewalks will provide better connectivity for active transportation options.

Construction plans are being developed, with project implementation anticipated to begin in late 2027/early 2028. This timeline allows for thorough planning and design work to ensure the improvements meet the needs of our community while minimizing disruption during construction.



Thank You to Our Park Cleanup Volunteers

To our incredible volunteers who dedicated their time to cleaning up our beloved parks – thank you from the bottom of our hearts. Your commitment to preserving our community spaces has made a tangible difference that every resident will enjoy. Whether you spent an hour picking up litter or helped with larger restoration projects, your efforts have restored our parks to places where families can gather and wildlife can thrive.



Your volunteer work is part of our broader commitment to environmental sustainability and community stewardship. Moving forward, we're implementing new initiatives including expanded recycling programs, native plant restoration projects, and educational workshops on sustainable practices. Together, we can create lasting change that protects our green spaces for future generations.

If you're interested in staying involved with upcoming volunteer opportunities and environmental programs, please visit www.ketteringoh.org. Together, we can continue building a cleaner, more sustainable future for our community.

Park clean-ups are announced on our social media channels. Follow City of Kettering, Ohio – Government on Facebook or @cityofkettering on Instagram. For more information, you can also contact our Sustainability Manager, Dawn Kirchner, at 937-296-2436 or Dawn.Kirchner@ketteringoh.org.



Housing Repair Programs

Did you know the City of Kettering offers several housing repair programs to help keep homes safe, healthy and comfortable, especially for families with low or moderate incomes?

Here's how we can help:

- **Whole House Repair**
Fixes everything to meet city codes. This is a 5-year loan that you don't have to pay back if you stay in your home.
- **Emergency Home Repair Grant**
Helps fix serious safety problems like broken plumbing, wiring, or heating. This is free money to make your home safe again.
- **Handicap Accessibility Grant**
Adds things like ramps or safety bars to help people with disabilities live safely and independently.
- **Air Quality Improvements**
Updates old heating and cooling systems. This is also a 5-year forgivable loan.
- **General Home Repairs**
Helps with things that don't need a full rehab. This may be a no-payment loan or a low-cost loan, depending on your income.

Let's keep Kettering homes safe, strong and full of life!

To learn more, scan the QR code or go to www.ketteringoh.org/rehabbing-a-home



SCAN ME

Good Neighbor Award

We know Kettering is full of people who go the extra mile to help their neighbors and make their community welcoming for all—usually without any recognition. The Good Neighbor Award celebrates these individuals who go above and beyond, doing good deeds and being especially kind or neighborly. Nominate YOUR Good Neighbor!

Nominees must be Kettering residents, either Adult or Youth (age 18 and younger). Nominees will receive certificates of appreciation from the Mayor, and one GREAT Good Neighbor will get a \$50 gift card to a Kettering business!

Nominations are due by Sunday, Aug. 31
Scan the QR code to get started.



SCAN ME

KETTERING
Board of Community Relations

Shred Day Returns Oct. 11 in a New Location

This popular Kettering event provides residents the opportunity to bring sensitive paperwork to a centralized location to be shredded on site, and then recycled.

Over the past few years, this event has continued to grow in participation, and will now be held in the Solvita parking area behind the Municipal Courts building. Thanks to our partnership with Day Air Credit Union and Montgomery County, we will continue to accept Styrofoam and small electronics.

Shred Day
Saturday, Oct. 11
9 a.m. to Noon
950 Forrer Blvd.

If you have questions, please call Sustainability Manager, Dawn Kirchner at 937-296-2436.

Accepted electronics:

- Small desktop printers/copiers (ink cartridge must be removed)
- CPU's
- Laptops
- Cell phones
- Scanners
- Keyboards and mice
- All cables
- Flat screen monitors (no large TV style tube monitors)

Solvita



DAYAIR
CREDIT UNION
a better banking experience



Community Recycling Center Now Open!

You asked, we listened! If you live in a multi-unit complex, or fill your recycling bin at home, you can now drop off recyclable items like paper and cardboard, glass bottles and jars, aluminum cans, plastic water bottles, etc. in the co-mingled recycling dumpster next to the mulch pick up area at Indian Riffle Park all year-round!

Indian Riffle Park
2801 E. Stroop Road
(located behind Tannenberg Kennels)

Please deposit items loose, and unbagged.

Not sure if your item is recyclable?
Please call Dawn Kirchner at 937-296-2436.

The recycling drop-off also accepts Hefty ReNew Orange Bags! This program recycles many hard-to-recycle plastics, such as styrofoam, plastic grocery bags, plastic straws, candy wrappers, and much more. These orange bags can be purchased online or in the trash bag aisles of Kroger, Target, and Walmart. Scan the QR code to learn more.



SCAN ME

Go Green and Save Green this Fall

As the summer heat starts to fade, and the days start to shorten, take the time to reduce your energy consumption and bill with a few small tweaks around the house.

- Help prevent warm air from escaping by finding leaks and sealing them. This can be as simple as adding weatherstripping or caulk around windows and doors. If gaps around pipes are too large, consider expanding foam or pipe insulation.
- Make sure your heating system is running efficiently by having it serviced, and getting ahead of costly last-minute repairs before it gets too cold.
- Check the temperature on your water heater. Shifting to the warm setting (120°F) uses less energy to keep the water hotter, while also avoiding scalding injuries.
- Take advantage of the sun's warming ability. Open curtains on windows facing south to harness the heat, then keep heat inside by closing them at night.



For more energy saving tips, visit the US Department of Energy at www.energy.gov/energysaver

Sweeter Spaces in Life's Autumn

Autumn, with its falling leaves and cooler air, invites reflection and renewal. For older adults, this season can symbolize the emotional process of clearing out the family home—downsizing not just physically, but spiritually.

Whether prompted by health, lifestyle, or a desire to simplify, decluttering can reduce hazards and ease daily living (NIA.gov). More than that, it's a way to honor a life well-lived. Each item holds memories, yet letting go can lighten the soul. *"It is not sad to clean out. It is a relief,"* writes Margareta Magnusson (*The Gentle Art of Swedish Death Cleaning* 12).

Start small, involve loved ones, and take comfort in knowing that letting go paves the way for clarity and peace. Autumn isn't just an ending—it's a beginning.

For more information or resources please contact Senior Services at 937-296-3356.



BLOOD PRESSURE CLINIC DATES

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

FREE!

September Dates

Wednesday, Sept. 10
9:30 – 11:30 a.m.

Wednesday, Sept. 17
9:30 – 11:30 a.m.

Wednesday, Sept. 24
9:30 – 11:30 a.m.

Disaster Preparedness & Survival Course

Our Kettering Fire Department is offering a free class to learn essential skills for protecting yourself, your family and your community during emergencies. **Join us for this comprehensive two-day course on Sept. 6 and 7 at 9 a.m. at Fire Headquarters (4745 Hempstead Station Dr).**

The course covers crucial decision-making for evacuation versus sheltering in place, plus practical strategies for before, during, and after disasters. Through real-life scenarios and hands-on activities, you'll gain the knowledge and skills needed to survive and recover more quickly from any emergency situation.



Pre-registration is required.
Scan the QR code above to sign up or go to my.teex.org/TeexPortal/?MO=mExtLogin



Scan the QR code to sign up for **The Starter**, Kettering's monthly e-newsletter, and stay up to date on upcoming blood pressure clinic dates, city news, and community events. You can also follow us on Facebook at **City of Kettering, Ohio – Government**.



SCAN ME



Medicare Open Enrollment 2026: Know Your Dates, Review Your Coverage

Medicare Open Enrollment for 2026 begins Oct. 15 and ends Dec. 7. This annual window is your chance to reassess your healthcare coverage, compare plans, and make changes that better suit your evolving medical needs and budget. Since plan details and costs can change each year, staying informed is essential.

For those approaching Medicare eligibility, your initial enrollment period starts three months before the month you turn 65 and continues until three

months after. Failing to enroll during this time may lead to penalties—unless you already have qualifying coverage through another source.

Medicare can be overwhelming, but you don't have to navigate it alone. For general questions, a list of certified Medicare advisors, or to schedule an appointment, contact Senior Services Coordinator Natalie Storms at **937-296-3356** or email natalie.storms@ketteringoh.org.





Meet Our School Resource Officers

Officer Ed Drayton



Ed is the SRO for Fairmont High School. He truly has a passion for community service, as he is also the administrator of our Kettering Safe Senior Program! Fun fact- he has quite a few alternate personas, or "characters" if you will, that he likes to take on during certain times of the year. Hint: keep an eye out for one of them on Halloween...

Officer Ed Simoni



Ed is the SRO for Kettering Middle School. He is also the founder of the KMS Fishing Club, which has had a huge positive impact on the relationships with our youth. Fun fact- Ed just won KPD's Community Service Award for 2024!

Officer Eric Rustad



Eric is the SRO for all of our private/parochial schools. Eric is involved with reading to classes in his schools, working sporting events, and even being featured in pep rallies. He is also an instructor for our active assailant training called Run Hide Fight. Fun fact: Eric has spent a total of 11 years in our Community Relations section during his career thus far!

Officer Kayla Gudgell



Kayla is the SRO for Van Buren Middle School. She is the coordinator for Shop with Cops, one of the greatest events we have for our community. She is also an instructor for radKIDS, a children's self defense program we offer during the summer. Fun fact- she used to be the SRO for our elementary schools, where she earned the nickname "OG", short for "Officer G"!

Officer Lester Spinks



Lester is the SRO for all the elementary schools. He is also an instructor for RAD, our women's self defense program. Lester was previously the SRO at Fairmont High School for several years. Fun fact- Lester starred in the Staff vs. Students basketball game at Fairmont High School last school year!



Citizens Police Academy



Our 71st class of the Citizens Police Academy graduated Apr. 30! These individuals have undergone classroom learning, hands-on training, and observation sessions over the past eight weeks with every unit of our police department. We are grateful for the ongoing support and interest in this program, which we continue to receive from both the community and our officers who help teach the classes. This is an unparalleled educational opportunity for anyone who has ever wanted to learn more about policing and what we do on a daily basis.

New Hires

Charles B. Downs



We're excited to welcome Charles B. Downs to the Kettering Police Department! A Kettering Fairmont graduate and Army National Guard veteran, Charles recently completed his law enforcement training at Sinclair Community College Police Academy. As a Kettering resident, he's proud to serve and protect the community he calls home. We're thrilled to have him on our team!

Jacob M. Hemmelgarn



We're pleased to welcome Jacob M. Hemmelgarn to the Kettering Police Department! Jacob brings eight years of law enforcement experience from the Dayton Police Department and holds a Criminal Justice degree from Miami University, where he graduated Magna Cum Laude. He and his wife, Emily, live in West Alexandria, and we're confident he'll be a great addition to our team and the Kettering community.

Retirements

Sergeant Chris Murray retired from the Kettering Police Department on May 5, 2025, after 31 years of service.



Sgt. Murray began his career in 1994 as a Patrol Officer and was promoted to Sergeant in 2018. During his tenure with the department, he served as an Evidence Technician, a detective specializing in financial crimes and was a member of the SWAT team. He is also a graduate of the STEP program.

We appreciate Sgt. Murray's many years of service to the department, the City of Kettering and its residents. Congratulations, and we wish him all the best in his retirement.



Firefighter of the Year

It is with great pride that we announce Firefighter/Paramedic Jeremy O'Brien as the 2024 Firefighter of the Year! Since joining the Kettering Fire Department in 2020, Jeremy has consistently demonstrated exceptional dedication and leadership. Nominated by multiple department leaders, Jeremy was recognized for taking on an impressive workload while maintaining a positive attitude daily. His 2024 contributions include coordinating department-wide CPR and PALS training, creating improved ACLS materials, developing stroke protocol resources, and assisting with City emergency planning.

Jeremy completed numerous professional certifications, joined the RTF team and managed school CPR checkoffs—all while excelling in emergency response situations. During the September storms, he even delivered food to our hard-working dispatchers. A previous recipient of the Chief's Award and a Life Saving Award, Jeremy continues to exemplify the highest standards of service.

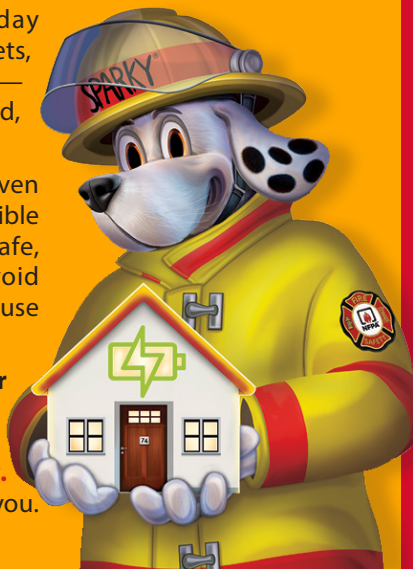


Stay Safe with Lithium-Ion Batteries

Lithium-ion batteries power many everyday devices—including cell phones, laptops, tablets, e-scooters, power tools, toys and e-cigarettes—but they can pose serious fire risks if damaged, overcharged, or improperly stored.

These batteries can overheat, catch fire, or even explode—especially when used with incompatible chargers or left in direct sunlight. To stay safe, always follow manufacturer instructions, avoid charging near flammable materials and never use batteries that are swollen or leaking.

Don't throw lithium batteries in the trash or regular recycling bins because they could start a fire. Recycle your device or battery at a safe battery recycling location. Visit www.call2recycle.org to find a recycling spot near you.



Mission Lifeline Award



The Fire Department received the nationally recognized Mission Lifeline EMS Gold Award from the American Heart Association for their continued commitment to providing research-based, high-quality heart attack and stroke care to the Kettering community.

The award demonstrates adherence to the latest research-based clinical practices to support better outcomes for patients. The Mission: Lifeline EMS Recognition Program began in 2014, and the men and women of the Kettering Fire Department have earned the highest possible rating each year. Congratulations, KFD!

New Fire Engine and Medic

The Kettering Fire Department is proud to announce the addition of two state-of-the-art emergency vehicles to its fleet, further enhancing its ability to protect and serve the Kettering community. In May 2025, the department placed into service a new E-One Typhoon pumper as Engine 36, housed at Station 36 on Hempstead Station Way. This advanced apparatus features a 750-gallon water tank, a powerful 2000-gallon-per-minute pump, and Class A foam capability, providing firefighters with the resources needed to effectively manage and mitigate large-scale fires.

In July 2025, the department also welcomed a cutting-edge 2025 Road Rescue medic unit, built on the International MV607 chassis. This ambulance is equipped with an innovative liquid spring rear suspension for smoother patient transport and an integrated Stryker

power cot system to reduce physical strain on first responders. These new additions reflect the Kettering Fire Department's ongoing commitment to excellence, innovation, and the safety of our community through enhanced fire suppression, emergency medical response, prevention, and public education.





New Development: Vision Apartments

We're thrilled to announce an exciting new development coming to Kettering! Vision Companies has acquired 28.5 acres within the Miami Valley Research Park and will be bringing 264 modern apartment units to our community through their VC Flats project. This multifamily community will span nine three-story buildings and marks the first large market-rate multifamily development in Kettering since the mid-1980s.

The development will feature outstanding amenities including a clubhouse, fitness center, pool, sand volleyball court, outdoor patio and rooftop deck with beautiful water views.

This transformative project is the result of collaborative efforts between the city and Industrial Commercial Properties, working together to make this vision a reality. Located adjacent to the Sixth River office park and surrounded by major employers like Reynolds & Reynolds, Solvita and Matrix Research, VC Flats will provide much-needed housing options while strengthening our community's appeal as a place to call home.



Creative Impressions Celebrates 50 Years



This year, Creative Impressions proudly celebrates 50 years of serving the Kettering community and beyond. Founded in 1975 by Denny and Linda Carter in a spare room of their Kettering home, the company has grown into a trusted name in the commercial printing industry — and a true local success story.

More than just a business, Creative Impressions has been a family tradition. Today, sons Ed and Ben Carter continue the family legacy, bringing fresh perspectives to the business and a commitment to the company's core values. Even as the printing industry has changed dramatically over the decades, the Carters have stayed ahead of the curve by embracing new technology.

From brochures and booklets to large format printing, Creative Impressions is known for going the extra mile — delivering custom solutions on time and with exceptional customer care. The company credits its longevity to strong relationships with customers, dedicated suppliers, and a talented team of employees.

As Creative Impressions celebrates 50 years in business, the team remains firmly rooted in Kettering — proud of their past and excited for the future. Here's to 50 Years Strong – Still Creating, Still Impressing!

For more information about their services and anniversary celebrations, visit www.creativeimpressions.biz.

Media Contact: Denny Carter
Email: denny@creativeimpressions.biz
Phone: 937-435-5296

About Creative Impressions:

Creative Impressions is a full-service, family-owned printing company based in Kettering, Ohio. Founded in 1975 by Denny and Linda Carter, the company specializes in design and full-service, customized printing solutions.

Welcome to Kettering!



McDonalds 2901 Wilmington Pike

We're excited to celebrate the ribbon cutting of the newly renovated McDonald's at 2901 Wilmington Pike! With a fresh, modern design, this transformation enhances the dining experience and reflects continued investment in our local business corridor. Stop by to check out the new look—whether it's for coffee, a family meal, or the drive-through. Congratulations to the McDonald's team!



One Lincoln Park

One Lincoln Park is proud to announce renovations designed to enhance every aspect of daily life, including a beautiful new grand entrance and lobby, an expanded Bistro for improved dining, upgraded apartments with modern amenities, and new outdoor activities to keep residents active and engaged. These updates reflect their commitment to providing a premier lifestyle and exceeding expectations, offering something special for both current and future residents to enjoy.



Ramos Ratliff Insurance

On May 2, the Ramos Ratliff Insurance Agency, led by owner Jana Ramos-Ratliff, celebrated its grand opening at 1389 East Stroop Road. With over 17 years of Medicare and Medicaid expertise, Jana is known for her caring, clear, and personalized approach to helping seniors confidently navigate their insurance options. Born in Brazil and fluent in English, Portuguese, and Spanish, she serves a diverse client base across more than 14 states. Jana and her team are ready to provide expert, compassionate guidance to anyone seeking Medicare support or insurance advice.



Vacuum Concepts

We're excited to celebrate the ribbon cutting of Vacuum Concepts' new location at 2320 E. Dorothy Lane, marking 20 years of dedicated service to the Kettering community. Known for their personalized, family-style approach and expertise, Vacuum Concepts has become a trusted provider of vacuum repair, maintenance, and cleaning solutions. Their knowledgeable team continues to offer the same friendly, professional service that has defined their business for two decades. Congratulations to Vacuum Concepts on this milestone and their continued commitment to excellent service!



Zen Grill

Join us in welcoming Zen Grill to the Kettering business community at 2821 Wilmington Pike! This new express hibachi spot offers delicious, affordable Japanese-inspired cuisine with a focus on simple, high-quality ingredients like grilled proteins, fresh vegetables, and flavorful rice, all enhanced with signature sauces. Whether dining in or grabbing a quick carry-out meal, Zen Grill delivers tasty options without sacrificing quality. Stop by and experience one of Kettering's newest businesses, where "flavor speaks louder than words."



Make A Difference Day

Make A Difference Day is Saturday, Oct. 25 from 9 a.m. to noon. We will offer several opportunities to make an active difference in our community. Join us for a general community clean up. We will also continue to expand the rain garden that was first installed at Van Buren Park (Scottsdale Dr.) in 2022. The rain garden project is made possible by grant funding from Keep Montgomery County Beautiful.

If you prefer to stay inside and work around your schedule, you can pick up a kit to make greeting cards to send to active-duty military personnel thanks to Blue Star Mothers. Kits include blank

cards and basic decorating materials, but you are welcome to use your own supplies. **Card kits will be available in the Volunteer Office located at 3600 Shroyer Rd. starting Monday, Sept. 22. Please call 937-296-2433 for details.**

Everyone is welcome to participate in these activities! To help us plan, and to receive details about where to meet if you would like to participate, please sign up for Make A Difference Day on our events page found at www.ketteringoh.org/volunteer-opportunities-sign-up in late September.



Kettering Leadership Academy Class of 2025

Congratulations to the 2025 Kettering Leadership Academy graduates! We wish you much success as you take on future leadership roles within our community!

The goal of the Kettering Leadership Academy (KLA) is to build a resource of community leaders on a continuing basis. The Academy is designed to identify, educate and develop potential community leaders; expand leadership potential; enhance the quality of life in our community; and provide access to leadership and personal growth opportunities.

In September, the class members began their KLA experience with an overnight retreat comprised of classroom activities, outdoor learning experiences, leadership development, and teambuilding exercises. Participants met once a month to learn about local government, education, health care, volunteering, public safety, history and our business community. Participants were required to design and complete a project addressing a need in our community.

The Academy was created in 2003 by Councilman Bruce Duke and administered by Volunteer Office staff. To honor the work Councilman Duke has given to this program, the Bruce Duke Fellowship fund was created to provide assistance to potential candidates without sufficient funds the opportunity to participate. An important part of KLA is to recruit a diverse group of participants to provide a variety of perspectives on the challenges our community faces, and this fund will help ensure this remains true. Over 75% of KLA graduates serve in some capacity in our community, and develop projects that have long lasting impact.

For additional information about KLA, please contact Volunteer Administrator, Lindsey Curry at 296-3394.



Back row (L-R): Ty Reents, Victor Colon, Brian Chodkowski, Alexandra Lacy, Christopher Kowal, Ginny Dalton

Front row (L-R): Adam Savino, Rachael Sammet, Tara Powell, Nicole Erickson, Courtney Pitsinger



Kettering is Home to the Holidays Tour of Lights

The City of Kettering has found a way to capture the magic of the holiday season — and it involves the participation of the entire community.

This year, the city will be hosting the Kettering is Home to the Holidays Tour of Lights. And to make things even sweeter, Kettering residents and business owners are invited to take part in this tour of lights.

From Nov. 3 through Nov. 30, the City of Kettering will be accepting submissions for participants in the tour of lights. To add your business or home into the running, take a picture of the complete holiday lights display and complete the submission form on the City of Kettering's website. From there, your address will be placed on a map that will be available to anyone who would like to indulge on a night drive to view holiday lights this season. The holiday lights map will be available to everyone beginning Dec. 2.



Neighborhood Pride Program

The City of Kettering has completed its 37th year of the Neighborhood Pride Program! 2025 has proven to be another exciting year to showcase homes and businesses that exemplify the Kettering Community! Out of hundreds of nominations that are received and reviewed by our committee members, these properties are the ones that demonstrate significant improvement or upkeep to their properties year after year. Mayor Peggy Lehner will recognize all award winners on Tuesday, Sept. 23 at the City Council Meeting. Thank you to all award winners for sharing your Kettering pride with the impeccable care of your home or business.

This program would not be possible without the time, talent and commitment of the Neighborhood Pride Committee! Thank you to co-chairs Gail Carone, Mark and Carol Messer, and Brian Moore and David Buhrman, and to committee members Tom Cope, Pat Ferguson, Karen Howard, Kathy Waker, and Maureen Willits. Your involvement is appreciated and is vital to the success of the Neighborhood Pride Program!



Interested In Being A Volunteer?

The Volunteer Kettering program offers citizens an opportunity to become involved in their City by assisting City staff in a variety of jobs and organizing activities that expand City programs, enhance City services, build an understanding of City government and encourage community pride.

Volunteering is rewarding and fun! There are wide-ranging opportunities for both youth and adults to fit nearly every talent, skill and time schedule. Use a skill you have or learn a new one.



To learn more, scan the QR code or visit
www.ketteringoh.org/volunteer-department



Award-Winning EcoFest Returns Sept. 20

WASTE
FREE
EVENT!

Join us for the award-winning environmental celebration EcoFest on Saturday, Sept. 20 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Lincoln Park Civic Commons! After winning a first place Award of Excellence from the Ohio Parks and Recreation Association in 2024, the free event is back with another exciting day of family-focused environmental education and fun.

What to Expect:

- Educational Exhibits & Activities
- Explore booths from 60+ organizations featuring beekeepers and honey demonstrations, renewable energy displays, animal conservation programs, wetland and river conservation, recycling and composting education and gardening for pollinators.
- Interactive Experiences
- Enjoy hands-on children's activities, Cycle Kettering demonstrations, Drive Electric Car Show and much more!
- Food trucks will be on-site for refreshments.



FREE COMMUNITY EVENT

For more information, visit
playkettering.org/ecofest.



 **CITY OF KETTERING**
PARKS, RECREATION AND CULTURAL ARTS DEPARTMENT

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CREDIT UNION

KFWC Celebrates 20 Years

Join us as the Kettering Fitness & Wellness Center celebrates 20 years of serving our community from Nov. 3 – 9! Since opening in 2005, KFWC has helped thousands of residents achieve their fitness goals with state-of-the-art equipment and a professional staff.

20th Anniversary Week

Join us for early 2000s music, daily trivia questions, special bulletin board displays and member appreciation giveaways including protein bars, resistance bands, water bottle stickers and other commemorative items throughout the week.

For information on fitness passes or personal training, call KFWC at 937-293-4348 or visit playkettering.org/fitness.



Set Sail for Adventure: Kettering Children's Theatre Presents "Treasure Island"

The Kettering Children's Theatre is ready to transport audiences on an unforgettable journey across the high seas this November with their captivating fall production of "Treasure Island." Under the skilled direction of Mary Snapp, this classic tale of adventure promises to deliver thrills, excitement and buried treasure for the whole family.



Performance Schedule:

- Friday Evenings: Nov. 7 & 14 at 7 p.m.
- Saturday Evenings: Nov. 8 & 15 at 7 p.m.
- Sunday Matinees: Nov. 9 & 16 at 2 p.m.

Special note: The Saturday, Nov. 15 performance will feature sign interpretation.

Tickets are \$5 for children under 12 and \$7 for adults. They are available at the door.

For more information, call 937-296-0294 or visit playkettering.org.



Celebrate Active Aging Week 2025

The Charles I. Lathrem Senior Center is excited to invite the community to join us for Active Aging Week 2025, running from Oct. 6 – 11. This special week showcases the incredible variety of programs and activities available to adults 55 and older throughout the year. Sponsored by Humana, this celebration offers something for everyone interested in staying active, engaged and connected.

A Week of Discovery and Learning



Active Aging Week offers the perfect opportunity to sample the diverse programming that makes the CIL such a vibrant community hub. Whether you're interested in creative arts, health and wellness, technology or local history, you'll find engaging presentations and hands-on workshops designed specifically for active adults.

Featured Presentations and Workshops

Notable highlights include an exclusive presentation by Kettering City Manager Matt Greeson, who will provide updates on current city projects and community developments with a Q&A session. Senior Service Coordinator Natalie Storms will lead a panel discussion on "Staying Home, Updating or Downsizing" featuring local housing experts. Additional programming includes fascinating local history from



author Andrew Walsh and 90-year-old Kettering icon Chuck Johnson, creative workshops in modern calligraphy and quilting, wellness sessions on water exercise and mindfulness walking, plus the spine-tingling "Mystery & Mayhem" tales from Woodland Cemetery.

Join the CIL Community

Active Aging Week perfectly demonstrates why the Charles I. Lathrem Senior Center has become such an essential part of Kettering's community fabric. Located in the south wing of the Kettering Recreation Complex, the CIL offers year-round programming including cards and games, wellness programs, sports activities, music groups and extensive enrichment classes.

Whether you're a longtime member or considering joining for the first time, Active Aging Week offers the perfect introduction to everything the CIL has to offer. Come discover new interests, make new friends and celebrate the joys of active aging.



For more information or to register, call 937-296-2587 or visit playkettering.org

Kettering Ice Arena Reopens Aug. 26



Our 2025-2026 Kettering Ice Arena season is almost here! Kettering Parks, Recreation and Cultural Arts is looking forward to welcoming everyone back as hockey, Learn to Skate USA lessons, figure skating and open skate get underway. Enjoy a fresh calendar of public skates, plus our popular holiday-themed skates. We hope to see you on the ice starting Tuesday, Aug. 26! For more information and calendars, visit playkettering.org/icearena.

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

EcoFest

Saturday, Sept. 20
11 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Lincoln Park Civic Commons

Active Aging Week

Oct. 6 – Oct. 12

Lathrem Senior Center

Wag-O-Ween

Saturday, Oct. 25
11 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Kettering Recreation Complex

Holiday Arts & Craft Show

Saturday, Nov. 8
9 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Kettering Recreation Complex

Kettering Children's Theatre

Friday, Nov. 7 – Sunday, Nov. 16

Rosewood Arts Center

Mayor's Tree Lighting & Santa Paws

Friday, Dec. 5
11 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Lincoln Park Civic Commons

A Rosewood Holiday Arts Festival

Saturday, Dec. 6
11 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Rosewood Arts Center

City of Kettering Brand Perception Survey

We're inviting you to take part in a brief **survey** to help us better understand how our community sees the City of Kettering – its services, amenities and overall identity. Your feedback will help us understand what makes Kettering special, identify areas for improvement and ensure our city's brand reflects resident values and experiences.

Your voice matters. The survey takes just a few minutes, and your insights will directly influence how we communicate, invest and grow as a community.



SCAN ME

Parks Master Plan Survey

Play your way! Help us shape the future of parks, recreation, and cultural arts.

Tell us how you want to play in the future. Scan the QR code below to learn more about the Kettering PRCA Playbook and provide your input! Be on the lookout for additional opportunities to get involved in the months ahead.



SCAN ME



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.

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City of Kettering, Ohio – Government



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