

CONTACT WITH

Kettering

Community Magazine Winter 2025



Lincoln Park Civic Commons Pond



INSIDE

Mayor's Greeting
Capital Improvement Projects
Senior Information
Sustainability
Kettering Police Department

Kettering Fire Department
Economic Development
Volunteering in Kettering
Neighborhood Pride
Parks, Recreation & Cultural Arts

Mayor's Welcome

Dear Neighbors,

As winter settles in and we close out another year, I find myself filled with profound gratitude and reflection. Serving as your Mayor has been an honor and I want to take this moment to simply say thank you. Thank you for trusting me with this responsibility, for your patience during challenging times and for your commitment to making Kettering the exceptional community it is today.



When I think about these past years, I'm overwhelmed by the depth of love I have for this community and for each of you. Kettering isn't just a place on a map—it's a tapestry of incredible people, cherished traditions and shared dreams. From our bustling community events to the quiet conversations at neighborhood gatherings, every interaction has reinforced what I've always known: Kettering's greatest strength is its people. You've welcomed me into your homes, shared your concerns and aspirations and we have worked alongside city staff and volunteers to build something truly special together.

As I prepare to pass the torch, I'm genuinely excited about what lies ahead for our city. The strategic plan we developed together is already beginning to take shape, and I cannot wait to watch as the implementation unfolds in the coming years. The projects on the horizon, the innovative ideas being explored and the continued dedication of our talented city team fill me with optimism. Kettering's best days are still ahead, and while my role may be changing, my commitment to this community and my belief in its limitless potential remain as strong as ever.

As we move into this new season, I encourage you to stay engaged, continue supporting one another and never lose sight of what makes Kettering so remarkable. Hold your neighbors close, celebrate our shared successes and face any challenges with the same resilience and unity you've shown time and time again. It has been my deepest privilege to serve you, and I will carry the memories of these years with me always. Thank you, Kettering, for allowing me to be part of your story.



Peggy Lehner, Mayor of Kettering



Mark Your Calendar!

Veterans Day Ceremony

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

Fall Leaf Collection

Please have leaves raked to curb by
Monday, Dec. 1 for the final pass.

Mayor's Christmas Tree Lighting

Friday, Dec. 5 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

Thursday, Dec. 25 from 11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m.
Free event at Charles I. Lathrem Center



CITY OF KETTERING

Mayor and Council

Peggy Lehner, Mayor

Peggy.Lehner@ketteringoh.org . . . (937) 477-7640

Jacque Fisher, Vice Mayor, At Large

Jacque.Fisher@ketteringoh.org (937) 232-1637

Lisa Duvall, District 1

Lisa.Duvall@ketteringoh.org (937) 838-7425

Bob Scott, District 2

Bob.Scott@ketteringoh.org (937) 478-9910

Shane Sullivan, District 3

Shane.Sullivan@ketteringoh.org . . . (937) 903-3215

Bryan Suddith, District 4

Bryan.Suddith@ketteringoh.org . . . (937) 830-0516

Matt Greeson, City Manager

Matt.Greeson@ketteringoh.org (937) 296-2412

Steven Bergstresser, Assistant City Manager

Steven.Bergstresser@ketteringoh.org . . (937) 296-2412

Bryan Chodkowski, Assistant City Manager

Bryan.Chodkowski@ketteringoh.org . . (937) 296-2412

Council Office

KetteringMayorCouncil@ketteringoh.org . . (937) 296-2416

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.



Farewell Vice Mayor

As we bid farewell to our Vice Mayor, Jacque Fisher, we celebrate a leader whose passion for community has left a lasting impact on Kettering. What she treasures most about our city reflects her character: the diversity of our families and the mutual respect that defines our neighborhoods. From watching children play in our parks with her grandkids to attending countless community events, she has always championed unity and inclusivity.

Her commitment to accessibility has been extraordinary, ensuring every resident's voice is heard by attending formal functions and widely attended events throughout the city. Among her proudest accomplishments are championing improvements that directly enhanced quality of life for families across our community.

Even as she steps away from council, her service continues as a military liaison, helping bridge new employment opportunities for positive city growth. Most telling of her character is her commitment to ensuring working families have the resources they need to thrive—a passion that began before her council service and remains strong today.

Thank you for your exceptional service, your open door policy and your genuine care for every Kettering resident. While we'll miss your council leadership, we're grateful your commitment to our community continues in new ways.



Thank You Frazee Volunteers!

This summer, 35 dedicated volunteers generously gave their time and energy to help make the Frazee Pavilion experience unforgettable. They welcomed and directed guests, assisted with item check and supported the Frazee Team with countless behind-the-scenes tasks—always ready to lend a hand wherever needed.

Together, these incredible individuals contributed over 1,025 volunteer hours across 17 shows!

Your commitment made a real impact on every guest who walked through our gates. Thank you for your hard work, enthusiasm, and the difference you made this season at the Frazee!



Adopt A Drain

The City of Kettering's Adopt-A-Drain program offers community members a simple yet impactful way to help keep our city clean and prevent neighborhood flooding. As a volunteer, you'll be responsible for inspecting your adopted drain and clearing leaves, debris, and trash from the drain grate and the surrounding 10-foot area before predicted storms and four additional times throughout the year. This easy community service opportunity requires just basic household items like gloves, a rake, and waste bags, and helps protect our local waterways and wildlife while preventing street flooding caused by clogged drains. Whether you're an individual, family, or organization looking to make a positive difference in Kettering, adopting a drain is a convenient way to take leadership in your community and contribute to our city's beauty and functionality. Join your fellow residents in this important initiative—visit the city's website to adopt your drain today!

Scan the QR code or visit www.ketteringoh.org/adopt-a-drain-program.



Happy Retirement!



Congratulations to our exceptional Finance Director, Nancy Gregory, on her well-deserved retirement after 38.5 years of outstanding service to the City of Kettering!

Nancy's dedication, financial expertise and leadership have been invaluable contributions that have helped shape our organization and ensure fiscal responsibility throughout her distinguished career.

Thank you, Nancy, for your outstanding service to Kettering—you will be greatly missed and we wish you all the best in this exciting new chapter of your life!

2026 Capital Improvement Program Overview

The proposed 2026 CIP outlay totals \$10,674,000, representing a significant investment in Kettering's infrastructure and facilities. The CIP outlay will be drawn from multiple funding sources: Capital Improvement Fund (Estate Tax) providing \$2.5 million, Gas Tax revenue contributing \$950,000, Miscellaneous CIP revenue adding \$1.0 million and a General Fund transfer of \$6.224 million.

Traffic Controls



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 complete the fourth phase of signal replacements at several critical intersections: along Research Blvd & County Line Road and Research at Founders Drive; Wilmington Pike and the east entrance to Meijer; Dorothy Lane & Delco Park Drive; and the Woodman Drive & Vale intersection. The Traffic Signals Phase 4 project totals \$2,116,000, with \$787,000 funded by Kettering and \$1,329,000 from a Federal Congestion Mitigation/Air Quality grant from the Miami Valley Regional Planning Commission.

Additional traffic control improvements include Traffic Maintenance Items (\$10,000), Miscellaneous Transportation (\$20,000), Pavement Marking Program (\$25,000) and UPS & Battery Replacements (\$25,000).

Streetscape Improvements

The City will invest in beautification and enhancement projects that improve the visual appeal and functionality of major corridors and public spaces throughout Kettering. Included are the bike amenities program (\$10,000), pole painting (\$20,000), Kettering Business Park pedestrian/bike connector (\$125,000) and Research Blvd pedestrian/bike path (\$714,000 funded by ODOT).

Drainage

Critical drainage infrastructure improvements will be undertaken to address stormwater management and prevent flooding issues throughout the city. These include Delco Park Railroad Bridge Removal (\$200,000), Misc. Drainage (\$25,000) and finalizing the storm water master plan (\$150,000).

Roadway Improvements

For asphalt resurfacing, \$1,400,000 is budgeted to resurface various neighborhood streets in 2026. The main focus areas will include the following residential zones: the Santa Rosa, Weybright, Brazoria, Corlington, Braewick, Hemphill, Irelan, Fernbrook, Fernmont, Drayton, Timberwilde, Frieda, Chee, Ives and Westlawn neighborhoods, as well as the Moraine Ridge, Tait Circle, Stonehenge, William, Burnham and Kresswood areas.

Significant improvements to Parklawn Drive will be completed in 2026, representing a \$725,000 investment, along with improvements to Display Lane (\$350,000). Improvements on Whipp Road (Bigger to Oak Valley) will be completed, representing an \$850,000 investment.



An additional \$1,750,000 is allocated for general asphalt resurfacing work throughout the city. Concrete repair projects total \$275,000, including Horlacher Phase 1 and miscellaneous locations throughout Kettering. Other roadway maintenance includes \$25,000 for miscellaneous roadway improvements, \$50,000 for the crack sealing program and \$25,000 for street sign replacement projects.

Marshall Road, from East David to Wilmington Pike, will be resurfaced and a new shared use path will be constructed along Marshall from Lincoln Park Blvd to Wilmington Pike. Improvements will be made at the Marshall & Lincoln Park intersection to enhance safety for pedestrians and bicyclists crossing Marshall. This \$1,924,000 project is being partially funded by \$931,000 in Federal grant funds from the Miami Valley Regional Planning Commission.

Parks, Recreation and Cultural Arts

The Kettering Recreation Complex and CIL Senior Center will receive significant upgrades totaling \$325,000. Projects include the Floor Refinishing/Recarpeting Program (\$35,000) to maintain attractive and safe surfaces throughout the facilities, comprehensive Roof Repairs (\$150,000) to address structural integrity and prevent water damage, Spa Area Improvements (\$100,000) to enhance the aquatic facilities and user experience and Ice Arena Water Heater replacement (\$40,000) to ensure reliable hot water service for the ice facility operations.

Major improvements will be made to two of Kettering's signature park facilities. Polen Farm will receive Paver Replacement (\$120,000) to restore and enhance the historic farm's walkways and outdoor spaces, maintaining its character while improving accessibility and safety. Delco Park will undergo Path Repair (\$30,000) to ensure safe pedestrian access throughout this popular community gathering space. The City will maintain 1% for the arts contribution in the amount of (\$85,000).

A comprehensive parks maintenance program will address various infrastructure needs throughout the city's park system. Park Aggregate Path Repair (\$100,000) will restore walking and biking paths at multiple locations, ensuring safe pedestrian access. Park Infrastructure Repairs (\$25,000) will address various maintenance needs including playground equipment, fencing, and amenities. Park Naturalization projects (\$15,000) will enhance environmental sustainability and natural habitat areas within the park system. Tennis and Basketball Courts (\$50,000) will receive resurfacing and maintenance to provide quality recreational opportunities for residents.

Additional park improvements include Restroom Improvements at Kennedy Park (\$60,000) to upgrade facilities and improve accessibility and Roof Replacements (\$30,000) at various park buildings to prevent water damage and extend facility life.



Tree Planting and Landscaping

The City will continue its commitment to urban forestry and beautification with comprehensive tree and landscaping programs. The Citizen Tree Planting Program (\$10,000) will provide opportunities for residents to participate in community greening efforts. Tree Maintenance & Planting (\$75,000) will ensure the health and expansion of the City's urban canopy. Public Street Landscaping (\$40,000) will enhance the aesthetic appeal of major thoroughfares, while Street Construction Tree Replacement (\$10,000) will address trees affected by infrastructure projects.



Facilities and Miscellaneous



Critical municipal facilities will receive various upgrades to enhance functionality and safety. Projects include TOX Sensors/ Exhaust systems (\$45,000), Water Well Abandonment (\$45,000), Miscellaneous Improvement Program (\$180,000), Miscellaneous ADA Program (\$25,000), Facility Chargeback (\$80,000) and Courts Carpet Replacement (\$35,000). These

improvements and more ensure that essential City services continue to operate efficiently and safely.

Total:	\$13,807,000
City Funding:	\$10,674,000
Outside Funding:	\$3,048,000
Other Funds:	\$85,000

This comprehensive investment in Kettering's infrastructure demonstrates the City's commitment to maintaining high-quality services, safe transportation networks, modern facilities and attractive public spaces for residents and businesses.

Winter Home Safety Tips

Cold-related injuries can happen even inside the home, with approximately 20% occurring indoors (National Institute on Aging [NIA], 2024). To reduce risk, experts recommend maintaining indoor temperatures at or above 68°F, especially for older adults who are more vulnerable to hypothermia.

Simple steps can help retain warmth:

- Block drafts with rolled towels and seal window gaps using caulk or weather stripping.
- Keep blinds and curtains closed to insulate rooms.
- Dress in layers, including socks and slippers and use extra blankets at night.
- Eat enough to maintain body weight, which helps preserve body heat.
- Limit alcohol, as it can accelerate heat loss.
- Have someone check on you during cold spells, and seek shelter with others if heat is lost.

National Institute on Aging. (2024, January 3). Staying safe in cold weather. U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. www.nia.nih.gov/health/staying-safe-cold-weather



BLOOD PRESSURE CLINIC DATES

At the Dayton Metro Library – Kettering-Moraine Branch
3496 Far Hills Ave.
in the back study room

November

Wednesday, Nov. 5
9:30 – 11:30 a.m.

Wednesday, Nov. 12
9:30 – 11:30 a.m.

Wednesday, Nov. 19
9:30 – 11:30 a.m.

Wednesday, Nov. 26
9:30 – 11:30 a.m.

December

Wednesday, Dec. 3
9:30 – 11:30 a.m.

Wednesday, Dec. 10
9:30 – 11:30 a.m.

Wednesday, Dec. 17
9:30 – 11:30 a.m.

Blood Pressure Clinics will resume after holidays on Wednesday, Jan. 7, 2026

Medicare Open Enrollment

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.

Celebrating Kettering's Good Neighbors

Congratulations to all the residents who were nominated for this year's Kettering Good Neighbor Award. We received 13 nominations from neighbors who gushed about how wonderful it is to live next to kind and generous people in Kettering.



Brenda Damico was selected as this year's winner. Since moving to Kettering, Brenda has brought warmth and kindness to everyone around her. When her neighbors faced a major medical issue, she offered both financial support and her own car for medical appointments. She keeps a watchful eye on the neighborhood, bringing in packages and always being attentive to those around her. As her nominator beautifully put it, Brenda is like a "neighbor mom" who is caring, loving and the true embodiment of what it means to be a good neighbor.

Thank you to everyone who nominated a deserving neighbor, and congratulations to Brenda for this well-deserved recognition.

Recycling Done Right

With increased opportunities to recycle at Kettering events, at facilities like the Kettering Recreation Complex and at the new community recycling bin at Indian Ripple Park, many of us are looking for more ways to divert our waste from the landfill. So, what else can you do?

1. Before making a purchase, consider how the item will be disposed of and refuse single use plastics and unnecessary packaging. You'll reduce unwanted clutter in your home while keeping these items out of the trash.
2. Start utilizing the Hefty ReNew bag. These orange bags are available to purchase at major retailers alongside other household trash bags. You'll be able to include items not accepted in curbside bins including, bubble wrap, Styrofoam, plastic cutlery, colored and opaque cups, liners from items like cake mixes and cereal boxes, and so much more!

Once your bag is full, drop it into your regular curbside recycling containers, or into the community recycling bin. The bags will be removed at the Rumpke recycling facility and sent to Hefty for sorting and redistribution to become new items! For more details, and a complete list of accepted items, visit www.hefty.com/hefty-renew.

3. Review all the items accepted in person at the Montgomery County Transfer and Recycling Station located next door in Moraine at 1001 Encrete Lane. From small electronics like microwaves and radios, to old car tires (10 per year per household) and batteries, there are many items you can easily dispose of responsibly for free. To review the full list of items, as well as the schedule for household hazardous waste disposal, visit www.mcswd.org.

Still have questions about where an item can be recycled? Reach out to Dawn Kirchner, Sustainability Manager, at (937) 296-2436.



Wintertime Tips: Stormwater Management

Excess salt and other de-icing chemicals can harm aquatic life in our streams and impact drinking water supplies. This winter you can help with these environmentally friendly snow removal practices:

- Shovel snow before it turns to ice to limit the need to de-ice
- Shovel snow onto non-paved surfaces and/or grassy areas. The snow will melt into the ground rather than into storm drains
- Sand and sawdust can be used as an alternative to salt products
- After snowmelt, sweep up residue, including sand, to prevent it from washing into storm drains and streams



Clean and Green

Hats off to all our volunteers who have participated in park and creek clean-ups this year! The season kicked off on Earth Day in partnership with Waste-Free Dayton tackling two locations in Kettering: the area behind the Streets Facility off of Dorothy Lane, and along the park perimeter and creek in Delco Park. The annual post Go Fourth park clean-up helped return Delco Park back to its' pre-Independence Day condition. And finally, three cleanups along the Little Beavercreek with the Little Miami Watershed Network followed in May, June and September. A final invasive plant clean-up was held at State Farm Park, Oct. 25 on Make A Difference Day.

Our Journey To Zero Waste:

Bacon Fest Was
A Sizzling Success!



Thank you to everyone who stopped by to learn about waste sorting and pitch in to keep the festival clean and sustainable. Because of your efforts, we kept more than 600 pounds of material out of the landfill!

480 lbs. of recyclables

**159 lbs. of food and organic waste
(composted)**

A big shout-out to the Bacon Fest organizers, our amazing volunteers and all of you who helped make this initiative possible. Together, we proved that great food and sustainability make the perfect pair!



Citizen Police Academy

The Citizen Police Academy is an awareness program designed to increase the information flow both to and from the police department and the public. Spring registration is open and dates will be announced in January.

The program is designed to allow the public to view all facets of police work. The sessions are from 6:30 – 9 p.m. on Wednesday evenings for eight weeks.

During this time, the participants get first-hand knowledge on how the department functions. There are classes on patrol functions, drug awareness, K-9, traffic enforcement, criminal investigations, evidence collection, firearms safety and several others. Each participant is encouraged to interact with the different instructors and ask questions about police work that sometimes never get answered. This forum provides a means to increase public awareness and support for the police department throughout the community.

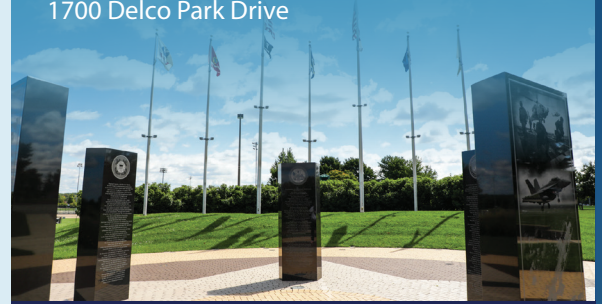
Scan the QR code or register online at www.ketteringoh.org/citizen-police-academy



Veterans Day Ceremony

Tuesday, Nov. 11 at 11 a.m.

Veterans Plaza at Delco Park
1700 Delco Park Drive



Kiwanis Club Officer of the Year

Please join us in congratulating Officer Jon McCoy on being named the Kiwanis Officer of the Year! This award is given by our local Kiwanis Club of Kettering-Centerville to a police officer who demonstrates exceptional service, professionalism and community commitment.



Retirements



After an impressive 37 years of dedicated service, Tactical Crime Suppression Unit Director Bob Green retired again on August 22, 2025.

In 1993, Bob was hired by the Kettering Police Department as a Patrol Officer. During his time at KPD, Bob served in a wide variety of roles including Detective, SWAT member, Evidence Technician, Bike Unit officer, Honor Guard member and Polygraphist. He also supervised the Vice/Narcotics Unit, Road Patrol and served as the department's Professional Standards Sergeant.

Bob retired from KPD in 2018, but his commitment to public safety didn't end there. He transitioned into the role of TCSU Director, where he continued to make a lasting impact. We sincerely thank Bob for his outstanding service, mentorship and dedication to the profession.



After 25 years of dedicated service with the Kettering Police Department, Officer Gary Schomburg retired on Oct. 2, 2025.

Gary began his career with KPD as a Patrol Officer in 2000 and has distinguished himself throughout his tenure in numerous roles, including Bike Unit, Detective, Evidence Technician and Field Training Officer. His commitment to protecting and serving our community has left a lasting impact on both the department and the residents of Kettering.

Welcome to the Crew!



FF/P Merlin Mullet

Merlin Mullet joined the Kettering Fire Department on Aug. 18, 2025, as a Firefighter/Paramedic. He brings with him six years of dedicated service with the City of Dayton, where he gained extensive experience in both fire service and emergency medical response. Merlin shares that being a firefighter is the most rewarding career he could imagine—and we're thrilled that he has chosen to continue that journey here in Kettering.



FF/P Brandon Strunk

Brandon Strunk joined the Kettering Fire Department on July 21, 2025, as a Firefighter/Paramedic. He brings with him 11 years of experience in fire and emergency medical services. He most recently served with the City of Xenia, where he developed his skills and demonstrated a strong commitment to public safety. Welcome to Kettering, Brandon!

Winter Home Safety Tips

Carbon Monoxide

Carbon monoxide is a colorless and odorless gas, commonly referred to as the "silent killer." This gas is the result of incomplete combustion of fuels that are commonly used in households. Common sources of carbon monoxide include all gas appliances (furnaces, ovens and water heaters), wood burning stoves and fire places. The effects of this gas on the human body include headache, weakness, lightheadedness, dizziness, confusion and long term exposure may kill you. If any of these symptoms occur, please call 911 to have the department



ensure that a carbon monoxide leak is not present. The Kettering Fire Department would like to stress the importance of having carbon monoxide detectors in your homes and the upkeep of them. We recommend changing the batteries in your CO detectors twice per year—when it's time to change the clocks in the spring and fall. Also, you should test the detector monthly. If you do not have one in your home currently, we suggest purchasing a combination detector at any local hardware or home improvement store which functions both as a smoke detector and carbon monoxide detector all in one.

Space Heaters

As we begin to feel the temperatures drop we begin thinking of ways to heat our homes. One common method of heating is the use of space heaters. Here are just a few tips to keep in mind if you choose to use a space heater in your home.

- Keep items that burn at least 3 feet away from a space heater like blankets, furniture, clothes, pets and people.
- Plug heater directly into a wall outlet, not an extension cord.
- Only use a heater with an automatic shut-off to ensure that the heater will turn off if it is tipped over.
- Turn heater off if you leave the room or go to sleep.

Introducing The New Lathrem Garden Plaza

We are thrilled to introduce the rededication of the new Lathrem Garden Plaza and the other exciting new amenities surrounding it, made possible through the extraordinary generosity and commitment of Doug Lathrem and his wife, Vilma. For years, the Lathrem family has demonstrated dedication and service to our community, and what an incredible impact they have made!

Their ongoing support and significant contributions have transformed this space into something truly special. The centerpiece of these improvements is a beautiful, brand-new shelter featuring a cozy fireplace with picturesque scenery overlooking the pond, creating the perfect gathering place for our community. Additionally, visitors can now enjoy a new putting green, updated shuffleboard courts and peaceful swings, positioned to take advantage of the serene pond views.

This rededication serves as a testament to the Lathrem family's enduring legacy and their dedication to improving the quality of life for our community members.



Kettering City Schools Advanced Manufacturing Grand Opening

Congratulations to Kettering City Schools on the grand opening of their advanced manufacturing and engineering classroom space! This exciting milestone demonstrates the district's commitment to preparing students for tomorrow's careers. With Kettering and the Dayton area serving as a hub for engineering and manufacturing advances, this new CTC space perfectly aligns with our regional strengths.

The program provides students with hands-on experience and job-ready skills while offering college credits through Sinclair Community College. Students are encouraged to identify real-world problems and



develop creative solutions, gaining authentic engineering and manufacturing experience that will boost their resumes. The new technology center features cutting-edge machinery, robotics, 3D printing and the latest workforce technology.

We look forward to seeing what our students create and what they become! Great work, Kettering City Schools, on bringing this dream to fruition and investing in the next generation of innovators!

Welcome and Congratulations!

James Free Jewelers



Congratulations to James Free Jewelers on their stunning grand reopening at 3100 Far Hills Avenue! The expanded space showcases their exquisite jewelry collection beautifully, creating an even more elegant shopping experience for their valued customers. We encourage everyone to stop by and witness the breathtaking transformation—you'll be amazed by both their gorgeous new showroom and their exceptional selection of fine jewelry. Thank you, James Free Jewelers, for choosing Kettering as home to your business and for continuing to serve our community with such dedication and style. Welcome to your beautiful new chapter!

Socialite Cafe

Please join us in celebrating Socialite Cafe's one-year anniversary in Kettering! We're so grateful to have such a beautiful addition to our community. Socialite Cafe has become a wonderful gathering place for our neighbors. We encourage everyone to stop in to their Marshall Road shop, say hello, and congratulate the team on this exciting milestone. Here's to many more years of great coffee and community connection!



Clothes That Work

We're thrilled to announce that Clothes That Work has opened at 2824 Wilmington Pike, bringing an incredible resource to our community! This amazing organization provides access to interview training and workplace clothing for everyone, helping individuals make that all-important positive first impression.

What they offer:

- Boutique shopping experience
- Individual appointments with trained coaches
- Interview preparation assistance
- Professional attire guidance
- Employment success support

Clothes That Work's mission is simple yet powerful: clothe, educate and empower individuals to achieve employment success. Whether you're job searching, starting a new career or looking to build your professional wardrobe, they're here to help!

Want to give back? You can also donate suits and business attire to support this wonderful cause and help others in our community achieve their goals and succeed.



SHOP LOCAL



**Nov. 29 is
Small Business
Saturday!**

As the holidays approach, consider supporting Kettering's local small businesses, restaurants and service providers.

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.



Giving Thanks For Our Volunteers

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. 20 at the Presidential Banquet Center. This celebration showcases the many contributions our volunteers make throughout the community by treating them to good food, thank you gifts and personal thanks from Mayor Peggy Lehner, members of City Council and staff. Awards will be presented based on the number of hours contributed by volunteers. A variety of door prizes will also be given out thanks to the generosity of several Kettering businesses!

As we enter the Thanksgiving season, take a few moments to consider the positive impact volunteers have made in Kettering, the "City of Volunteers." Our community is stronger and more vibrant for the good work they do. Thank you to all volunteers for the gifts of your time and talent!



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.



Christmas Day Open House

The holidays are quickly approaching! The Christmas Day open house will take place at the Charles I. Lathrem Center located at 2900 Glengarry Drive from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Stop by to enjoy good food, holiday treats and even say hello to Santa. The dance floor will be open, and holiday games will be available. Thanks to the generosity of our many volunteers and community partners (Day Air Credit Union and One Lincoln Park), this event continues to be free and open to our community—we'd love to make new holiday memories with you!

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-opportunities-sign-up to sign up.



Neighborhood Pride Program

2025 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. 23 Council Meeting at the Government Center.



June

- District 1 2115 E. Bataan Drive
- District 2 1575 Glen Abbey Drive
- District 3 2367 Burning Tree Drive
- District 4 1986 Halford Ct.
- District 5 1141 Eureka Drive
- District 6 608 Oakview Drive
- District 7 201 Marbrook Drive
- District 8 3167 Locust Camp Road
- District 9 4442 Royal Ridge Way
- District 10 3100 Bellflower St.
- District 11 1440 Cardington Road
- District 12 1624 Wheatland Ave.
- Commercial Emmanuel Lutheran Church

July

- District 1 2156 W. Bataan Drive
- District 2 2384 Aragon Ave.
- District 3 2161 Green Springs Drive
- District 4 2400 Rawnsdale Road
- District 5 313 Brydon Road
- District 6 754 Cushing Ave.
- District 7 4416 Wing View Lane
- District 8 782 Greenhouse Drive
- District 9 4336 Overland Trail
- District 10 1130 Belvoir Ave.
- District 11 1516 Stockton Ave.
- District 12 1501 Beaverton Drive
- Commercial 1200 E. Dorothy Lane

August

- District 1 2032 Colton Drive
- District 2 2801 Powhatten Place
- District 3 2704 Parklawn Drive
- District 4 2442 E. Rahn Road
- District 5 2724 Colonial Ave.
- District 6 933 Wenbrook Drive
- District 7 4808 Laurelann Drive
- District 8 318 W. Dorothy Lane
- District 9 116 Napoleon Drive
- District 10 1317 Tamerlane Trail
- District 11 1449 Melrose Ave.
- District 12 2059 Stayman Drive
- Commercial El Rancho Grande

Check out all the 2025 award-winning properties!



Sustainable Landscape Award

This is the third 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.



555 Timberlea Trail



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, Brian Moore and David Buhrman, and Committee members: Tom Cope, Pat Ferguson, Steve Herman, Karen Howard, Gail Joyce, Brian Joyce, Colleen Tincu, Kathy Waker and Maureen Willits for their many hours of reviewing nominations!

Two Decades Strong: Celebrating 20 Years of the Kettering Fitness & Wellness Center

Get ready to pump up the volume and celebrate a major milestone! The Kettering Fitness & Wellness Center is turning 20, and we're throwing a week-long epic celebration from Nov. 3 – 9.

Since opening its doors in 2005, KFWC has been the cornerstone of community wellness in Kettering. What started as a visionary expansion of our Parks, Recreation and Cultural Arts facilities has grown into the fitness home for countless residents who've sweated, achieved goals and built lasting friendships within these walls.

Whether you've been lifting, running and stretching with us since day one or you're curious about what all the excitement is about, this celebration welcomes everyone to join the fun. Each day brings special surprises that'll make your visit even more rewarding.

Join us Nov. 3 – 9 and be part of this incredible milestone. Here's to the next 20 years of health, wellness and community spirit at KFWC!



KFWC during construction



current KFWC



A Rosewood Holiday: Art, Music & Community Come Together



The holiday spirit meets artistic excellence at A Rosewood Holiday on Saturday, Dec. 6 from 11 a.m. – 3 p.m. at Rosewood Arts Center. This celebration showcases the talent and creativity that flourishes within our Kettering arts community. Discover unique, handcrafted treasures from local artist vendors.

Families can enjoy the hands-on children's activities designed to spark young imaginations and introduce kids to the joy of creating art. Check out performances from the Kettering Civic Band, the Kettering Children's Choir and the Kettering Children's Theatre!

Artist demonstrations offer a behind-the-scenes look at various mediums including painting, printmaking, glass work, metals, ceramics and drawing. Watch skilled artists at work and maybe discover a new passion of your own! Special demonstrations by exhibiting artists Eden Quispe and Denny Gerwin in the Kettering Health Art Gallery provide an exclusive glimpse into their artistic techniques.

Finally, don't miss the annual Soup Bowl Fundraiser! Warm up with delicious soup while supporting a great cause. Every purchase benefits the Kettering Parks Foundation, directly contributing to programs that enrich our community through the arts.

Light Up the Holidays at Mayor's Tree Lighting!

Mark your calendars for one of Kettering's most beloved holiday traditions! Mayor Lehner invites the entire community to kick off the festive season at the annual Tree Lighting Ceremony on Friday, Dec. 5 from 6 – 8 p.m. at Lincoln Park Civic Commons.

Watch as our beautiful community Christmas tree transforms Lincoln Park into a winter wonderland with the flip of a switch. The evening's festivities include enchanting holiday music performed by the talented Kettering Children's Choir, whose voices will fill the crisp December air with seasonal favorites.

Bundle up and join your neighbors for this heartwarming celebration—we'll have steaming hot chocolate and delicious cookies to help ward off the winter chill, plus special holiday surprises throughout the night.

This free community event brings together families, friends and neighbors to celebrate what makes Kettering special. Come early to find the perfect spot to watch the magical moment when Mayor Lehner lights up our tree and officially welcomes the holiday season to our city.

See you at Lincoln Park Civic Commons on Friday, Dec. 5—let's make this holiday season shine bright together!



Fraze Pavilion Ticket Offices Are Now In One Convenient Location!



All tickets for the 2026 season will be available at the Fraze Pavilion Ticket Office, located at 675 Lincoln Park Boulevard. New business hours will be posted as we announce upcoming events for the 2026 season. Fraze FanFare in Town & Country Shopping Center is now permanently closed.

Tickets will be available to purchase online at **fraise.com**, with ETIX, our official ticketing partner or by phone at 1-800-514-3849.

Special thank you to our Ticket Office sponsor, Code Credit Union, for their support.

Play Dates

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

These events are family friendly and free.

Details are at playkettering.org/events

Holiday Arts & Craft Show

Saturday, Nov. 8
9 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Kettering Recreation Complex

Kettering Health Art Gallery at
Rosewood Arts Center:

Eden Quispe, Quilts

Denny Gerwin,
Figurative Work

Nov. 24 – Jan. 3
Rosewood Arts Center

Mayor's Tree Lighting & Santa Paws

Friday, Dec. 5
6 – 8 p.m.

Lincoln Park Civic Commons

A Rosewood Holiday Arts Festival

Saturday, Dec. 6
11 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Rosewood Arts Center

Snow Plow Roadeo

Our Public Service Department recently showcased their incredible skills at the annual Snow Plow Roadeo, navigating a difficult obstacle course that tests their ability to maneuver massive snow plow trucks with speed and precision. These giant vehicles require talent and expertise to operate, especially when you consider that our crews navigate them through city streets during Ohio's harshest winter conditions.

Join us in congratulating all competitors and celebrating our top finishers: Jonathon Dewitt (1st place), Kevin Buck (2nd place), Robbie Miller (3rd place) and Kenny Asbury (4th place). Most importantly, let's thank all of our employees for keeping our city's 250 miles of Kettering roadways safe throughout Ohio's winters. We appreciate you!



Yard Debris Center Collects Live Christmas Trees

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 also collects Christmas trees through Jan. 15. Simply place at the curb on your regular collection day. Make sure to remove all lights and decorations. Trees longer than 9 ft must be cut in half.



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

Abby Beneke, 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.

STAY CONNECTED WITH US ON SOCIAL MEDIA



City of Kettering, Ohio – Government



cityofkettering



@Kettering_OH



City of Kettering