



CONTACT with
Kettering
Community Magazine Spring 2018



CITY OF KETTERING *is home*

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Mayor's Greeting

Dear Friends,

Time and time again, our citizen satisfaction surveys confirm that Kettering is a community that our residents love to call home.

Every two years the City of Kettering works with Wright State University to conduct a *Citizen Satisfaction Survey*. It is important to us that we regularly seek your feedback on the services we provide to you and learn more about how we can serve you better.

The latest Kettering *Citizen Satisfaction Survey* was conducted in late 2017 and we are immensely proud to share with you the results on page 4 of this edition of *Contact with Kettering*.

With so many sources of information out there, the City of Kettering wants to make it easy for you to get accurate information directly from us about the services you need.

Here are some easy ways to keep in touch and be sure not to miss news from the city:

- Visit ketteringoh.org/starter-community-e-newsletter to subscribe to our monthly *Starter e-Newsletter*. It is a great way to keep up with current news and events happening in Kettering. You can also read past issues on our website.
- Ketteringoh.org is a comprehensive resource that provides access to city services and information at your convenience. Our city website is your 24/7 city hall! You click. We serve. From our homepage you are just one click away from answers to more than 200 commonly asked questions, easy reporting of issues and concerns, a full list of city contact numbers and the "My Services" tab where you can enter your address to determine your leaf pickup district, trash collection day and City Council representative.
- The "*Kettering City Page*" is published monthly on the second Saturday of each month in the *Dayton Daily News* and features editorial stories about the programs and services that make Kettering a great place to call home.
- If you are on social media you can always find the latest up-to-the-minute Kettering news, events and service alerts on our [@Kettering_OH](https://twitter.com/Kettering_OH) Twitter account and "City of Kettering, Ohio – Government" Facebook page.
- Take the time to read this *Contact with Kettering* quarterly magazine for more detailed updates on current projects and community news. You can also read previous *Contact with Kettering* magazines on our website.
- Did you know that the City of Kettering uses a system called Code Red to notify our residents of emergency incidents and critical community alerts? Examples include: construction updates, service notifications, public safety alerts, boil water notices, and missing person reports. Visit ketteringoh.org/code-red-emergency-incident-community-alerts to register to receive phone call, text message and/or email notifications.

Thank you for taking the time to provide feedback that will allow us to serve you better.

Sincerely,

Donald E. Patterson, Mayor

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

Daylight Savings Time Begins

Sunday, March 11

City Council Meetings

Second & Fourth Tuesday of each month.

Income Tax Returns Due

Monday, April 17



CITY OF KETTERING

Kettering Mayor & Council

Don Patterson, Mayor

Don.Patterson@ketteringoh.org 299.5512

Bill Lautar, Vice Mayor, At Large

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Jacque Fisher, At Large

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Bruce E. Duke, District 4

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Mark Schwieterman, City Manager

Mark.Schwieterman@ketteringoh.org . . . 296.2412

Steven Bergstresser, Assistant City Manager

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Council Office

Kettcc@ketteringoh.org 296.2416

www.ketteringoh.org

@Kettering_OH

City of Kettering, Ohio – Government



KETTERING

is home

Your 2017 City of Kettering Income Tax Return is due on April 17, 2018

Our office recently mailed the 2017 City of Kettering Income Tax Return package or postcard. Each year more residents are opting to receive a reminder postcard instead of the Income Tax Return package. Many residents now visit the City of Kettering website to obtain tax forms or to complete and electronically file their returns, which helps to reduce paper, printing and postage costs.

Who Must File

- The City of Kettering has mandatory filing requirements, which means that all residents (18 and older) must file a city tax return on an annual basis. Active duty military personnel, unemployed persons, or other persons with no reportable income or loss for the current year are also subject to the mandatory filing requirements and must file a city tax return each year.
- Non-residents of Kettering who have income or loss, earned or derived from within the City, and from which Kettering tax was not withheld, must also file a return.
- Part year residents must file a return covering the period of time they resided in the City of Kettering. Pay statements with year to date figures must be used to pro-rate your taxable income and credit for tax withheld, if available.

Exceptions to Mandatory Filing Requirement

- Permanently retired or permanently disabled persons with only non-reportable sources of income or loss (such as social security, pensions, interest, and dividends) may file for a permanent exemption from the mandatory filing requirements by

submitting the Declaration of Exemption Form and all required attachments. Forms are available on our website or may be obtained by calling our office.

How to File Your Return

- Taxpayers with wages only can E-file their tax return and upload their W-2 Forms using the online tax tool.
- Use the online tax tool to prepare and print your tax return and complete your 2018 estimated tax payment vouchers at the same time.
- Taxpayers unable to use the online tool may take advantage of the fill in tax forms available on our website. Once complete, just print your return and mail it to the Tax Division.
- Visit our office and a member of our professional staff will answer your questions and prepare your city income tax return. No appointment required. Come before April 1st for the fastest service.

What to Attach to Your Return

- Page 1 of your Federal 1040
- Supporting documentation to verify each income, loss or deduction item reported on your city return. Examples: Federal Schedules A, C, E, F or K-1, Form(s) 1099-Misc., Form(s) W-2 and W-2G, etc.

Municipal Tax Law Changes – Late Filing Penalty in Effect

The State of Ohio has made significant changes to the Ohio municipal income tax laws (Chapter 718 of the Ohio

Revised Code). As a result, for all tax years beginning January 1, 2016 or later, a late filing penalty will be imposed for the failure to timely file a return (regardless of liability shown) at the rate of \$25.00 per month or fraction thereof, not to exceed \$150.00. Visit our website to learn about other law changes and how they may affect you.

Online Payment System

Use the online payment system to pay tax balances (current and prior year), estimated tax and payment plan payments via electronic check, credit card or debit card. A convenience fee will be added for all credit and debit card payments.

Where We're Located:

City of Kettering - Income Tax Division
3600 Shroyer Road, North Building
Kettering, OH 45429

Business Hours:

Monday through Friday
8 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Contact the Tax Division:

Website: www.ketteringoh.org

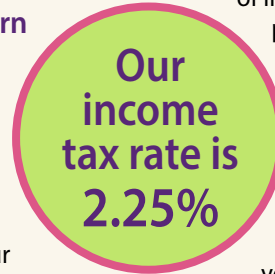
Phone: (937) 296-2502

Fax: (937) 296-3242

Email: ketteringtax@ketteringoh.org

Tax Rate: 2.25%

(The information contained herein is illustrative only. The City of Kettering Income Tax Code and the Ohio Revised Code supersede any interpretation presented.)



This information is being provided pursuant to the requirements of Kettering City Charter, Section 3-5(C). Mayor and Council 2017 total compensation (salary and related benefits: PERS, Medicare and Workers' Compensation).

Mayor \$14,068.66

Council Members \$9,379.11 (Each)

The latest Kettering Citizen Satisfaction Survey was conducted by Wright State University in late 2017.

More than
1,300
Kettering residents responded to the Citizen Satisfaction Survey.

97%
of Kettering residents surveyed are satisfied or very satisfied with Kettering as a place to live.

91%
of Kettering residents rate the services the city provides as good or excellent.

Every two years the City of Kettering conducts a Citizen Satisfaction Survey. It is important to us that we regularly seek your feedback on the services we provide to you and learn more about how we can serve you better.

96%
of Kettering residents believe city services have either maintained or improved in the past 5 years.

9 out of **10**
Kettering residents say they would recommend Kettering as a place to live to their family members and friends.

Convenient location, excellent schools and community roots are the leading reasons residents chose to live in Kettering.

78%
of Kettering residents have used the city website **www.ketteringoh.org** to request city services, find information or report a concern.

The majority of Kettering residents report that **Contact with Kettering** quarterly magazine is their primary source of Kettering news.

Of the Kettering residents who reported having called for emergency assistance,
98%
say they were satisfied or very satisfied with the service they received.

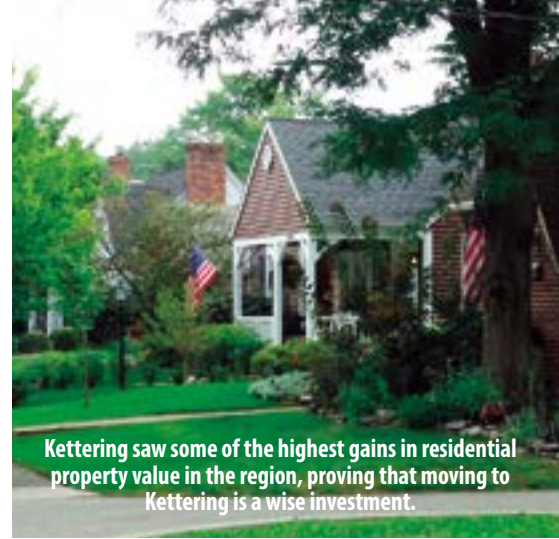
93%
of Kettering residents are satisfied or very satisfied with weekly trash service.



Congratulations to Council Member Bill Lautar on his re-election and welcome Jacqueline Fisher to Kettering City Council. Both Bill and Jacque are well known for their leadership in the community and active involvement in Kettering service clubs, churches and charitable causes.



Council Member Amy Schrimpf served the residents of Kettering for more than 9 years. Thank you to Amy for her leadership on Kettering City Council. She is a trusted advisor and an even better friend.



Kettering saw some of the highest gains in residential property value in the region, proving that moving to Kettering is a wise investment.

DID YOU HEAR THE GREAT NEWS?!?!

Kettering, Ohio

IS ONE OF THE TOP 5 SAFEST CITIES IN OHIO!

KETTERING
is home

For complete details on the Mayor's **State of the City** please visit www.ketteringoh.org

The City of Kettering completed the purchase of nearly 300 acres of unimproved land from the Miami Valley Research Foundation. As a land-locked community, the opportunity to acquire land for commercial redevelopment is rare and exciting.

Kettering completed streetscape improvements on the Wilmington Pike corridor between Stroop and Marshall Roads. On the west side of the corridor a new 8' multiuse path was installed, connecting existing regional bikeways and improving pedestrian access to businesses. New streetlights and street trees were installed.

Prugh Woods drive is now complete, offering access from Dorothy Lane to the new neighborhood under construction and scenic passage to the Kettering Recreation Complex.

To communicate clear, accurate details of how the City budgeted for and delivered services to you in 2016, the City of Kettering produced a citywide Annual Report in 2017. The feedback from residents was so supportive that we will now produce and mail an Annual Report to residents each spring.

PARTNERS FOR HEALTHY YOUTH
Committed to Kettering Youth and Families
Respectful / Safe / Responsible
www.pfhy.org

The Partners for Healthy Youth Board, City of Kettering and Kettering City School District created a new Youth and Family Community Resource Coordinator position that works with both the City and schools to gather resources for the growing numbers of Kettering families needing assistance.

Montgomery County, with support from the City, replaced the bridge on Stroop Road in 2017. Stroop Road is now open with a full four lanes of traffic.

Kettering welcomed Brigid's Path, critical facility working to give our most vulnerable newborns a fighting chance to thrive



Spring Spruce Up Checklist

Spring is an ideal time to accomplish projects that improve your home's curb appeal. Here is a checklist of 20 projects that can make a big difference:

- Clear out landscape beds and put down fresh mulch. Remember, mulch and compost are available free of charge for Kettering residents in the spring at Indian Riffle Park.
- Trim back trees and shrubs. Remove any overgrown or invasive shrubs. Yard debris may be placed in your Waste Management toter for collection on your regular trash day or it can be taken to the Yard Debris Center.
- Repair broken, cracked, or deteriorated siding or trim.
- Repaint cracked and peeling paint.
- Seal your doors and windows to improve energy efficiency and prevent drafts.
- Check your roof for any peeling or missing shingles and loose flashing.
- Check gutters and downspouts for debris. Repair any leaks or damage.
- Dispose of unlicensed or inoperable vehicles.
- Trim overgrown shrubs and weeds and mow the grass on a regular basis.
- Regularly remove trash and yard debris and clean up after your pets.
- Avoid yard erosion by seeding bare spots
- Check fences and sheds for needed maintenance and don't forget cleanup of those areas along your property that are adjacent to public streets and alleys.
- Don't store household furniture or appliances outdoors and keep those items which are meant to be stored outdoors in a neat and orderly appearance.
- Replace or repair missing or damaged entry doors and garage overhead doors.
- Check hinges or latches on all windows and doors to ensure they function properly.
- Check for loose or cracked mortar joints in brickwork.
- Make sure steps and walkways are in good condition, free from debris, cracks, holes and flaking concrete.
- Check house foundation and walls for cracks or breaks.
- Check windows and doors for broken glass, torn screens and deteriorated or loose frames, sills, or sashes.
- Repair or replace broken or rotting fences. Repaint if necessary.

You should annually evaluate the condition of your property to identify needed repairs. A lot of money can be saved by correcting simple problems before they become major repairs.

If you need financial assistance with the cost of making repairs to your home in Kettering maybe we can help. The City of Kettering has programs to assist low and moderate income families with emergency repairs, minor repairs and comprehensive rehabs. To qualify your household must meet established income limits and typically your home should have some built-up equity. If you are interested in any of these programs or need more information, please call **Andria Perkins at 937-296-3308**.



The Kettering
Yard Debris Center
will open for the season
on Monday, March 5.

Spring leaf pickup will
be the week of
Monday, April 16.



What to Know About Your Water



Especially during the winter months, the City of Kettering receives frequent calls to report water main breaks and problems with sewer lines. It is important for Kettering residents to understand that your water service and all maintenance of water lines are the responsibility of Montgomery County, not the City of Kettering.

Montgomery County Environmental Services purchases treated drinking water from the City of Dayton and distributes water to more than 80,000 customer accounts in Montgomery County, Ohio.

Any questions about water/sewer billing and accounts should be directed to **Montgomery County Environmental Services** at (937) 781-2688, Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.



If you need to report a water main break, sewer backup, other water/sewer emergency or you want information about discolored water or boil advisories, please call the **Montgomery County Environmental Services 24/7 emergency line** at (937) 781-2678.

Montgomery County Environmental Services created the Foundation Drain Disconnect Program to help protect homeowners against sewer backups and prevent “clean” storm water from entering the sanitary sewer system. The program provides up to \$4,000 in financial assistance for plumbing upgrades to help protect your home from sewer backups. Homeowners who have a living area or basement located below ground level may be eligible for the program.

- Typical eligible plumbing work and improvements may include installing plumbing and valves to prevent backups; disconnecting all downspouts, stairwell, floor, foundation, and sump drains from the sanitary sewer; or installing a sump pump and wet well.
- If you would like to know more, you can visit http://www.mcoho.org/departments/water_services/prevent_sewer_backups.php to download a program application packet or contact the Foundation Drain Disconnect Program Coordinator at (937) 781-2695.
- If you have a concern about drainage or street repair (unrelated to a water main break or sewer system), please contact the **City of Kettering Engineering Department** at 296-2436.

Natural Gas Safety Reminders from Vectren

As the frigid air pushes its way into Ohio, Vectren Energy Delivery of Ohio wants to remind Kettering residents to be aware of heating safety throughout the winter months. Customers should consider safety precautions associated with home heating, the use of natural gas and the use of electric space heaters.

If you smell natural gas

Natural gas contains an odorant called mercaptan that smells like rotten eggs or sulfur. In the event a gas leak is suspected inside of a home or business, residents are reminded of the following:

- Leave the home or business of the gas leak immediately and distance yourself from the building once outside, as well as areas where the odor of gas is noticeable.
- Do not use the phone, cell phone, or text anyone while

in the building or who may be in the building. If you notice the leak while talking on the phone, do not hang up.

- Do not turn any lights, appliances or any electrical sources on or off.
- Do not light matches.
- Do not open or close windows.
- Do not start a vehicle if it's parked in a garage that is attached to the home or business of the suspected leak nor utilize an automatic garage door opener upon exiting.

The activities listed above could trigger an ignition if gas has significantly accumulated.

Call Vectren from somewhere other than the location of the gas leak at **1-800-227-1376**. Remain in a safe area until emergency personnel arrive and do not re-enter the premises.

Please note: There is no charge to the customer for calling Vectren to inspect a potential gas leak. Vectren will respond 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

In the event a gas line has been struck or odor detected outside of a home or business, residents are reminded of the following:

- Leave the area of the gas leak immediately and distance yourself from source of the odor/struck line, as well as areas where the odor of gas is noticeable.
- Do not attempt to restart or move powered equipment.

- Remain in a safe area until emergency personnel arrive and do not enter the home/business or neighboring premises.

Call Vectren at 1-800-227-1376 from a safe location away from the gas leak. The party responsible for the damage to the gas line should also call 911 and report the incident to police and/or fire officials and the state's 811 center.





2017 KPD Commendations

Kettering Jail

The Kettering Police Department jail underwent its on-site inspection by the American Correctional Association and was found to be 100% compliant with all applicable standards. This audit is conducted every three years and covers 2018 – 2020.

A number of Kettering Police Department employees were recognized throughout 2017.

Ptl. Kramer was awarded a Class II commendation for applying a tourniquet to a citizen on March 5, 2017, who had accidentally shot himself in the leg.

A Class II commendation was received by Ptl. Martin, Ptl. Robinson, and Dispatchers Adams, Morse, Selby and Oswalt for helping an elderly veteran on Veterans Day get his power restored through DP&L. They also, as a team, worked to purchase food and

- have it delivered to his address since he was having financial difficulties.

- Ptl. Maloney will be awarded the meritorious award for an incident that happened on November 3, 2017. Ptl. Maloney and K9 Jax were called to assist Clark County to track a suspect who they had pursued in a stolen vehicle. The suspect was located by Ptl. Maloney and K9 Jax, finding him to be overdosing and in immediate need of medical assistance. The suspect would have died had he not been found in a timely manner.

- Ptl. Charges was awarded a Class I commendation for saving a citizens life by applying a tourniquet on an arm on September 7, 2017.

- Ptl. Rustad was awarded a Class II commendation after responding to a traffic crash involving an 11 year old bicyclist on September 20, 2017. The girl depended on her bicycle for transportation, so Ptl. Rustad took the bike to Kettering Bike Shop while the child was in the hospital. The Kettering Bike Shop and Ptl. Rustad provided the child with a newly rebuilt bicycle.

Award Winning K9 Teams Help Keep Our Community Safe

The United States Police Canine Association (USPCA) is the oldest and largest police dog training and certification organization in our nation. The various certifications provided by USPCA include: tracking, protection, narcotic detection, explosive detection, arson, fish and game, and search and rescue.

USPCA members are organized by regions that hold field trials each year. Kettering is in Region 5 that includes Ohio, Indiana and Kentucky. The teams with the highest scores at regional trials progress on to the National Police Dog Field Trials.

Two teams represented the Kettering Police Department at the USPCA Detector Dog

- National Competition in North Carolina in April. Ptl. Wright and K9 Fuse earned 4th Place in the nation with a final score of 198.34 points out of a possible 200 points.

- Ptl. Maloney and K9 Jax earned 8th Place in the nation with a final score of 198 points out of 200. The two combined scores earned the **Top Team Award** in the nation!

- The USPCA also awards teams who do outstanding work in their daily jobs. The Kettering Police Department K9 Teams were awarded numerous times in 2017.

- **January 2017** - Ptl. Disalvo and K9 Nash were awarded the USPCA **Narcotic Find of the Quarter** for the 4th Quarter of 2016. This was stemming from a drug sniff December 28, 2016, that led to **Find of the Month** for the USPCA. The drug sniff resulted in finding 150 grams of marijuana, 80 grams of mushrooms and seizure of \$1,700.

- **March 2017** - Ptl. Maloney and K9 Jax were awarded the USPCA **Patrol Catch of the Month** for March 2017 and subsequently won **Patrol Catch of the Quarter** for the first quarter of 2017 for this usage. This stems from a track conducted for Moraine PD on March 19 after they had a high speed pursuit of a stolen vehicle. They tracked down the

- driver, who was arrested and also located where the passengers went.

- **April 2017** - Ptl. Maloney and K9 Jax were awarded the USPCA **Narcotic Find of the Month** for April 2017, which resulted in the award of **Narcotic Find of the Quarter** for the 2nd Quarter of 2017 thru the USPCA. This drug sniff occurred on April 14th and resulted in finding 86 grams of methamphetamine and drug paraphernalia.

- **July 2017** - Ptl. Disalvo and K9 Nash were awarded the USPCA **Patrol Catch of the Month** for July 2017 for a track for Centerville PD. The suspect was tracked down as a result of an Aggravated Robbery and injuring an officer who had attempted to make the arrest.

- **August 2017** - Ptl. Maloney and K9 Jax were awarded the USPCA **Patrol Catch of the Month** for August 2017, which resulted in the award of **Patrol Catch of the Quarter** for the 3rd Quarter of 2017 through the USPCA. This track was on a suspect wanted by multiple jurisdictions for an ongoing crime spree, with crimes that included aggravated robbery, grand theft auto, burglary, theft and impersonating a police officer.

- Kettering is proud to have these K9 teams working to keep us safe.



Spring Cleaning & Decluttering



More than 1,600 times per year, Kettering Fire Department responds to an incident where someone has fallen. These falls can result in serious injury

and even death. Many of these falls can be prevented by taking basic steps to de-clutter passageways in the home. These passageways could also serve as a means of egress in the event of a fire and quicker entry for fire department members in the event of an emergency. Excessive clutter also becomes additional fuel when a fire starts in a home. Below are a few basic steps you can take to eliminate potentially hazardous conditions in your home.

- Keep hallway floors and stairs free of storage and clutter. It is recommended to maintain at least 36" wide pathways through your home. This will allow an ambulance gurney to pass easily through the home in case of a medical emergency.
- Keep areas around doors or windows free of furniture or other items. Any of these openings could serve as emergency exits. Don't store anything behind a door that prevents it from opening fully.
- Keep bathroom and kitchen floors clear of clutter and loose rugs to prevent trips and falls.
- Do not store items that could burn next to heating equipment like a furnace, water heater, oven, or space heater.



Billing for Emergency Medical Transports



The City of Kettering seeks compensation from private health insurers, Medicare and Medicaid for ambulance transportation. For those who work or live in Kettering, the ambulance bill goes directly to third-party payers. No bill should ever be sent to a person living or working in Kettering even if third-party payers do not pay. If you live or work in Kettering and receive a bill directly, please contact Kettering Fire Department at (937) 296-2489. For those who do not live or work in Kettering, the initial ambulance transport bill goes to a third-party payer, if available. If the bill is not paid by Medicare, Medicaid or a private health insurer, we will bill the individual. If you have additional questions, please feel free to call the Kettering Fire Department at (937) 296-2489 for additional information, or contact our billing service (AccuMed) directly at 1-800-926-6985.

Station Modernization Project Update

Three of the four new fire stations have been built as part of the Station Modernization Project and are now fully operational. Each of these stations is staffed 24 hours a day with members who are trained to respond to both fire and medical emergencies.



Station 32: 3484 Far Hills Avenue



Station 34: 2575 Woodman Drive



Station 36 / Headquarters / Emergency Operations Center:
4745 Hempstead Station Drive



The construction of Station 37 has begun at 1300 West Dorothy Lane. Station 37 will be the fourth and final station of our Station Modernization Project. The construction of this station will be completed by Brumbaugh Construction, the contractor who completed both Station 32 and Station 36. Construction of Station 37 is scheduled to be completed in late 2018.

When this project is complete, KFD will be better prepared to respond to the nearly 9,000 calls for emergency service each year. These new fire stations will bring our facilities up to current codes and standards, keeping our members safer and healthier while providing the best lifesaving services to our residents.

Kettering Economic Development Programs

The City of Kettering Economic Development Program is committed to assisting current businesses as well as potential businesses in their journey to growth and success. We employ a variety of programs to encourage economic growth.

City of Kettering Business Loan Programs

The City's Business Loan Program is designed to provide gap financing to businesses that are planning to locate in the City, expand their business and/or rehabilitate their present facility.

- Funds are available on a first-come basis. Applications are reviewed by City staff and approved or disapproved by a Loan Review Committee.

Economic Development/ Government Equity (ED/GE)

This countywide program is comprised of two components – one is a direct grant making fund for economic development and the other is a tax revenue sharing program.

Projects which are chosen

1. retain or create jobs;
2. expand the local tax base;

3. provide infill growth in areas where infrastructure is already in place;
4. have a committed business as the end user.

MicroEnterprise Grant Program

Small business is the lifeblood of Montgomery County. That is why the MicroEnterprise Grant Program was developed to help small, for-profit companies in Montgomery County grow their business through grants from \$2,500 to \$25,000. With an emphasis on socially and economically disadvantaged businesses, we deliver working capital to help you succeed.

To be eligible for the MicroEnterprise Grant Program you must meet the following requirements:

- Small, for-profit business with fewer than 5 employees
- Total sales revenue must be less than \$500,000
- Business must be established for a minimum of 12 months
- Store-front business only – no home-based, second income

For more information, please contact our Economic Development Manager by calling 937-296-2412.



**Shop. Dine.
Buy Kettering.**

Resources to Back Business

The City of Kettering offers Kettering small business leaders access to the Montgomery County Business Solutions Center. The Center helps businesses develop and grow with an eye toward the future. In their one-of-a-kind facility, small businesses can get support with workforce planning, help navigating government requirements, assistance with identifying local and state incentives and financial assistance products to help with capital expenditures and workforce development, take part in networking opportunities, and much more. Plus, services and facility use are totally free.

The Business Solutions Center also supports Montgomery County's existing efforts to promote targeted industry sectors and attract new private investment by providing space for business planning and development. By hosting these meetings, the Business Solutions Center furthers collaboration between OhioMeansJobs / Montgomery

- County and Montgomery County Community & Economic Development and helps to align available business services with the needs of existing and future companies.

- To learn more about how the Business Solutions Center might benefit your small business, please contact Kettering Economic Development Manager Gregg Gorsuch at 937-296-2412.



2017 Brought Exciting Redevelopment and Reinvestment in Kettering

Alternate Solutions Health Network completed a major renovation of their 200,000 square foot facility at 1050 Forrer Boulevard in the Kettering Business Park. The expansion will allow a projected growth in employment of more than 340 jobs in the next five years. This reinvestment is critical to the ongoing success of the Kettering Business Park.

N12 Technologies, Inc., a manufacturing facility that services the medical, automotive, aviation and space sectors will relocate their company from Massachusetts to the Kettering Business Park. N12 Technologies will renovate and upgrade 6,000 square feet of the NCC Building located at 2000 Composite Drive bringing new local jobs in the valuable technology sector.

In 2018, **Northwestern Tools, Inc.** a manufacturing facility that services

the medical, automotive, energy and commercial sectors will relocate their Kettering headquarters to 4800 Hempstead Station Drive. This relocation will allow Northwestern Tools, Inc. to continue to grow and purchase additional machines, thereby retaining jobs and creating additional jobs in the City of Kettering.

Marc's Grocery Store will open its first Dayton area location at 2100 E. Whipp Road. Marc's targets the value conscious family shopper. Their basic inventory represents name brand merchandise in the groceries, health & beauty, and general merchandise categories. Marc's will open in 2018 following a \$2.6 million renovation

of the 50,000 square foot anchor space in the Oak Creek Plaza.

As soon as we received confirmation that the previous tenant planned to close their storefront, the City of Kettering team got to work. We knew that an anchor tenant, preferably another grocery store, was critical to maintaining the vitality of the Oak Creek shopping plaza and supporting

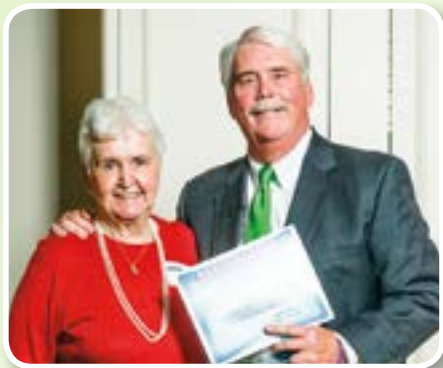
the needs of our residents in that area of Kettering. We are grateful to the building owners for their work in cooperation

with us leading up to this announcement and we eagerly await welcoming Marc's Grocery Store to Kettering in 2018.



Alternate Solutions Health Network

City of Kettering Volunteers Rock...and Roll!



Anneliese Bryant accepts her 9,500 hour award from Mayor Patterson

Mayor Patterson, city council and city staff were thrilled to celebrate our volunteers at the annual Volunteer Recognition Luncheon held November 2 at Presidential Banquet Center. The 50's-themed event included favorite 50's tunes, a diner-style lunch and a visit from "Elvis!"

In addition, we asked volunteers to bring new socks to donate to the City's Giving

Tree Project which provides gifts of toys and clothing to children in need. We asked and you delivered **505** pairs of socks were distributed to students during the holidays! Thank you!

We truly hope everyone enjoyed the luncheon as we recognized you for your dedication and commitment to the City of Kettering! Thanks to all 1,156 volunteers for donating 32,732 hours of service from July 1, 2016 – June 2017!



"Elvis" poses for a photo with volunteer, Cheryl Ritcharid

2017 Volunteer Recognition Luncheon

Town & Country Property Manager Pam Cochran accepts the 2017 Partnership Award from Volunteer Advisory Council Chair, Kari Basson



Congratulations to Town & Country Shopping Center on the receipt of the 2017 Partnership Award! This award, created in 2016 by the Kettering Volunteer Advisory Council, serves to recognize outside organizations and businesses that make significant contributions to the betterment of our community through service and dedication.



Christmas Day Gathering at Polen Farm...a Community Effort

What happens when you mix donations from a very generous caterer, three service clubs, one local church and eight area businesses with 68 talented volunteers? You are able to invite the community to Polen Farm to celebrate Christmas

surrounded with the warmth of fellowship and the magic of the season! That's right! For over forty years this Kettering tradition provides everything needed to truly celebrate Christmas—caroling, delicious food, cookies, children's activities and of course, Santa! Many thanks to committee co-chairs, Bill and Marynel Bradley, and all of the volunteers who work so hard to make it all happen. Because of our tremendous community support, we are still able to offer this event at no charge to our guests. Thank you to Kohler Catering, Kettering Rotary Club, Kettering Holiday at Home, Day Air Credit Union, Kettering Noon Optimist Club, Christ Church, Dor-Wood Optimist Club, Gordon Food Service, Kettering Medical Center, Mike-sells Potato Chips, 2nd & Charles, SYSCO Foods, Town & Country Shopping Center and Mayor Patterson. We truly couldn't do this without you!



Congratulations, J. Earl Jones!



If you've ever watched a City of Kettering council meeting, chances are J. Earl Jones was helping with the production. Since 1981, Earl has been behind

the scenes working with Miami Valley Communications Council (MVCC) to operate the camera and equipment required to record council meetings. Earl served Mayors Busch, Hartmann, Smith and our current Mayor Donald E. Patterson. He also produced several documentaries, including one about *Holiday at Home*. In 2006, Earl was inducted into the MVCC Hall of Fame. After 36 years, Earl has made the decision to pursue other volunteer endeavors. In recognition of Earl's last city council meeting, a proclamation was read declaring Dec. 19, 2017 Earl Jones Day in the City of Kettering!

**Congratulations, Earl!
We wish you all the best!**

Volunteers Embrace the Cold and Snow on *Make A Difference Day*

Over forty volunteers braved the cold and early morning snowfall to join efforts in the Cities of Service Neighborhood, Oak Park. Despite the weather conditions, volunteers from faith-based organizations, service clubs, school groups and various community organizations joined together



Volunteers assisting with card making project

to help neighbors with outdoor maintenance. They also cleared debris and overgrowth from an area along Woodman Drive.

In addition, over 50 volunteers gathered at Greenmont Oak Park Church to create holiday greeting cards for our active

- duty military. As a result, Blue Star Mothers sent 454 handmade greeting cards from Kettering to our service men and women all over the world!
- The City of Kettering has been participating in National Make A Difference Day since its

Volunteers helping in the Oak Park neighborhood

- inception in 1992. Volunteers of all ages and walks of life come together on the fourth Saturday in October to address needs in the community. We look forward to working with our amazing volunteers again this year on Saturday, October 27, 2018.

Volunteer Opportunities Blossom in the **SPRING** *time*

The City of Kettering's volunteer program provides year round opportunities for all ages; however, spring opens the door to a plethora of ways to enhance the lives of others as well as your own!

Do you love music?

Why not consider volunteering at Frazee Pavilion? It's a wonderful way to enjoy the outdoors in a fun and festive environment.

How about joining the Senior Show Choir at the Lathrem Senior Center? The Show Choir performs at many locations throughout the Miami Valley bringing smiles to those they entertain.

Do you enjoy working with children?

How about helping with the many special events hosted by our Parks, Recreation and Cultural Arts Department? Most of these activities are in the evenings or on weekends. It's a great chance for those who work during the day to join our volunteer team!

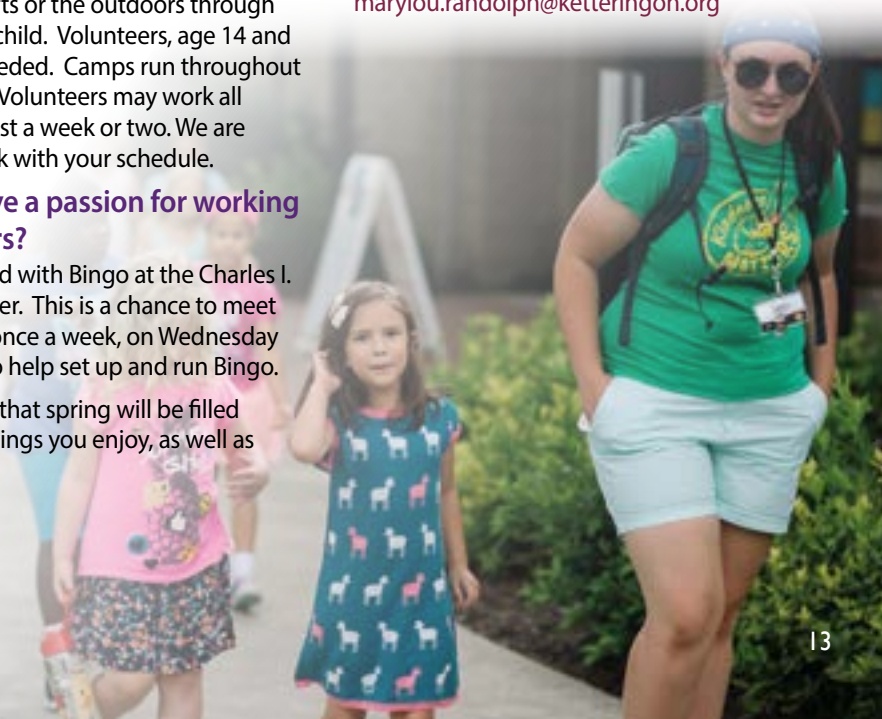
- What about helping with summer camps? Our Habitat Environmental Center and Rosewood Arts Centre both offer a host of camps throughout the summer. This is a wonderful opportunity to explore your love for the arts or the outdoors through the eyes of a child. Volunteers, age 14 and above, are needed. Camps run throughout the summer. Volunteers may work all summer, or just a week or two. We are happy to work with your schedule.

Do you have a passion for working with seniors?

- Help is needed with Bingo at the Charles I. Lathrem Center. This is a chance to meet with seniors once a week, on Wednesday afternoons, to help set up and run Bingo.

- It is our hope that spring will be filled with all the things you enjoy, as well as

- some new and exciting adventures! Why not include volunteering as part of the fun? For additional information, contact the Volunteer Office at 296-2433, visit our website www.ketteringoh.org or email marylou.randolph@ketteringoh.org





Kettering Playgrounds: Helping Your Children Grow

When you think of a playground, chances are you think of a space for kids to

run and get their energy out while getting some fresh air, but the playgrounds in Kettering are more than that. They are well thought-out spaces with researched equipment that has been specifically chosen to support essential areas of growth and development in children of all ages and abilities.

Albert Einstein once said, "Play is the highest form of research," and we in the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Arts Department agree. We can't guarantee our playgrounds will make your child a genius, but we can say with confidence that our playgrounds offer a great outdoor space for your kids to play and therefore learn, grow and develop vital skills.

Substantial research suggests clear links to benefits of playground play such as: cognitive brain development; improved motor, sensory, imaginative, social and problem-solving skills; and improved overall physical strength. In Kettering, our playgrounds certainly contain several pieces of equipment that encourage such types of growth.

Most parents cringe when they think of their kids taking risks, but playgrounds offer free unstructured play and a space to take risks and therefore learn. Spontaneous play on playgrounds encourages children to use their imaginations and fuels their curiosity. This curiosity allows them to push boundaries unlike organized sports. When young players take risks and

gain confidence, they take on a willingness to try new things both physically and socially, and trying new things isn't a bad thing, right?

We all know how critical brain development is in the early stages of life, and playground play can help promote this through children's movements, interactions and experiences. Playing leads children to develop corresponding portions of their brains with patterned activities such as those offered on a playground. An activity as simple as using their imagination or climbing up a slide is literally helping their brains to grow and develop.

Did you know that children who have developed poor motor skills by age five will likely never develop efficient motor skills? A playground is an excellent place to gain these essential motor skills through climbing, jumping, and running but also through the activity offered through sound and manipulation of elements offered within a given play area.

Children learn social skills from the adults who lead them, but they also learn from their peers, and a playground is a great outdoor classroom for such skills. A playground encourages kids to express ideas and develop their communication and social skills to their peers. You can't gain that from watching television or playing video games!

Several of Kettering's playgrounds have a theme, including the Victorian houses at Southern Hills park, the trains at Berwin and Kantner parks, and the nature-themed playground at Southdale park. These themes encourage

imaginative creative play where children interact and work together, but if you take a closer look, you'll notice some of the equipment serves a greater purpose. For example, the "talk tubes" at Southdale help develop auditory skills. They encourage cooperation, imagination, and social skill development. One child talks into one end of the tube, and another child waits at the other end of the playground where the other talk tube is located. This transmittal of sound piques a child's interest and curiosity, trying to figure out the mystery of how they're able to hear a

what about children who can't easily access a playground due to special needs or a disability? Over the years Kettering has taken steps to ensure its playgrounds are inclusive, acknowledging the importance of a play space for all.

Indian Riffle Park is called a "playground for all" due to its construction of ramps and wheelchair accessible equipment. The "sway fun glider" at this playground seems like just simple fun for a kid, but it was purposely created to be inclusive for children who utilize a wheelchair. On this particular piece of equipment, kids sway



Playground at Delco Park

friend who's clear across the playground.

The next time you're at Van Buren Park, take a closer look at the net climber. To us adults, we see it as a great place for our energized little ones to burn off some energy, but that too is a well thought-out structure meant to foster sensory and cognitive skills. Climbing a giant net is just pure fun for a kid, but they're building strength, endurance, coordination, and balance. Along with the physical benefits, they're sharpening their problem-solving skills while gaining confidence and taking risks.

We can all agree these benefits of playing on a playground are an advantage we welcome, but

back and forth, but while they're giggling away, they're also building up their motor skills. For children who aren't able to physically sway the glider, they are still building up their social and problem-solving skills all while having a blast and being included instead of watching from the sidelines.

The next time you're on a Kettering playground, know that the structures there have been thought about extensively to ensure inclusion, growth and of course good old-fashioned fun for the little ones in your life. We're helping their hearts, brains and bodies grow each time they play on a playground. It's like we're sneaking in their veggies, but we promise not to tell them.

From Camper to Counselor: the Value of Summer Camp!

Growing up, CJ Crayton always looked forward to spending his summers in camps at the Kettering Recreation Complex. The fun activities and the structure of the camp environment were essential in making a positive impact on his childhood.

“Growing up, my family struggled and still continues to struggle. My parents wanted me and my brother to be safe and have fun,” CJ said. “The camp program fed us and helped us do many things we normally couldn’t afford, like taking field trips and swimming. It also gave us a safe place to run around and have fun.”

The relationships CJ formed during his time at summer camp were especially important. One of his favorite things about camp was making new friends and seeing new faces. Not only his fellow campers, but also the counselors and staff became his good friends. CJ’s friendship with his former camp counselor, Addie Weaver, now Kettering’s Program and Youth Development Supervisor, led to his return to camp as a counselor during the summer of 2017.

“When Addie, my old camp counselor, asked if I was interested [in becoming a counselor], I thought it would be a cool

experience to see the other side, try to give kids a fun summer, and try to make a small impact on the next generation,” said CJ. “I met some amazing kids and other counselors along the way. It was a great experience I would definitely recommend to others!”

“I met some amazing kids and other counselors along the way. It was a great experience I would definitely recommend to others!”
— CJ Crayton

CJ’s counselor experience was just as fun and formative as his years as a camper. He even got to relive some nostalgic moments. “Growing up, my

favorite memories are playing the old Milton Bradley game, Knock Out every morning before camp officially started, swimming, and seeing football friends and school friends at the pool. This past summer as a counselor, I also enjoyed Knock Out during free time with the kids and just slowly learning about all the kids and what they liked to do.”

Now a junior at Wilmington College, CJ is just as big a fan of camp as he’s always been. “I think the Kettering Recreation Complex does a lot of great things for kids and I can’t wait to see what they add next! I still remember my summers in camp, having fun doing so many things, so I hope the great kids I spent last summer with felt the same.”

For more information about summer camps, call 296-2587.



Play Dates

FREE! National Skate Week Clinic

February 17, 1 – 3 p.m.
Kettering Ice Arena

Teen Pool Night
February 23, 9 – 11 p.m.
Kettering Recreation Complex

Dr. Seuss’ Nature Celebration
March 3, 1 – 3 p.m.
Habitat Environmental Center

Adult Easter Egg Hunt
March 23, 7:30 – 9 p.m.
Delco Park

FREE! Spring Free Skate
March 31, 1 – 3 p.m.
Kettering Ice Arena

Comic Book Studio Day
April 7, 9 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.
Rosewood Arts Centre

FREE! TreeFest at Pondview
April 21, 9 a.m. – Noon
Pondview Park



Apply Today & Join Our Team!

2018 is going to be an exciting year for Kettering Parks, Recreation and Cultural Arts Department and we need fun, innovative, and dedicated employees — **like you!** — to make it happen.

We know that it's passionate and innovative team members that make our customers and residents love our parks, facilities and programs. And we have the research to prove it. A recent survey of 600 Kettering residents showed that 88% believe our department makes Kettering a desirable place to live!

Numerous seasonal and year-round job opportunities are available, with each of them offering you the chance to work with talented people who are dedicated to the community and want to be part of something bigger. Are you ready to make a positive impact on the community and have fun doing it?

More than 21 parks span the City and nearly all Kettering residents live within a mile and a half of an exceptionally

maintained park. Kettering has been a Tree City for more than 30 years, with green space and parks being integral factors in the quality of life. Kettering offers two very affordable fitness centers as well as an outdoor water park, ice arena and senior center.

We have many opportunities to join our award winning team. **To learn more, visit playkettering.org/join-our-team!**



Contact Numbers

Emergency

Police/Fire/Paramedic Emergency 9-1-1

Non-Emergency

Police and Fire Dispatch.....296-2555

Frequently Called Numbers

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

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.

Stacy Schweikhart: Editor

Administrative Systems: Production

The City of Kettering invites people with disabilities to enjoy our programs, services, parks, and facilities. For more information about accessibility or to request a modification, please call 296-2412.