

PUBLISHED FOR THE VOLUNTEERS OF KETTERING — Winter 2020

# City of Kettering Volunteers Make History!

The 2019 Volunteer Recognition Luncheon took on new meaning as we celebrated the 40th anniversary of the volunteer program! City staff, city officials and volunteers united in celebration while enjoying a traditional roast turkey lunch and a delectable chocolate fountain for dessert.

Volunteers received awards and certificates based on the number of hours served. Thanks to the generosity of several area businesses, many volunteers received door prizes!



From July 1, 2018 – June 30, 2019  
**1,124** volunteers contributed  
**31,831** hours of service  
saving the City **\$787,499**.  
Volunteers have saved the City more than  
**\$23,000,000**  
since the inception of the program.  
Forty years later, this program continues to  
serve as a model for other local governments.

## National Volunteer Week

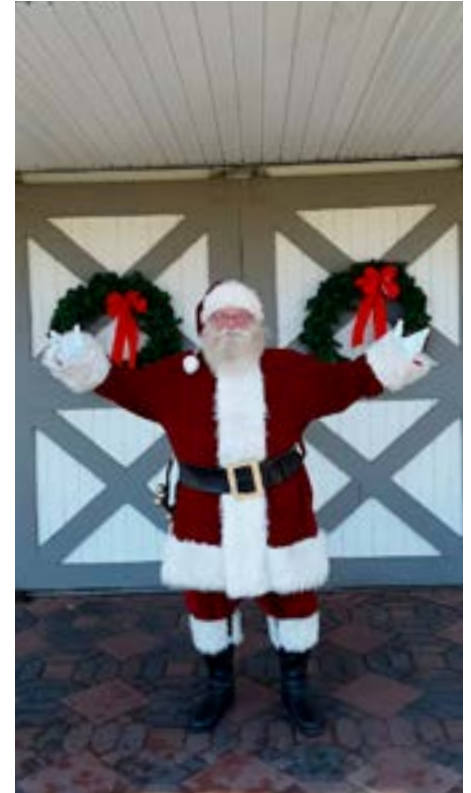
National Volunteer Week is April 19 – 25. Volunteers across our country will be recognized for the countless hours of service donated to improve the lives of others. It is during this week that volunteers in Kettering will be invited to attend the annual Community Block Party to be held at Fraze Pavilion Wednesday, June 3. Watch your mail for additional details.



# Wonderful Christmas Memories Created at Polen Farm

Thanks to our wonderful team of volunteers and community partners, the annual Christmas Day Open House at Polen Farm was a huge success! More than 350 guests enjoyed a warm meal, Christmas cookies, a train display, crafts, a free book store and of course, photos with Santa! This event embodies the true meaning of Christmas, as our volunteers

create an atmosphere of holiday joy and fellowship, and is a true example of what can happen when volunteers and community partners come together to make a positive impact in the lives of others. A sincere thank you to all who worked so hard to make this day a success! Your efforts are a true labor of love!



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## Make A Difference Day Draws Hundreds of Volunteers

The last Saturday in October is an inspiring day across our nation. The City of Kettering has participated in National *Make A Difference Day*, the largest day of service, since it was created in the early nineties. Projects have varied throughout the years but each and every year hundreds of volunteers participate in our projects. The 2019 project consisted of both an indoor and an outdoor activity. Christ Church United Methodist served as

the host site as volunteers of all ages gathered to create holiday greeting cards for our active duty military and holiday placemats for those residing in area nursing homes. As part of the Cities of Service (COS) initiative, volunteers assisted with outdoor projects including tree planting in Irelan Park, outdoor yard maintenance and the distribution of emergency disaster preparedness starter kits in the COS neighborhood. Once again, the collaboration between

community partners and volunteers from all walks of life made this day a success! As a result, 1.75 tons of brush and debris were removed from the COS neighborhood; 6 properties were improved; 9 trees were planted; 175 holiday placemats were created; 279 emergency preparedness starter kits were distributed; 282 holiday greeting cards were created; and 450 hours of service were donated by nearly 200 volunteers!





# Christ Church United Methodist Receives Award



*Pastor Brian Law and Serve Director Chris Wright of Christ Church United Methodist accepting the 2019 Kettering Volunteer Advisory Council Partnership Award from Council Chair, Kari Basson, at the annual Kettering Volunteer Recognition Luncheon.*

The Kettering Volunteer Advisory Council Partnership Award was created in 2016 as a way to recognize organizations and businesses that make significant contributions to the betterment of our community through continued service and dedication.

Christ Church was selected based on support provided for programs such as Cities of Service; National Make A Difference Day; the Christmas Day Open House at Polen Farm; and the Kettering Leadership Academy. Thanks to the support of Christ Church we've been able to expand and enhance City programs and events.

## Spring and Summer Volunteer Opportunities

Along with warmer weather and anticipated sunshine, we are also looking forward to the many volunteer opportunities spring and summer have to offer. We have opportunities at Frazee Pavilion greeting and directing guests and summer camp opportunities suitable for those who enjoy working with children. We also have several special events which could not happen without the help of our dedicated volunteers. These include:

**Color-FEST** March 7 (8 – 10:30 a.m.)

Lathrem Senior Center

Assist with set up and running activities for this preschool event.

**BreakOUT-SIDE** March 28 (3 – 6 p.m.)

Kettering Recreation Complex

Assist with ensuring safety of participants at this outside breakout room.

**TreeFest 2020** April 18 (8 a.m. – Noon)

Pondview Park

Plant trees and celebrate Earth Day!

Celebrate Easter and hide eggs for participants at these events:

**Adult Egg Hunt** April 3 (6:30 – 9:30 p.m.)

Kettering Recreation Complex

**Flashlight Egg Hunt** April 4 (5 – 9 p.m.)

Kettering Recreation Complex

**Teen Flashlight Egg Hunt** April 10

(8 – 10:30 p.m.) Kettering Recreation

Complex

Please contact the Volunteer Office at 937-296-2433 for additional information.

## New Benefit for Volunteers

In appreciation of our volunteers, the Kettering Fire Department invites all City of Kettering volunteers to participate in **free** CPR and First Aid Training. Training is held once a

month at Fire Headquarters, 4745 Hempstead Station Dr. The next class will take place March 13 at 9 a.m. It will include both CPR and First Aid Training. Upon completion, you will receive

## Citizen Police Academy



The Citizen Police Academy (CPA) is designed to introduce the citizens of Kettering and surrounding communities to the operations of the Kettering Police Department (KPD). Those attending will experience an in-depth look at the job of law enforcement and the many challenges officers face on a daily basis. CPA is an interactive course that allows students to experience every facet of law enforcement in a controlled setting. This format provides an open forum to increase public awareness and support for the police department. The CPA classes are taught by KPD employees who believe that an informed citizen is an excellent resource for both the community and the police department. Classes are free of charge and take place on Wednesday evenings from 6:30 to 9 p.m. for eight weeks.

The next Academy will begin Wednesday, March 18. Register by calling 937-296-2458 or visit <https://www.ketteringoh.org/citizen-police-academy>.

Many graduates of the CPA go on to volunteer within the police department. One opportunity is with our Speed Watch Program. We are currently looking for graduates of the Academy to assist in this program by monitoring traffic one morning a week. To learn more about this opportunity, please contact the Volunteer Office at 937-296-2433.

a certificate. If you are interested in participating, please contact the Volunteer Office at 937-296-2433. Class size is limited so don't delay.



3600 Shroyer Road • Kettering, Ohio 45429-2799  
937-296-2400 • FAX 937-296-3242  
www.ketteringoh.org



CITY OF KETTERING

### Kettering Mayor & Council

**Don Patterson, Mayor**  
Don.Patterson@ketteringoh.org..... 937.545.0008

**Tony Klepacz, Vice Mayor, District 3**  
Tony.Klepacz@ketteringoh.org ..... 937.435.9830

**Jacqueline Fisher, At Large**  
Jacque.Fisher@ketteringoh.org..... 937.232.1637

**Bill Lautar, At Large**  
Bill.Lautar@ketteringoh.org..... 937.689.2205

**Robert Scott, District 1**  
Rob.Scott@ketteringoh.org ..... 937.776.2315

**Joseph D. Wanamaker, District 2**  
Joe.Wanamaker@ketteringoh.org..... 937.296.1712

**Bruce E. Duke, District 4**  
Bruce.Duke@ketteringoh.org ..... 937.299.2259

**Mark Schwieterman, City Manager**  
Mark.Schwieterman@ketteringoh.org..... 937.296.2412

**Steven Bergstresser, Assistant City Manager**  
Steven.Bergstresser@ketteringoh.org ..... 937.296.2412

Council Office Phone Number: 937.296.2416  
Council Email: KetteringMayorCouncil@ketteringoh.org  
Kettering Home Page: www.ketteringoh.org

### Relay for Life Volunteers Needed

The American Cancer Society is looking for volunteers to assist with the annual Relay for Life to be held at Delco Park, Saturday, May 16. Visit relayforlife.org/kettering, call 1-800-227-2345 or email Event Leader, Steve Hutchison at [Stevehutch.krfl@gmail.com](mailto:Stevehutch.krfl@gmail.com) for additional information.

### Kettering Supplies for Safety

The Kettering Supplies for Safety is a program created by the Kettering Leadership Academy Class of 2015. This program provides a Kindergarten Starter Supply Kit as an incentive to children who attend the Kettering Safety Village. Safety Village provides hands-on experiences for children entering kindergarten to learn about traffic signs and signals, pedestrian safety, seatbelt safety, school bus safety as well as personal safety. To sustain this program, volunteer help is needed. To learn more, contact Program Coordinator, Volunteer Rob Jahn at **937-232-5278**.

**VOLUNTEER KETTERING** is published quarterly by the City of Kettering to keep our volunteers informed of issues, developments and opportunities pertaining to the Volunteer Program. Comments and suggestions are welcome and should be sent to the City of Kettering, ATTN: Volunteer Office, 3600 Shroyer Road, Kettering, OH 45429.

#### City Website:

[www.ketteringoh.org](http://www.ketteringoh.org)

Mary Lou Randolph, Editor  
Brittany Ingraham, Asst. Editor  
Administrative Systems, Design and Production

*Only a life lived for others is worth living. — Albert Einstein*