

# **Volunteer Recognition Luncheon**

While "tradition" was the theme for our 2019 volunteer recognition luncheon, our 2020 luncheon will be anything but traditional! Plans are underway to celebrate **YOU**, and the time, talent, and energy you share with us year after year. Even though most volunteer opportunities have been put on hold for a while, please know how much we value you and the service you provide to our city. Please mark your calendars for **Thursday, November 5 at noon**. We'll be providing a "drivethru" lunch at Presidential Banquet Center, 4548 Presidential

Way. Mayor Donald E. Patterson will distribute certificates and awards based on your cumulative hours from the time you first registered as a volunteer through June 30, 2020. Certificates will be presented for each 100 hours you have volunteered. Gifts will be presented at 500-hour increments. Everyone will receive a token of appreciation.

Please watch your mail for your invitation and reply card. COVID-19 will not stop the appreciation we have for all of our wonderful volunteers!

### **Neighborhood Pride**

It is amazing to witness what a committee of volunteers can do even during a pandemic! Thanks to the commitment and dedication of our Neighborhood Pride Committee,

thirty-nine property owners will be presented with a Neighborhood Pride Award at a "drive-thru" awards presentation at the Kettering Government Center on Tuesday, October 6. In addition, award winners will receive a copy of the 2020 Neighborhood Pride video created by Miami Valley Communications Council. A heartfelt thanks goes to

committee co-chairs, Gail Carone, Rob Jahn and Mark & Carol Messer. Thanks also to committee members, Jim Bolton, Chuck Dickerson, Pat Ferguson, Gale Heller, Del & Ginny Herbeck, April Mason, Donna Speers, and Kathy Waker. Your enthusiasm and "can-do" attitude made this all possible!



2020 Award winning property at 2313 Belloak Dr.

#### **Make A Difference Day** Saturday, October 24, 9 – 11 a.m.

We are thrilled to participate in National Make A Difference Day again this year! As with everything else in 2020, our project will be a bit different in order to keep everyone's safety at the forefront.

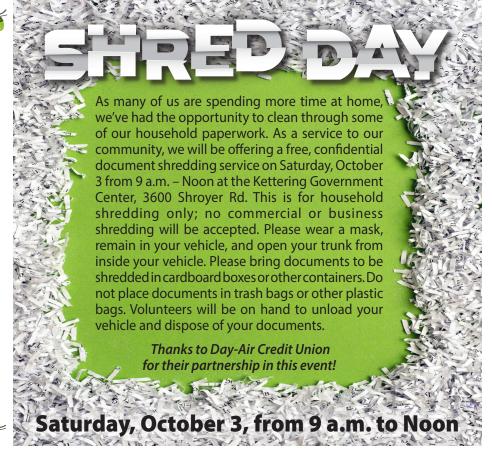
In an effort to bring holiday joy to members of our military serving overseas and to those in area nursing homes, we've put together greeting cards kits containing 10 blank cards and the materials necessary to create cards and notes of appreciation and encouragement. If you are interested in receiving a kit, please contact the Volunteer Office at 937-296-2433 or email marylou.randolph@ketteringoh.org. Cards need to be completed by October 23. This is a wonderful activity for individuals as well as families to spread kindness during this challenging time.

Additionally, we are partnering with Christ Church United Methodist, 3440 Shroyer Road; Central Christian Church, 1200 Forrer Blvd; and David's United Church of Christ, 170 W. David Road to distribute masks. This will take place Saturday, October 24, from 9 to 11 a.m. If you are in need of a mask, please stop by. We are happy to help secure your safety and well-being.



## **Christmas Day**

The Christmas Day Open House at Polen Farm is always such a wonderful way to gather people to celebrate the spirit of the holiday. Our committee of volunteers continue to do an excellent job every year ensuring our guests make warm memories to last a lifetime. In keeping with the regulations regarding mass gatherings and the safety and welfare of our volunteers and guests, we will not be holding the Open House this year. While this is disappointing, we are working on plans to celebrate the spirit of the holiday in a new, creative and exciting way. We'll be sure to share details as they unfold!



#### **Volunteers Step Up to the Challenge**

The need to wear a mask is something we are all acutely aware of and thanks to the generosity of our volunteers, we were able to ensure that those volunteers interested in obtaining a mask could secure one. A group of talented volunteers generously donated hours upon hours to sew face masks that were made available

earlier this summer at our drive-thru mask giveaway. In addition, masks were shared with staff and students at some of our Kettering schools as they navigate the upcoming school year. To date, 757 masks have been crafted, two of which were sewn with a see-thru insert to be worn by a volunteer soccer coach to allow a child with hearing loss

to read the lips of the coach—now that is an excellent example of the difference volunteers make in the lives of others! Thanks to Marynel Bradley, Maureen Willits, Nancy Thompson, Kathy Hibbs, Jennie James, Donna Hatton and Betty Rike for their countless hours behind the sewing machine!



#### Ways to Stay in Touch

While we look forward to better days ahead, we encourage all of you to stay in touch with us. There are several ways to do so:

- If you have email, make sure the Volunteer Office has your current e-mail address.
- Follow the City of Kettering on Facebook and Twitter.
- Check the City of Kettering website at www.ketteringoh.org.
- Sign up for the City's e-newsletter, The Starter, by visiting the City's website.

- If you are a Kettering resident, enroll in **CodeRed** which notifies residents and those who work in Kettering of emergency incidents and critical community alerts. Enroll by visiting the City's website.
- If you are in need of senior services, don't hesitate to reach out to our Senior Services Coordinator, Vickie Carraher at 937-296-3358.
- Always feel free to contact the Volunteer Office at 937-296-2433.





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#### **Volunteer Hours**

As we navigate the "new normal" as it relates to our volunteer opportunities, we thank you for your patience and understanding. If you are volunteering from your home or you have been called back to your volunteer position, please be sure your volunteer hours are being submitted to the Volunteer Office. You can do this by checking with staff in the department in which you are volunteering; calling the Volunteer Office at 937-296-2433; or by emailing marylou.randolph@ketteringoh. org. Don't forget, our volunteer hours count toward your recognition awards and certificates. In addition, volunteer hours serve as important data for the city when applying for grants, accreditations and award applications.

**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

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