

# CONTACT with Kettering

Community Magazine Spring 2021



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CITY OF KETTERING *is home*





# Mayor's Greeting

Dear Neighbors:

As Mayor, one of my greatest honors is to sing your praises throughout the year. Admittedly, I am biased; but, don't just take my word for it. City of Kettering employees and residents alike have been honored with distinguished recognition demonstrating the

heightened level of care we have for our community and one another.

We care about our resources. The City's Finance Department has been honored for 38 years with the *Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting* and for 35 years with the *Distinguished Budget Presentation Award* from the Government Finance Officers Association.

We care about our wellness. The City of Kettering was recognized and awarded the *Gold Healthy Worksite Award* for 2020! The *Healthy Worksite Award* recognizes Ohio employers who demonstrate a commitment to employee wellness through health promotion and wellness programs.

We care about our arts. The Rosewood Arts Centre received the Ohio Parks and Recreation Association *Award of Excellence* for the *Bee Ambitious* sidewalk public art in the Haverstick neighborhood.

We care about our environment. This year Kettering celebrates its 38th year as a *Tree City USA* community.

We care about the health of our local businesses. The Community Development Division and Economic Development implemented the Business Assistance Loan Program to help local businesses during the pandemic. The Ohio Conference of Community Development (OCCD) announced awarding the 8th Annual OCCD *President's Award for Innovative Practices* to the City of Kettering.

We care about our safety. The Kettering Fire Department received the American Heart Association's Mission: *Lifeline EMS Gold Plus Award* for implementing quality improvement measures for the treatment of patients who experience severe heart attacks.

We care about our security. The Police Department received another *Meritorious Achievement* and the *Award of Excellence* when re-accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc.

And, we care about one another. People in our community are recognized for their extraordinary acts of kindness, courage and selflessness in helping others.

As a community, we have so much for which to be proud. Thank you all for being a part of it.

Take care.

Donald E. Patterson, Mayor

Visit [www.ketteringoh.org](http://www.ketteringoh.org) and sign up to receive *The Starter*—Kettering e-newsletter.



## MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

**Yard Debris Center**

Opens Monday, March 1

**Daylight Savings Time Begins**

Sunday, March 14

**Compost/Mulch Available**

Monday, April 12

**Income Tax Deadline**

Thursday, April 15

**Spring Leaf Collection**

Will begin Monday, April 19, 2021.

Please have leaves raked to the curb.



This information is being provided pursuant to the requirements of Kettering City Charter, Section 3-5(C). Mayor and Council 2020 total compensation (salary and related benefits: PERS, Medicare and Workers' Compensation).

Mayor	\$13,941.11
Council Members	\$ 9,294.08 (Each)



### 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

**District 1 (vacant) election to be held in Nov. 2021**

KetteringMayorCouncil@ketteringoh.org . . 937. 296.2416

**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**

KetteringMayorCouncil@ketteringoh.org . . 937. 296.2416

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

@Kettering\_OH

City of Kettering, Ohio – Government



# Homestead Exemption

Living on a fixed income during retirement is challenging. For those wishing to stay in their homes, upkeep and rising taxes may prove to be an even bigger challenge. The Homestead Exemption program is one tool in assisting these individuals to stay in the homes they love. This program provides seniors and disabled Ohioans a way to reduce their property tax. This program has the following requirements:

1. The individual must own and occupy the home as their primary residence as of January 1 of the year in which they are applying.
2. The individual must:
  - a. Be 65 years old or turning 65 by December 31 of that year, or
  - b. Be permanently disabled as of January 1 of the year in which they are applying, or
  - c. Be the surviving spouse of an individual who was receiving the Homestead Exemption at the time of death when the surviving spouse is at least 59 years old on the date of that spouse's death.
3. Individuals must have a total adjusted gross income of less than \$34,200 per year. If the individual applying is married, the income is based on that of both spouses.

Those who have applied for and received this benefit in past years do not need to reapply unless there is a change in status or move from the home. [The Montgomery County](#)



- Auditor's Office Homestead Hotline is available to answer questions
- at 937-225-4341. Applications are available by mail, online at [www.mcauditor.org](http://www.mcauditor.org) or at the Kettering Connection in Town and Country Shopping Center.

## Consolidated Plan Community Needs Survey

The City of Kettering receives funding from the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) under the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and HOME Investment Partnership (HOME) programs. A requirement for receiving allocations is the development of a five-year Consolidated Plan for Housing and Community Development to provide policy direction for funding decisions. You can assist the City by going to <https://www.publicinput.com/CONPLAN2125> and telling us how to best utilize our CDBG and HOME funds.

# Voluntary Act of Kindness

The recent pandemic caused many challenges for most of us, and the actions of one volunteer truly made a positive impact in the life of a child. Many activities were canceled or postponed throughout

2020, however, our peewee soccer program was one activity that was able to take place in the fall while following health guidelines. For one little

soccer player, the wearing of masks posed a much larger issue than it did for the rest of us. It eliminated the ability to read the lips of the coach.

This child played soccer last year and was looking forward to playing again; however, reading lips served as the means of communication. City staff members discussed ideas and reached out to a volunteer to see if a mask could be sewn with a clear section that would allow the child to see the coach's mouth as he gave direction. While sewing masks was not new to our volunteer, as she's sewn hundreds for the community, crafting one like this was new territory. As a retired teacher, she knew the difference this mask could make, so she stepped up to the challenge and created not one, but two masks for the coach and the assistant coach. Thanks to Marynel Bradley, this child will have a positive memory playing soccer in 2020!



Marynel Bradley



Special clear mask made for soccer coaches.





# City of Kettering Finance Department Receives Awards

The City of Kettering Finance Department has been honored for 38 years with the **Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting** and for 35 years with the **Distinguished Budget Presentation Award** from the Government Finance Officers Association.

The **Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting** is awarded to governmental entities whose Comprehensive Annual Financial Report achieves the highest standards in government accounting and financial reporting.

The **Distinguished Budget Presentation Award** is presented to governmental entities that publish a budget document, which meets program criteria as a policy document, an operations guide, a financial plan and a communications medium.

Visit our website [www.ketteringoh.org/city-salary-and-spending-database/](http://www.ketteringoh.org/city-salary-and-spending-database/) to view the City's annual budget, our Comprehensive Annual Financial Report, a searchable database of all City expenditures, a full listing of all City employee annual compensation and the latest version of all City collective bargaining agreements.

Dear Fellow Kettering Residents,

This spring, all registered voter households in the City of Kettering will receive a postcard in the mail that lists salary and benefit information for a small number of City of Kettering employees.

An amendment to the City Charter requires that in odd numbered years, the City must create a document that provides salary and benefit information for the top, middle and lower 15 full time City employees by earnings; and, mail it to all registered voter households in Kettering. A group of Kettering residents secured enough petition signatures to place this amendment on the ballot, and Kettering voters approved it in November 2016.

Charter Section 10-12 states that the mailer "shall contain no other information or statements other than specifically provided for herein". In other words, the Charter amendment prohibits the City from providing any context to the figures on the postcard.

The figures used for the mandatory postcard represent total compensation, including employee salary, as well as benefits. Some employees rise to the top of the earnings list as a result of overtime or retirement benefits, which are included in total compensation calculations.

It is important to me that the Kettering community knows that a complete and searchable database of salary information for ALL City employees—not just the handful on the postcard, as well as a searchable database of all City expenditures, is posted on the City's website at [www.ketteringoh.org](http://www.ketteringoh.org).

I would like to thank our residents, businesses, school systems and employees for their continued dedication, compassion and love for this City. This past year has been very difficult for everyone; but as a City, we have come together to support each other and thrive as a community. Be safe and thank you for taking the time to read this edition of *Contact with Kettering*.

Please contact me at 937-296-2412 or via email at [KetteringCityManager@Ketteringoh.org](mailto:KetteringCityManager@Ketteringoh.org) if you have any questions or comments

Sincerely,



Mark Schwieterman, City Manager





# Your 2020 City of Kettering Income Tax Return is due on April 15, 2021

Our Tax Division recently mailed the 2020 City of Kettering Income Tax postcard. In an effort to reduce costs related to paper, printing, and postage, please note that **NO TAX FORMS WILL BE MAILED TO YOU.** Forms are available on our website at [www.ketteringoh.org](http://www.ketteringoh.org) or you may utilize one of the alternative filing methods described below. To avoid late filing fees, your 2020 return must be received in our office or postmarked by April 15, 2021.

## Who Must File

**All residents (including part-year residents)** of the City of Kettering who are 18 years of age and older are required to file an annual income tax return. **A return is required regardless of income or employment status.** Please note: Active duty military personnel and individuals with no reportable income or loss for the current year are subject to the mandatory filing requirements.

**Non-residents** of the City of Kettering who have income or loss, earned or derived from within the City, and from which Kettering tax was not fully withheld, must file a return.

## Exceptions to Mandatory Filing Requirement

Permanently retired/disabled individuals with only non-taxable sources of income or loss (such as social security, pension, interest and dividends) may qualify for exemption. If you feel you qualify for an exemption, please complete the Declaration of Exemption return (available on our website) and submit it to our office with all required documentation as specified on the form.

## Filing Methods

There are several convenient options for filing your city income tax return. Electronic filing and fill-in forms are available on the City of Kettering website at [www.ketteringoh.org](http://www.ketteringoh.org)

Individuals with only wage income reported on Form W-2 are eligible to file electronically. All other individuals may utilize the fill-in forms.

Additionally, you may visit the Income Tax Division office, located at 3600 Shroyer Road, Kettering, OH 45429, to obtain forms or have your return prepared by one of our staff members.

**City of Kettering income tax return preparation is a free service, and no appointment is necessary.**

Visit our office before April 1 for the fastest service.

Part-year residents should also include pay statements reflecting year-to-date figures relating to the period of time you resided within the City.

## Online Payment System

An online payment system is available for the payment of tax balances, estimated tax payments and payment plan payments via electronic check, credit card or debit card. Please note, a convenience fee will be added to all credit and debit card payments.

## Contact Information

### Mail your return to:

City of Kettering Income Tax Division  
P.O. Box 639409  
Cincinnati, OH 45263-9409

### Physical location:

3600 Shroyer Road  
North Building  
Kettering, OH 45429

### Business Hours:

Monday – Friday  
8 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Phone: 937-296-2502

Fax: 937-296-3242

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

Email: [ketteringtax@ketteringoh.org](mailto:ketteringtax@ketteringoh.org)

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

Our  
income  
tax rate is  
2.25%

## Required Documents

As required under state law, the Federal Form 1040 must be attached to the City of Kettering Income Tax Return at the time of filing.

Additional supporting documentation that is required to be attached to the City of Kettering Income Tax Return includes (but is not limited to): Form(s) W-2 (if applicable), Federal Schedules C, E, F or K-1, Form(s) 1099-NEC and Form(s) W-2G.

## Limited Senior Tax Assistance Available

The Charles I. Lathrem Senior Center (CIL) is currently closed, and the City is working to find alternate options for the 2020 free tax preparation for seniors. If the program is able to be offered, the services will not be available until March; and, this will greatly limit the number of people who will be able to take advantage of this service. Reservations for tax preparation are not being taken at the present time.

Seniors are encouraged to contact established outside tax preparation companies/services for help and/or call the AARP tax preparation number at 1-888-687-2277 for information and recommendations.

Please visit [www.playkettering.org](http://www.playkettering.org) for updates.







# SPRING SPRUCE UP CHECKLIST



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

- Clear out landscape beds and put down fresh mulch. Mulch and compost are available free for Kettering residents in the spring at Indian Riffle Park.
- Trim trees and shrubs. Remember that they may not overhang sidewalks or streets. Remove overgrown and invasive shrubs. Yard debris may be placed in your Rumpke cart for collection on your regular trash day or it can be taken to the Yard Debris Center beginning March 1.
- Repair broken, cracked or deteriorated siding or trim.
- Repaint areas with cracked and peeling paint.
- Seal doors and windows to improve energy efficiency and prevent drafts.
- Check the roof for peeling or missing shingles and loose flashing.
- Check gutters and downspouts for debris. Repair any leaks or damage.
- Dispose of unlicensed or inoperable vehicles.
- Mow the grass and weed the landscaping on a regular basis. Grass must not exceed a height of 8".
- Regularly remove trash and yard debris and clean up after pets.
- Avoid erosion by seeding bare spots in the yard.
- Check fences and sheds, replace and repair broken or rotting sections. Repaint as necessary. Clean up areas along your property that are adjacent to public streets and alleys.
- Don't store household furniture or appliances outdoors. Keep items 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 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.

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

If you need financial assistance with the cost of making repairs to your home in Kettering, we may be able 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**.



**Kettering  
Yard Debris Center  
will open for the season  
Monday, March 1.**  
**Spring leaf pickup will  
be the week of  
Monday, April 19.**



# Rob Scott Named the Clerk of Court



The City of Kettering is proud to announce that Montgomery County Republican Party selected Rob Scott to be the Kettering Municipal Clerk of Court. Rob served as Councilmember for District 1. Rob holds a Juris Doctorate from the University of Dayton School of Law. Congratulations!

## Water & Sanitary Lines in Kettering

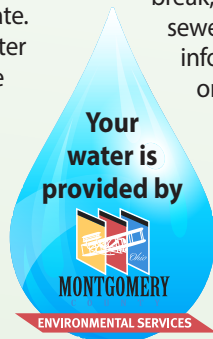
The City of Kettering itself is almost 70 years old, and some of our neighborhoods are nearly 100 years old! Like anything that has been around this long, we have places that are starting to deteriorate. In many areas of town, bridges, water mains and gas lines are aged to the point that they need complete replacement.

The same goes for the service line that connects your home to the water main at the street and the sanitary drain that connects to the sewer under the street. The major difference is that if these service lines break or collapse, the repair or replacement is the responsibility of the property owner. This is not an inexpensive project. We are encouraging homeowners to reach out to their insurance agents to discuss options for protecting yourself with a service line policy, or to ensure that you are saving for the potential occurrence of this significant disruption. Unfortunately we know that each year your neighbors are finding themselves faced with this burden; and, though we certainly hope it never happens to you, in an established community like all of those in the Dayton suburbs, it is possible and there is a way to be prepared.

It is important for Kettering residents to understand that your water service and all maintenance of water mains are the responsibility of your county, not the City.

Except for a very small portion of the city located in Greene County, Kettering residents receive their water from Montgomery County.

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.

When 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.

To learn more, please visit [https://www.mcoho.org/departments/water\\_services/prevent\\_sewer\\_backups.php](https://www.mcoho.org/departments/water_services/prevent_sewer_backups.php) 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 **937-296-2436**.

## The City Says Goodbye to Mayor Smith



On Thursday, January 7, 2021, our beloved former Mayor Marilou Smith passed away at the age of 93. Marilou Smith dedicated 16 years of public service to the

City of Kettering residents. She served two, four-year terms as Kettering's first female Mayor and held a seat on City Council for eight years. After she completed her years in office, Marilou's relationships with all of us continued. Once she met you, and you had the distinct honor to meet her, she never forgot and always stopped to ask about you and your family. Her visits to the office were rarely short because she took the time to touch the hearts of everyone. Marilou was, and will always be, part of the City of Kettering family and the People's Mayor.

Mayor Smith was compassionate and hard working. She was tireless in making our lives better. She proudly shared her love and devotion for her family. And, the wife, mother of seven and grandmother still made time for all of us and treated us like family. We are grateful to her family for sharing her with all of us. She was passionate about her church and her city. And, she was unstoppable. She was loved.

Some of Mayor Smith's extraordinary accomplishments included: valedictorian of her senior class at Julienne High School; the creation of the colorful, unique and very popular “Start Your Engines” contest and display for the City's 50th anniversary; her work with other cities to promote racial harmony by serving as a member of the *Dayton Dialogue on Race Relations* and leading the south quadrant of marchers in the Martin Luther King Jr., March and co-hosting the Kettering-Oakwood MLK Jr. Breakfast; and, she helped Kettering win top honors in the *America in Bloom* competition by encouraging residents and businesses to participate in beautification efforts by maintaining their lawns, planting bright and colorful flowers to beautify our neighborhoods.

Mayor Smith was the finest ambassador for the City of Kettering, a vital asset to the community, and was a genuine friend to all its residents. She was the People's Mayor.





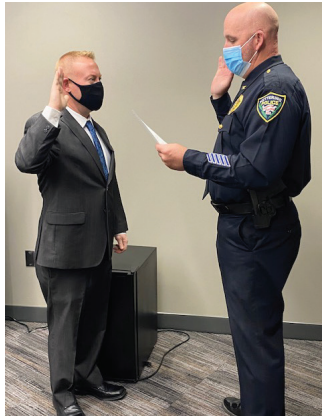
# New Officers are Sworn In

In an informal ceremony on December 7, Police Chief Protsman swore in four new officers. All four officers are lateral hires from other Ohio agencies and are in the process of their Kettering Police Department

- field training. Please join us in giving
- a warm Kettering welcome to Officers
- Brown (Hamilton PD), Hoying (Springfield
- PD), Johnson (Wilmington PD), and Loel
- (Centerville PD).



Officer Daniel Brown



Officer Kevin Hoying



Officer Whitney Johnson



Officer Marcus Loel

## Your Opinion Matters!

### Kettering Police Department Citizen Satisfaction Survey

Every two years the Kettering Police Department and Communication Center (Dispatch) conducts a community satisfaction survey. We appreciate your feedback which helps us provide top quality law enforcement and emergency communications for the community. Please visit the City of Kettering's website at [www.ketteringoh.org/kpdsurvey](http://www.ketteringoh.org/kpdsurvey) to participate. Your participation in this survey is greatly valued.

## Kettering to Host Cycling Summit

The City of Kettering is excited to announce its plans to host a virtual half-day conference May 7 followed by a self-guided or small group guided tour of Kettering's cycling routes and infrastructure May 14.

The Miami Valley Cycling Summit is a regional biennial forum that aims to use the power of cycling to drive economic development in communities both large and small throughout the region. The theme for the 2021 Summit is *Safe Streets for All*. The event will showcase how planning for safe streets makes thriving communities. The Summit is facilitated by Bike Miami Valley, a 501 (c)(3) nonprofit advocacy organization,

- and is conducted as an interactive,
- conference-style program and includes
- presentations from nationally-respected
- speakers and professionals in the field.

The event typically attracts hundreds of elected and appointed state and local government officials, along with cycling and outdoor recreation advocates and enthusiasts from throughout the Miami Valley and beyond. Last year's event in Miamisburg drew more than 250 attendees from more

### MIAMI VALLEY CYCLING SUMMIT

MAY 7 & 14, 2021  
KETTERING, OHIO

- than 50 surrounding communities.
- For more information, please visit
- [www.cyclingsummit.com](http://www.cyclingsummit.com)





# Let's Prepare for Spring!



## Disaster Preparedness Kit

Thunderstorm and tornado season is quickly approaching. An important step in being prepared for a disaster is having a supply kit to help navigate through it. City of Kettering Volunteers and the Cities of Service Committee assembled disaster supply starter kits to help Kettering families be better prepared for a disaster. These starter kits include a flashlight, city map, basic first aid kit, towelettes, pen/paper, waterproof document bag, safety whistle and a checklist to complete the disaster kit. Take a step toward preparedness by picking up a free starter kit for your family. **Pick up your family's kit at Kettering Fire Department Headquarters (4745 Hempstead Station Drive), contact free, Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.**

## Severe Weather Preparedness

Severe thunderstorms and high winds can damage above ground power lines and turn unsecured objects into hazardous flying debris. Here are safety tips to follow before, during and after severe weather events.

### Before High Wind Event:

- Secure all outdoor items like patio furniture, grills, trash cans, etc.
- Keep trees trimmed and free of weak or damaged limbs.

### During High Wind Event:

- Remain in a protective structure away from windows and flying debris.
- Report any damaged wires from utility poles to DP&L.
- Call 911 to report any fires or arcing wires.

### After High Wind Event:

- Stay away from wires that have fallen and report to DP&L.
- Call 911 to report any fires or arcing wires.
- Treat any wires as if they are energized.
- Contact a licensed, professional to clear fallen or unstable trees or large limbs.

SIGN UP for

**CODE RED**<sup>®</sup>

Did you know that in addition to our City of Kettering, Ohio -Government Facebook page and @Kettering\_OH Twitter posts, the City of Kettering uses a system called **Code Red** to notify our residents of emergency incidents and provide up to the minute critical city service updates and community alerts? You can opt to receive messages on your home or cell phone, by email and by text message. Please take a moment to enroll by visiting [www.ketteringoh.org](http://www.ketteringoh.org) and clicking on **Enroll in Code Red**.



# Curb, Sidewalk & Driveway Approach Repair Program

As the City of Kettering ages, it is our responsibility to ensure that appropriate maintenance is scheduled to preserve the safety and appearance of our infrastructure, roadways and sidewalks. Each year, the City's Engineering Department conducts a sidewalk, curb and drive approach repair program.

The program calls for a different section of the City to be inspected and appropriately maintained each year. The goal is to cover every area of the City within a 20 to 25 year period. This year the Indianola neighborhood and some streets directly south of Indianola will be part of the sidewalk, curb and drive approach repair program.

Along with most communities, Kettering property owners are responsible for the sidewalk, curbs and drive approaches

abutting their properties. In Ohio, state law provides for this practice on the premise that property owners get the most benefit from these items because they are available for their use, and it enhances the value of their property.

The City Engineering Department inspectors review sidewalks, curbs and drive approaches and mark the sections that must be replaced based on established criteria. After the marking is completed, an explanation of the markings, a copy of the required work, an estimated cost and the options for completing the work are mailed to the affected property owners.

If there is a disagreement between the inspector and the property owner regarding replacement orders, the City Engineer will re-examine the curb, sidewalk or drive approach in question and make the final determination.

## The two options for repairing the sidewalks and curbs are:

1. The property owner may hire a contractor. The contractor must obtain a right-of-way construction permit to replace the sidewalk, drive approach and/or curbs. The contractor has 30 days from the time the permit is issued to complete the work. The contractor must post a performance bond

which will remain on file with the City for a period of 12 months. The contractor must also provide proof of insurance, listing the City of Kettering as an additional insured. The work must also have a final inspection from the City inspector. You may contact the Engineering Department at 937-296-2436 to check on contractor's bond and insurance status.

2. The contractor the City hires may complete the work. In the spring of the year the work is to be performed, the resident receives a letter stating the estimated cost. The City pays the contractor for the actual cost of the work. Once the work is completed and a final letter is sent to the property owners, the property owner may either pay cash to the City for the work or have the actual cost plus interest, and a County collection fee assessed to their property taxes.

Sidewalk, curb and drive approach repair is a vital part of neighborhood pride, as well as overall community spirit. If everyone does their part, improvements will be a lot easier. **Property owners who have questions about the program may contact the Engineering Department at 937-296-2436, Monday – Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. or at [KetteringEngineering@ketteringoh.org](mailto:KetteringEngineering@ketteringoh.org)**







## East Kettering Health Center to Open in 2021

Kettering Health Network (KHN) broke ground at 1745 East Stroop Road in August of 2020, to build a multi-million dollar medical office building that will focus on senior care and bring more than 30 jobs to Kettering. The East Kettering Health Center at the corner of Mayfield Avenue will serve an increasing aging population

- in Montgomery County's most-populated suburban city. Nearly 18.5% of Kettering's estimated 54,800 residents are 65 or older.
- Projected to open in the summer of 2021, the structural steel framed building on a previously vacant 1.45-acre lot will represent a \$5.6 million investment by Kettering Health Network. Eight physicians and
- advanced practice providers, one behavioral health specialist and 20-25 support team members will offer primary care/internal medicine, behavioral health and educational classes. The site will include X-ray and lab areas with more than 20 exam rooms. The \$3 million facility will have a capacity of 232 in 14,316 square feet of space.

## A Camp for Every Kid Returns

It may be chilly outside now, but after missing our summer camp season in 2020, we can't wait to talk camps again! We were very disappointed to have to cancel camps last year, but were glad to do our part to keep everyone safe. Summer 2021 is looking promising and we're looking forward to welcoming everyone back for another summer of friendship, skill building, fun times and lifelong memories.

Our camps team is committed to keeping your camper safe every year. As we all know, health and safety remain paramount during these times. We are working to establish the very best ways to have fun safely this summer.

We're also working on a fun-filled roster packed with all your Kettering favorites, plus brand-new adventures to try. The world may have changed, but our goal hasn't — we're still dedicated to providing a top-notch camp for every kid. Your camper is unique, with their own diverse interests, abundant skills and untapped potential. As always, for 2021 we've created camps



- with that in mind, designed specifically to keep your child active, engaged, learning, exploring and connected to their friends and the community during the summer months.
- In 2021, your young scientist can explore the natural world and discover the ways each of us has an impact on the earth in camps at Habitat Environmental Center.
- Did craft projects help you get through a long quarantine? Your budding artist will love the chance to take those skills further at Camp Rosewood with drawing, painting, theater, clay, dance and more. After a long year cooped up at home and in virtual school, we're guessing your kids need to stretch their legs. Sports

- and recreation camps are the place to be!
- Sports camps offer opportunities for all kids, whether they're interested in building skills for the season or tossing a ball around with friends. Recreation camps bring the traditional camp experience — field trips, games, leadership development and trying new experiences.

- Most of our programs also offer time for our campers to swim! If your family missed getting in the pool in 2020, we're happy to provide your child the chance to start making a splash again.
- Summer camp offers so much more to youth than just a fun time. Studies have shown that participation in a camp experience offers a host of benefits like social development, critical thinking skills, higher self-esteem, greater independence and higher levels of activity. We're proud to bring these opportunities to Kettering's youth and can't say enough how excited we are to welcome everyone safely back for our 2021 camp season!
- For information about summer camp in Kettering, visit [www.playkettering.org/camps](http://www.playkettering.org/camps).





# Nontraditional Volunteer Recognition Luncheon

For 41 years, volunteers have been an integral part of our City of Kettering team. Volunteers give selflessly of their time and talent to enhance programs and events; and increase our level of service in daily operations. Even during a pandemic, volunteers shifted their focus to meet the needs of our citizens by sewing face masks; making phone calls to check on residents; and creating greeting cards for members of our active duty military and nursing home residents. Volunteers serving on boards and commissions continued to meet virtually to ensure work was still accomplished. In keeping with tradition, Kettering Volunteer Advisory Council, City Councilmembers, and City staff joined Mayor Patterson as we recognized our dedicated and resilient team of volunteers with a luncheon event held at Presidential Banquet Center.

The tradition of appreciation for our volunteers was clearly evident at this event; however, the event itself was definitely not traditional. In keeping with health guidelines, the 2020 event was held "drive-through" style! Volunteers were greeted with signs of appreciation and treated to a boxed lunch. Mayor Patterson distributed certificates and gifts based on the number of hours contributed by our volunteers. Not even a pandemic can stop the heartfelt gratitude we have for our volunteers!

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# 2020 Make A Difference Day Accomplishments



## Holiday Greeting Cards

**44** volunteers worked in their own homes to create **655** holiday greeting cards to be distributed in area nursing homes and throughout the world

to our active duty military members through the Blue Star Mothers.



## Mask Distribution

**7** Volunteers assisted at three area churches that served as sites to make free face masks available to the community.



## Tree Planting in Van Buren Park

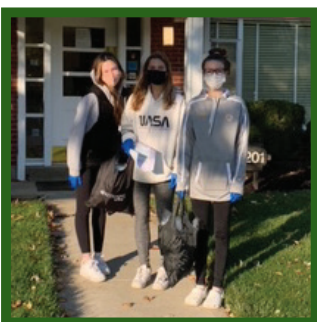
**9** volunteers planted **8** trees in Van Buren Park thanks to

receiving the 2020 Keep Montgomery County Beautiful beautification grant.



## Together We Made A Difference!

A total of **70** volunteers of all ages donated **230** hours toward the care of our local community, our world, our environment, and our overall health and well-being!



## Personal Protective Equipment Delivery

**5** volunteers delivered PPE kits containing a mask, gloves and sanitizing wipes to the homes of seniors

residing in the neighborhood behind Town & Country Shopping Center.

### CONGRATULATIONS AND THANK YOU TO ALL WHO SUPPORTED THIS EFFORT:

- Alter Key Club
- Central Christian Church
- Christ Church United Methodist
- City of Kettering Volunteers
- David's United Church of Christ
- Kettering-Centerville Kiwanis Club
- Kettering Volunteer Advisory Council
- Montgomery County
- Parkview Church of the Nazarene
- Wright State University







# Let's Get Fit, Kettering!

It's still early in the year, so we have to ask — how are your New Year's resolutions going? (Remember those?) 'Resolution season' is the most popular time to start a new fitness routine, but not to stick with it. According to several studies, almost three-fourths of fitness resolutions don't last more than one week.

Discouraging? Maybe. Fortunately for you, if you're reading this, there's a convenient Kettering fitness facility right in your neighborhood. We're committed to helping you stick with your wellness plan, achieve your goals and live a healthier life. One of the most essential elements of a successful fitness journey is a supportive crew to help you along.

Our fitness passes offer access to two state-of-the-art facilities, the Kettering Recreation Complex and the Kettering Fitness & Wellness Center. Pass holders are welcome to work out at either facility. You pick your favorite. No matter which facility you prefer, you can be assured of a full lineup of free weights and strength equipment, over 35 pieces of cardio equipment and a clean, hassle-free experience. Whether you want to crush leg day or pop in your earbuds and hop on the treadmill, we've got you covered.

Do you like to use your workout to connect with friends? Our exercise pass holders have their choice of more than 50 group exercise classes per week — get toned in Pilates, center yourself

in yoga, feel the burn in boot camp and much more. Speaking of group exercise, we're also excited to introduce our brand new virtual classes. All pass holders receive exclusive access to over a dozen Zoom group exercise classes each week. If you'd rather not leave the house or work out with others in person right now, we totally understand. Our certified instructors are ready and waiting on a screen near you.

Personal training at our facilities is also among the most affordable around. Your trainer will design a fitness plan

that you'll want to stick with and provide encouragement along the way. If working with a personal trainer sounds intimidating, please know that our trainers enjoy working with people of all ages and fitness levels.

They'll consult with you and design a tailored fitness program that will make you look forward to visiting the gym.

Come try us out, whether in-person or

virtually! We have the tools you need to make 2021 the year your fitness journey is a success. **To learn more about our facilities and pass options, visit us online at [www.playkettering.org](http://www.playkettering.org).**



## Landscape Design Projects Complete Bridges

We can probably agree 2020 was a year we're not exactly heartbroken to leave behind. The Parks Division has been dedicated to maintaining Kettering's parks and green spaces, especially during this pandemic, to continue to provide people with outdoor space and nature.

As we dig into 2021, the Parks Division has their vision on the future with two important landscape design projects adjacent to recently updated bridges in Kettering.

You may have seen the gorgeous new decorative steel artwork at the Schantz Avenue Bridge over South Dixie Avenue. It was a labor of love for several City departments to bring to fruition, and the icing on the cake is now to create sustainable landscaping to aesthetically complement the existing landscaping on both sides of the bridge.

The landscape design includes a variety of perennials including Sedum, Black-eyed

Susans and Sage to add color, along with Hydrangeas and Feather Reed Grasses throughout. There will also be tiered stone hardscaping embedded into the hillside with hearty Sumac ground cover to deter erosion.

The project is slated to be completed in late spring to mid-summer, so make it a point to drive over the bridge to see this unique combination of art, nature and transportation.

The Parks Division is also working closely alongside the Engineering Department to create a landscape design to accompany the newly replaced Ridgeway Road Bridge over Dorothy Lane.

Although the landscape design is not as far along as the Schantz Avenue plan, it will encompass the same concept—sustainable landscaping to enhance a vital piece of infrastructure. The projected installation date for the refreshed landscaping is fall of 2022.

As you drive through Kettering and see these plans, we hope you enjoy and appreciate not only the new bridges, but also the purposeful greenery that helps make our city so attractive and welcoming.

*Schantz Avenue Bridge landscape design plan*





# Rosewood Gallery Rises Above the Challenge

When the COVID-19 pandemic began in early 2020, Rosewood Gallery didn't back down from the challenges posed by lengthy facility closures and uncertainty in the world. Thanks to a supportive community of artists and a Kettering team willing to think outside the box, Rosewood Gallery shines as an example of creative thinking over adversity.

In March 2020, exhibitions by ceramic artist and inaugural Rosewood Artist in Residence Arthur Kettner and by painter Mark Flake of North Carolina were on view. As Ohio's stay-at-home order took effect and facilities closed their doors, PRCA staff scrambled to provide quality parks, recreation and cultural arts opportunities in a virtual format. Rosewood Gallery Coordinator Paula Kraus took images of each



Shoji Satake, *FASA 08\_2018, 2020, ceramics*

gallery show, which were added to a new virtual gallery page on [www.playkettering.org](http://www.playkettering.org). As the closures extended into the spring and summer, more exhibitions were featured exclusively online – work by the Western Ohio Watercolor Society, *Us, It, Them* by painter Samantha Simpson, *The Nature We Create* by ceramicist Deana Bada Maloney, and the popular *The View* juried landscape exhibition..

Rosewood Arts Centre and Rosewood Gallery reopened in July 2020, with reduced hours and other safety measures in place. However, staff recognized that a significant portion of the population was not comfortable leaving their homes for non-essential trips. To give everyone a chance to enjoy the artwork, Rosewood Gallery has continued to create both an in-person and a virtual viewing experience.

To round out 2020, the gallery was pleased to host Cleveland-based artist Lori Kella for a FotoFocus-sponsored exhibition, entitled *Erie: Lost and Found*. Although the FotoFocus biennial at large was canceled due to public health concerns, the exhibition still received support from FotoFocus and was a success both in person and online. The final exhibitions of 2020 were *The Only Way We're Going to Get Through This*

- *Together* by Oakwood artist Erin Holscher
- Almazan and *Density: The Presence and Silence of It* by Kate Snow of Cleveland.
- The themes of both exhibitions were very timely for the atmosphere in 2020
- — during a year when connection was at the forefront of everyone's mind,
- Almazan's work focuses on women's

connections with the world and each other. Snow's work delves into notions of controlling the uncontrollable, something we all grappled with during an uncertain time in history.

Although 2020 is over and 2021 looks brighter, uncertainty lingers and the effects of the pandemic continue. Rosewood Gallery remains committed to supporting working artists, a community hit especially hard economically by

- COVID-19 restrictions. The annual *Works on Paper* exhibition kicked off 2021 with an unprecedented number of submissions for jurying — artists from the Dayton area clearly using time at home last year to create more work.

- Next on the 2021 agenda, *Earth Transformed* features fourteen of the most innovative and skilled ceramic artists from Ohio and its surrounding states. Creating both functional objects and sculptures, these renowned artists transform clay through a diverse range of techniques, ideas and intentions.
- From imagined insect-like specimens to representations of the human condition, they push the boundaries of what is obtainable with clay while maintaining the highest levels of craft and precision.

- The artists in *Earth Transformed* reflect their shared landscape — connected by

- the Ohio River — in their creative practice and in concept. Participating artists include Tom Bartel, Juliellen Byrne, Scott Dooley, Peter Christian Johnson, Carrie Longley, Brandon Lowery, Geno Luketic, Kelly and Kyle Phelps, Joann Quiñones, Shoji Satake, Brad Schwieger, Justin Teilhet, Steven Thurston and Matt Wedel.

An exhibition of new work by emerging artist Nicki Strouss will accompany *Earth Transformed*. Created during her 2020 Artist in Residence at Rosewood Arts Centre, Strouss' large-scale, mixed-media installations and ceramic sculptures are playful abstractions of the human body.

Although we were proud to help the show go on last year with exclusively virtual content, we're delighted that Samantha Simpson and Deana Bada Maloney's exhibitions have been rescheduled for 2021 and will appear this spring in person at Rosewood Gallery. "We are so thrilled to have Simpson and Maloney in the gallery this year," Kraus wrote, adding that the level of detail in the pieces is well worth an in-person viewing.

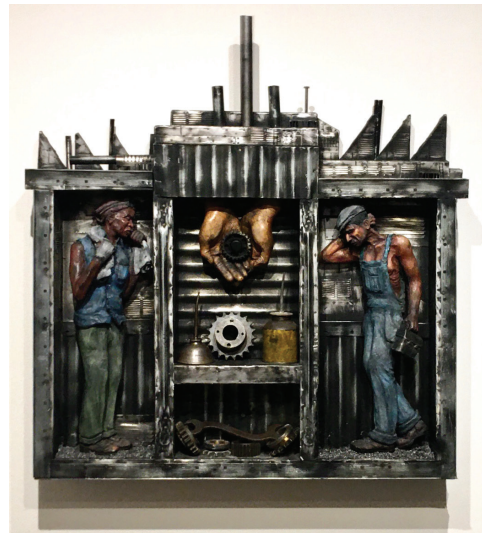
- Leading us into the summertime will be the 27th annual *The View*, which also returns to an in-person format after being exclusively virtual in 2020. We plan to

continue offering a virtual gallery experience for each exhibition going forward as well.

Making and viewing art is an integral part of the human experience, particularly as a way of processing trauma and stress. Rosewood Gallery overcame the challenges presented by the COVID-19 pandemic to continue reaching our audiences.

Our hope is that our gallery space served and will continue to serve as a place for the community to heal, let go of stress and become inspired.

- Learn more about Rosewood Gallery and view all virtual exhibitions at [www.playkettering.org/gallery](http://www.playkettering.org/gallery)



Kyle and Kelly Phelps, *Workers Alter, 2018, ceramics, paint, mixed media.*



# Opportunity Awaits, Now Hiring

Kettering is home to great job opportunities! Numerous seasonal and temporary openings are available. Don't pass up a great opportunity to work with talented people who are dedicated to the community and want to be part of something bigger.

- Our certified lifeguards supervise the safety of visitors at both Adventure Reef Water Park and the Main Pool at the Kettering Recreation Complex.
- Our summer camps are staffed to help kids learn, stay engaged, grow and remain connected to their friends and our community during the summer.



Our parks staff enjoys working outside in a beautiful setting, getting their hands dirty and seeing the impact of their work in our community.



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Visit [playkettering.org/join-our-team](https://playkettering.org/join-our-team) to learn more and to download an application.

**Equal Opportunity Employer**



## CITY OF KETTERING

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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 Centre ..... 937-296-0294

Senior Adult Recreation ..... 937-296-2480

Trash Information ..... 937-29-TRASH

Volunteer Office ..... 937-296-2433

Yard Debris Hotline ..... 937-296-3255

*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.

Mary Azbill, Editor  
 Janet Roeckner, 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.