

CONTACT with Kettering

Community Magazine Winter 2021




CITY OF KETTERING *is home*

The City of Kettering is proud to dedicate this edition of *Contact With Kettering* to Mayor Donald E. Patterson as he prepares to leave public office.

Thank you for your dedicated service.



Mayor's Greeting

Dear Neighbors:

Of all the correspondence I'm so fortunate to send to you through City of Kettering publications, this one is my favorite. This is the note I am privileged to write each year in which I invite you to my annual Christmas tree lighting, urge you to drive around and look at the holiday lights and encourage you to stop by Polen Farm for the holiday. This is the time that I offer my well wishes and blessings to all of you for a happy and healthy holiday season. And, this year is no exception as I bid you those same good tidings and encourage you to enjoy all of the holiday fun Kettering has to offer.

This note has extra meaning this year as it is my last. As many of you know, my final term as Mayor ends December 31, 2021. I am amazed at the speed at which these past 24 years have flown. When I was elected to serve as a City Council member in 1997, I had no idea what life had in store for me and the extent of my love for public service. Here we are, five Presidents later, having made it through Y2K, the recession in 2008 and currently in the midst of a pandemic, a city stronger than ever. And, things about Kettering still excite me like I'm just embarking on my first term.

During my service to the residents of Kettering, my wife, Maureen, and I became empty nesters, in-laws and grandparents. Through it all, my family supported my desire to make a difference and on many occasions, excused my absence from family time to meet the obligations of public service. I am blessed every day to have them in my life.

Two and a half decades is a long time, and I've had the pleasure to work with incredible people who hold the same hopes for our city. Our ideas to achieve the ultimate goals were sometimes very different, and we were not always happy with one another. As soon as we left the meeting room where conversations may have gotten tense, our friendships prevailed. That's how passionate we are about improving our beloved Kettering, as well as maintaining our relationships with each other. My fellow Council Members are selfless public servants who care about this community and have made it their mission to safeguard the quality of life for its residents. They are wonderful people, and I am the lucky one to have been able to work alongside every one of them.

City staff has been a huge part of my love for public office and desire to be a part of so many initiatives and solutions for the residents. These men and women are the most supportive, brilliant, compassionate people with whom I've had the pleasure to work. I am deeply grateful for the safety and security they provide along with the protection of our infrastructure and the exceptional city services they offer Kettering residents every day.

It has been my distinct honor to work with City Manager Mark Schwieterman during my time as Mayor. From the get go, Mark and I agreed that no matter what side of the fence we stood, we would always remain respectful and understanding of different perspectives. We upheld that pact and have enjoyed an incredible working relationship. Kettering residents are fortunate to have this talented steward leading our city. You will never meet a kinder, more caring individual who is equally, if not more, proud to call Kettering home. Because of him, we all feel it. That Kettering feeling is indescribable, and something we all share. Mark is a huge part of that. I'm proud of him and blessed to have his friendship.

The number of volunteers, organizations and service groups that support the City in carrying out services is beyond measure, as well. Most are just a phone call away when we need their ideas or their willingness to take on projects for the betterment of our city. One thing remained constant throughout my journey in public service—people are good and want the best for others. Pay attention on your own walks through life. Humankind is always the safety net that catches us and gives us just enough bounce to get back on our feet.

Kettering residents are like no other. During my tenure, we have had a couple of long Council meetings because of the love and fierce protection our residents have for the city they call home. I hope you felt my appreciation as you spoke to Council despite that pesky five-minute rule in place. I will cherish your five-minute messages at the podium, your emails, your phone calls and our chats at the grocery store or at community events. You used your voices when you needed to, and you gave me strength and different ideas to consider. Most importantly, you are the reason my love for Kettering keeps getting stronger. It's all about the people. At the Community Block Party back in September, people were happy. It was a warm night at Lincoln Park, and we were reminded why we feel so strongly that Kettering is home. It's home because of all of you.

Thank you, my friends, for allowing me to be part of your life's journey. Together, we accomplished most things we set out to do. I couldn't have asked for better travel companions.

Take care.

Donald E. Patterson, Mayor

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

Fall Leaf Collection

Please have leaves raked to the curb by Monday, November 29 for the final pass.

Mayor's Christmas Tree Lighting

Friday, December 3 from 6 to 8 p.m.

Tree lighting at 6:30 p.m.

Free Event at Lincoln Park Civic Commons



Yard Debris Center

Closes on Monday, December 6

Christmas Day at Polen Farm

Saturday, December 25

Free Event at Polen Farm



Kettering Mayor & Council

Don Patterson, Mayor

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Tony Klepacz, Vice Mayor, District 3

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Jacqueline Fisher, At Large

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

KetteringMayorCouncil@ketteringoh.org . 937. 296.2416

District 2 (vacant) election to be held in Nov. 2021

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Bruce E. Duke, District 4

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City of Kettering, Ohio – Government

Mayor Patterson Steps Away from Public Office

By Mark Schwieterman, City Manager

In Mayor Patterson's 24 years of service to our great city, he's shown over and over he's an intellectual and soulful leader. His leadership is rare and has been a gift for Kettering. His stances are mighty, and his heart is nothing but kind. He considers people first, and everything else follows. His acquaintanceships soon become friendships. His love for Kettering shows in everything he does, from attending every community event possible to digging into city projects and initiatives.

Donald E. Patterson began his 24 years of service to Kettering in 1997 when he was elected to City Council. From the day he joined Council, he demonstrated his willingness to sacrifice his most precious gift — time — just to serve our city.

I would have loved to be a fly on the wall when he told his wife, Maureen, he wanted to kick it up a notch and run for Mayor. Not only would becoming Mayor require even more time away from personal obligations, it would also increase the responsibilities of his family in an even more public role.

As we all know, he ran, was elected, and since 2005, Don Patterson has been our Mayor. The amount of time and energy he has dedicated to Kettering residents, fellow Council members, business owners, civic organizations and City staff has never waned. This is likely why he has been the longest serving Mayor in the history of Kettering.

Mayor Patterson has been instrumental in economic development initiatives within the Kettering community and has worked diligently to enrich the quality of life for all residents.

During his time on City Council, Don served on several community boards and commissions including Dayton Area Chamber of Commerce's Board of Directors, Miami Valley Regional Planning Commission Executive Board, Miami Valley Communications Council and Mayors and Managers. He has represented the Kettering community at both state and federal levels while serving on the Ohio Mayor's Alliance Executive Board and the US Conference of Mayors Economic Development Committee.

As Mayor, Don spearheaded the Wilmington Pike Improvement Project in 2013, bringing business leaders, residents,

real estate experts and City Council representatives together to create a strategic plan for this critical corridor. Because

of this initiative, the redevelopment and revitalization of Wilmington Pike is evident and still going strong.

Mayor Patterson also saw the need to revitalize Kettering neighborhoods and housing stock. Again, bringing people with different perspectives together. The City continues to participate in national *Make a Difference Day* with *Cities of Service* to develop an ongoing

neighborhood revitalization initiative. The City "adopts" a neighborhood each year and leads efforts for reinvestment.

Mayor Patterson's contributions to the City of Kettering are vast and important.

Working alongside him, one soon learns his shrewd business sense is a blessing and somewhat of a curse. When pitching an idea to the Mayor that seems ready for implementation, he gets a certain look in his eye. Behind that unmistakable, thoughtful look is a question—one that consistently offers preventive or cost saving pieces that take an idea from great to phenomenal. That "look" generally leads to further investigation or back to the drawing board, and his direction is worth the extra time. He not only shares his perspective, he equally welcomes it from others.

Mayor Patterson does his utmost to ensure the sentiment that Kettering is home rings true for all of us. We are in awe of his service and grateful for his connected leadership. For his humor, his logic, his compassion and the sacrifices he made during his tenure, we are thankful.



"He considers people first, and everything else follows."

—Mark Schwieterman



Capital Improvements for Kettering in 2022

The City of Kettering Engineering Department manages the implementation of the Capital Improvement Program as it relates to streets, drainage, sidewalks and bridges. The proposed 2022 CIP outlay is \$9.4 million, of which \$6.5 million will be funded by outside grants and reimbursements.

TRAFFIC SIGNAL REPLACEMENT

Traffic Signal Replacements, Phase 3, budgeted for 2022 totals \$1,823,000 with \$383,000 coming from the City and \$1,440,000 from FAST Act CMAQ Congestion Mitigation funds provided by the Miami Valley Regional Planning Commission. The traffic signal replacement projects will be replacing the wire traffic signals with mast arm signals.

ROADWAY IMPROVEMENTS

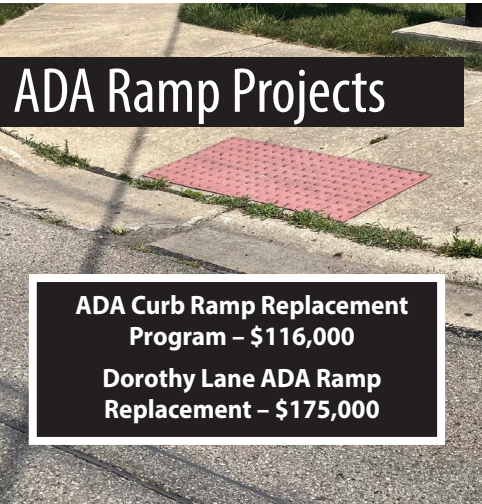
Roadway Improvements will include \$1.0 million spent on the general asphalt resurfacing program in 2022. Asphalt resurfacing will take place in the area surrounding NCR Country Club south of Stroop Road and east of Southern Boulevard not quite to Overland Trail, as well as in the Richman Heights neighborhood (\$750,000). The Crack Sealing Program will begin next year budgeted for \$25,000. State gas tax revenue of \$1.0 million will be paired with \$750,000 for streets in the Greenmont neighborhood and those behind the Government Center.

Curb, Sidewalk, & Drive Approach Repair Program – \$750,000

Brydon & adjoining streets: \$250,000

Indianola Phase 3: \$245,000
Ridgemore / Bulah / Kanter / Lisbon
Newcom Knolls Phase 1: \$135,000
S. Aragon (east of Galewood) / Mini Ct / E. Aragon

Office Park Drive: \$60,000
Miscellaneous Locations: \$60,000



THOROUGHFARE IMPROVEMENTS

The thoroughfares, arterials and collector street improvements have been budgeted at \$565,000 for 2022. This includes Spaulding Road (\$275,000), Isaac Prugh (\$160,000) and Mad River Road (\$130,000). The 2022 Curb, Sidewalk, & Drive Approach Repair Program will be completed in various areas of the city at a cost of \$750,000. \$116,000 is budgeted for the annual ADA Curb Ramp Replacement Program, in addition to \$175,000 budgeted for curb ramp replacements on East Dorothy Lane.

RESURFACING PROJECTS

Resurfacing projects include Smithville Road from Wilmington to the north corporation line (\$575,000), Southern Boulevard from Stroop to Big Hill (\$400,000) and Woodman Drive between Wilmington and Stocker (\$590,000). The Ansel Drive bridge will be replaced at \$459,000 (\$23,000 - Kettering; \$436,000 - ODOT Municipal Bridge). The West Avenue bridge rehabilitation design will begin in 2021 (\$60,000).

BIKEWAY IMPROVEMENTS

A new bikeway connection between Kettering and Centerville will be constructed along Hewitt Avenue, with Federal funds being provided by the Miami Valley Regional Planning Commission. Hewitt Avenue Bikeway \$129,000 – Kettering, \$119,000 – Centerville, \$247,000 – Fast Aid TA totaling \$495,000. Ridgeway Road Bridge landscaping is planned at \$175,000.



Hewitt Ave. Bikeway – \$495,000

Kettering – \$129,000
Centerville – \$119,000
Fast Act TA – \$247,000



Mayor Patterson at groundbreaking circa 2011

Kettering Bus First in RTA's New *Proudly Serving* Project



The Greater Dayton Regional Transit Authority (RTA) is paying special tribute to the communities in Montgomery County it proudly serves with its ***Proudly Serving*** project showcasing points of interest in various cities where its buses travel. The project officially kicked off October 11, with the debut of RTA's first two buses: Kettering and Trotwood.

This project is the culmination of a vision RTA CEO Bob Ruzinsky had more than a year ago to honor the communities the agency serves and how its buses can connect people to these places.

"Too often in our busy lives we overlook the great places all around us in the communities we each call home," Ruzinsky said. "These buses will highlight some of the great places in these diverse communities, and, we hope, foster increased community pride throughout Montgomery County."

Each bus design was carefully crafted to emphasize points of interest in a specific community where the RTA takes riders. To capture these locations, RTA worked with a professional photographer to collect high-resolution photos of about 130 public locations around Montgomery County. The creativity doesn't stop there, as the buses also feature a fun fact, estimated population, and the year the city or township was founded.

City leaders from Kettering and Trotwood were honored to be the first communities represented in the ***Proudly Serving*** project.

"Greater Dayton RTA kept this under wraps (pun intended) for over a year to surprise all of us with a unique way to honor the communities they serve," stated City Manager Mark Schwieterman. "The truth is, this gesture reminds us of the terrific services RTA offers communities. We are humbled by the planning, coordination, and research that went into this project specific to each community. Residents will recognize things about their hometown on the buses and perhaps learn something new as well. Our sentiment is ***Kettering is home***, and this RTA initiative certainly enhances that feeling."

"... this gesture reminds us of the terrific services RTA offers communities."

—Mark Schwieterman

RTA's Kettering bus features colors associated with the city in addition to well-known places such as: Kettering Recreation Complex, Frazee Pavilion, Kettering Government Center, Polen Farm and Wenzler Park. There's also a special nod to Bart Simpson on the side of the bus, connecting to Kettering's fun fact that Nancy Cartwright, a Kettering native, is the voice of the character on "The Simpsons".

Trotwood has an interesting fact of its own: it is the only city in the United States named "Trotwood." It was named after "Betsy Trotwood", a character from Charles Dickens' ***David Copperfield***. That fun fact is featured on the side of the city's striking blue bus, along with pictures of the Trotwood Government Building, Trotwood-Madison High School, Trotwood Track and Field, Community and Cultural Arts Center, Iams Homestead Museum, and the Trotwood-Madison Park Playground.

"It feels good to be included. I realize we are the first two and it's good to be first," said Yvette Page, Council Member for Trotwood's 2nd Ward. "Most important is the vision of RTA and the collaboration with the city of Trotwood, and that we are both here to serve the community."

In total, there will be 22 buses highlighting the different communities served by RTA's traditional big bus service. The agency intends to roll-out at least one bus a month over the next year. This is just one of the many ways RTA is proudly serving the communities of Montgomery County.

For more information on the RTA, visit <http://www.irderta.org/>.



Mayor Patterson serving at the Volunteer Luncheon 2014



Winter Heating Resources for Those in Need

Winter weather heating costs can be stressful. For millions of low-income Americans, the additional financial stress could result in their heat source being shut off in the middle of winter.

- time payment for consumers applied directly to their bill.
- To receive this benefit, an applicant must be at or below 175% of the federal poverty level. That is up to \$45,850. for a family of four.

Another program that provides year-round assistance with both electric and heating fuel bills is the Percentage of Income Payment Plan Plus. This program allows those individuals at 150% of the poverty level to

- pay only \$10 per month or 6% of their gross monthly income, whichever is greater, to the utility company each month to maintain their service.

- Applications for both the Home Energy Assistance Program and Percentage of Income Payment Plan can be obtained at the Kettering Connection at Town & Country Shopping Center, the Kettering Government Center at 3600 Shroyer Road

Fortunately, there are measures in place by the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio to prevent these individuals from shut-off notices when they most need this protection.

The first line of defense is the Home Energy Assistance Program. This federally-funded program is designed to help low-income Ohioans meet the cost of home heating. This program offers a one-

- and at the Kettering Recreation Complex located at 2900 Glengarry Drive.

- The Winter Crisis Program offers assistance one time per heating season to low-income households that are disconnected, threatened with disconnection or have less than a ten-day supply of bulk fuel. This program is administered locally by the Community Action Partnership. To receive this program, you must contact the Community Action Partnership directly at 937-341-5000.

- There is also assistance for active duty military personnel

- called the Patriot Plan. Under this plan, companies cannot disconnect the residential utility service of any military Reservist or National Guardsman deployed on active duty for nonpayment. For additional information about this program, contact the Public Utilities Commission at 1-800-686-7826.

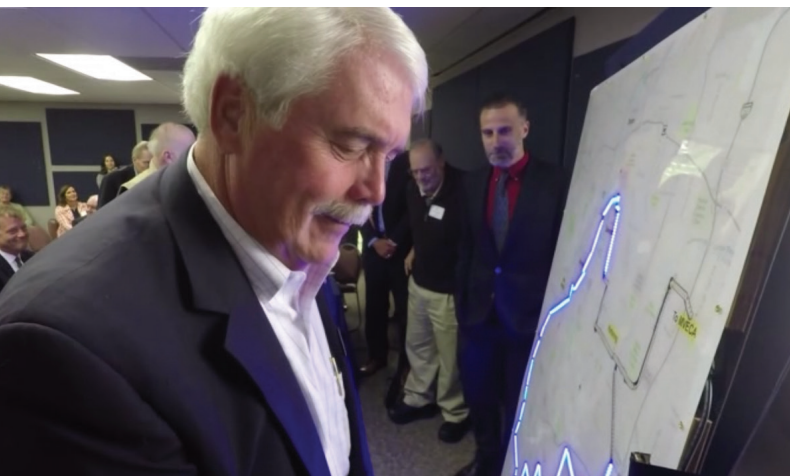
- If you have any questions about these programs or need assistance in completing these applications, contact the **City of Kettering Senior Service Coordinator** at 937-296-3356 or email vickie.carraher@ketteringoh.org.



Show your support for Kettering small businesses!
Saturday, November 27

As the holidays approach, please remember to support our local Kettering small businesses, restaurants and service providers. We are fortunate in Kettering to have a wide variety of exceptional small businesses. Whether you need a last minute gift or a place to share a special holiday meal, Kettering offers so many unique options.

You have a choice each time you buy groceries, go out to eat, shop, use a service technician or craftsman for your home, and even when you buy gas for your car. Why not make a commitment that in addition to the giving of gifts this season; you will also give back to the Kettering community by supporting our local retailers? By doing so, you are contributing to the wellbeing of the Kettering community and the livelihood of your neighbors.



Mayor Patterson flipping the switch to begin the MVCC GATEway Fiber Optic Ring 2019

Kettering Connection Medicare Counseling Program Saves Kettering Residents Thousands

Medicare is one of the most complex programs that the Federal Government offers. There are hundreds of options to choose from with various price tags and these options can change drastically from year to year. Many seniors don't even know where to begin to look for the right

- plan to fit their needs. There is a program
- that provides one on one education and
- assistance with making these decisions.
- The Ohio Senior Health Insurance
- Information Program, or OSHIIP, provides
- trained counselors to assist clients with
- making those decisions.

- are two OSHIIP counselors available at the
- Kettering Connection in Town and Country
- Shopping Center. Vickie Carraher, who
- works as the Senior Service Coordinator
- and Connie Blum, who coordinates the
- Montgomery County Volunteers. These
- two Counselors bring over 30 years of
- experience with the OSHIIP program.

- Open Enrollment is not the only time that
- the counselors are available. Counselors
- are available throughout the year to help
- with those who are new to Medicare
- and individuals needing assistance with
- filing for Medicaid or extra help with drug
- costs. OSHIIP counselors are also available
- to assist with Medicare and Medicaid
- appeals.

- **For more information about this program,**
- **contact the Senior Service Coordinator at**
- **937-296-3356 or by email at**
- **vickie.carraher@ketteringoh.org.**



The OSHIIP Volunteer Counselors are not agents. They are specially trained by the State Department of Insurance to meet the medical insurance needs of those with Medicare and Medicaid. Counselors receive no compensation from any insurance company and they provide their services free of charge to any person who needs their help. There is no pressure to buy anything. In the City of Kettering there

Veterans Day is November 11

Delco Park is home to the Kettering Veterans Memorial and Charles F. Kettering History Walk. Dedicated on Veterans Day in 2016. Its large circular design is highlighted by five black obelisks for each of the military branches that act as the center focus. On the south side of the memorial are seven flag poles that fly the colors of the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps and Coast Guard plus two U.S. flags, one with the P.O.W./M.I.A emblem and the other for the City of Kettering. A history walk for the city's namesake, Charles F. Kettering, is on the north side of the memorial.

We are grateful for our veterans and the freedom we enjoy because of them.



Birds eye views of the Kettering Veterans Memorial



Mayor Patterson honors those who sacrificed for our freedom at the dedication of the Veterans Memorial, November 2016



Kettering Police Department Welcomes New Officers

The Kettering Police Department welcomes two new officers. Officer Phil Hubbard was sworn in October 4. Officer Hubbard served five years with the Dayton Police Department and six years with the United States Marine Corps.

Officer Timothy Kim began his service with the Kettering Police Department in June. Prior to coming to Kettering, Officer Kim worked for the Montgomery County Sheriff's Office.

Welcome to Kettering, and best of luck to you in your career at KPD.



Officer Phil Hubbard and Chief Protsman



Officer Timothy Kim and Chief Protsman

Officer Drayton Friend of Youth Citizen of the Year

Congratulation to Officer Ed Drayton on being selected as the winner of the Dor-Wood Optimist Friend of Youth Citizen of the Year Award. During his 20-plus years of service at KPD, Officer Drayton has been instrumental in the lives of so many young people as a mentor and teacher. His contributions to our community are vast, and we are grateful. Congratulations on the well-deserved recognition.



Officer Jesse Anderson was presented the Kiwanis Officer of the Year Award for 2021 in September. Officer Anderson exemplifies the qualities that Kettering Police Department seeks in its officers and is proud to call him one of their own. Thank you for your hard work and dedication to our community and the department. Congratulations Officer Anderson.

Learn the Sounds of Fire Safety

Is there a beep or a chirp coming out of your smoke or carbon monoxide alarm? What does it all mean? Knowing the difference can save you, your home, and your family. Make sure everyone in the home understands the sounds of the smoke and carbon monoxide alarms and knows how to respond to each. Learn the sounds of your smoke and carbon monoxide alarms by checking the user guide or search the brand and model online.



Mayor Patterson at Fire Station 36 Ribbon Cutting 2016.

What is your alarm telling you?

SMOKE ALARMS

- A continued set of three loud beeps—beep, beep, beep—means smoke or fire. Get out, call 9-1-1 and stay out.
- A single “chirp” every 30 or 60 seconds means the battery is low and must be changed.
- All smoke alarms must be replaced after 10 years.
- Chirping that continues after the battery has been replaced means the alarm is at the end of its life and the unit must be replaced.

CARBON MONOXIDE (CO) ALARMS

- A continuous set of four loud beeps—beep, beep, beep, beep—means carbon monoxide is present in your home. Go outside, call 9-1-1 and stay out.
- A single chirp every 30 or 60 seconds means the battery is low and must be replaced.
- CO alarms also have “end of life” sounds that vary by manufacturer. This means it’s time to get a new CO alarm.
- Chirping that continues after the battery has been replaced means the alarm is at the end of its life and the unit must be replaced.

**Hear a Beep
Get on Your Feet!**
**Get out and stay out!
Call 9-1-1 from outside**
**Hear a Chirp
Make a Change!**

A chirping alarm needs attention. Replace the batteries or the entire unit if it’s over 10 years old. If you don’t remember how old the unit is, replace it!



Carbon Monoxide

Each year Kettering Fire Department crews respond to dozens of carbon monoxide leaks. On many of these responses, our crews discover carbon monoxide leaking from faulty gas-fueled appliances in the home. Carbon monoxide is a colorless and odorless gas commonly referred to as the “Silent Killer.” The effects of this gas on the human body include headache, weakness, light-headedness, dizziness, confusion and even death. This gas is the result of incomplete combustion of fuels that are commonly used in households. Common sources of carbon monoxide are gas appliances (furnaces, ovens and water heaters), wood burning stoves, and fire places. It is recommended to have a carbon monoxide detector on every level of your home if the home is equipped with any gas-fueled appliances or has an attached garage. Batteries in a carbon monoxide alarm need replaced once per year and should be tested monthly.



Close Before You Doze

When a home fire starts, toxic deadly smoke is created. The spread of this smoke, and the fire that creates it, is significantly influenced by air flow inside the home. You can direct smoke and fire away from your bedroom by closing your bedroom door while you sleep. This will significantly increase the time you have to respond to the fire and escape. Please remember to have everyone in your home sleep with their bedroom door closed.

Space Heaters

As winter approaches and the temperatures begin to drop, we begin heating our homes. Here are just a few tips to keep in mind if you choose to use a space heater in your home.

- Plug heater directly into wall outlet, not an extension cord or power strip.
- Only use a heater with an automatic shut-off to ensure that the heater will turn off if it is tipped over.
- Turn heater off if you leave the room or before you go to sleep.



Kettering Businesses Achieve Milestones



Heapy Celebrates 75th Anniversary

Congratulations to Heapy for recently celebrating their 75th anniversary. The Company recognized their milestone of "creating spaces that inspire," for 75 years of with a reception at the company's headquarters at 1400 Dorothy Lane in Kettering.

The Modern Sets Enrollment Record

The Modern College of Design recently celebrated a record number of students for their fall 2021 enrollment. The number of new students in 2021 grew by 6 percent, more than any other year in their 40-year history. This growth came from online and part-time programs that allow students to continue their education on their own schedules. The Modern also introduced five new faculty and staff members this fall.

Cassano's Expanding Headquarters

Cassano's recently announced they will be expanding their corporate headquarters at East Stroop Road and creating 25 new jobs. The company will add an 18,000 square foot freezer to boost their local and national distribution. The first Cassano's opened on June 4, 1953 in a small room adjacent to a grocery store on Schantz Avenue in Kettering and now has more than 30 restaurants throughout the Dayton area.

Research Park Projects Progressing

Kettering continues to see new growth and investment at Miami Valley Research Park, including the following announcements from two local businesses:

Life Connection of Ohio

Construction continues at the corner of Research Park and Woodman Drive where Life Connection of Ohio recently purchased 9 acres for its 30,000-square foot office building in Miami Valley Research Park. The project will triple the company's current square footage and is expected to be completed in early 2022. The project will result in many additional jobs coming to the new facility. Life Connection coordinates the recovery of organs from donors for lifesaving transplants. The City is pleased to have this organization in our community.

Resonetics

The City recently completed the sale of 2.297 acres to Resonetics, thus moving their expansion project another step forward. Resonetics is a specialist in micro manufacturing that focuses on technology for components and assemblies for medical devices. As previously reported, the company will be expanding their current facility located at 2941 College Drive and creating about 95 new positions.



Mayor Patterson (center) at the Drive Through Volunteer Luncheon 2020

Wilmington Pike Businesses Encouraged to Apply for Grants

As companies look at their investment opportunities in 2022, the City of Kettering would like to encourage businesses located along the Wilmington Pike corridor to consider the Wilmington Pike Improvement Plan when looking at options for improving their properties.

Although this is not a new City program, having been implemented in 2013, the City continues to look at opportunities to provide grants and encourage reinvestment and redevelopment of certain properties along the Wilmington Pike corridor.

There are two grant options:

- The first program, the **Wilmington Pike Demolition Program**, provides funding to commercial and residential property owners to assist in the demolition of structures and clearance of sites to be redeveloped. This demolition can occur to encourage economic development or to remove

non-conforming structures or blight. Property owners can enter into an agreement with the City and be reimbursed for up to 50 percent of the demolition cost, up to \$25,000.

- The second program, the **Wilmington Pike Façade & Site Improvement Program** is available for exterior building façade or site improvements to bring buildings and site into conformance with the Kettering Zoning Code. Commercial and residential land owners are eligible to be reimbursed for up to 50 percent of improvement costs, up to \$25,000.

If you are interested in learning more about the eligibility requirements for either please [contact Amy Schrimpf, the City of Kettering's Economic Development Manager at amy.schrimpf@ketteringoh.org](mailto:amy.schrimpf@ketteringoh.org) or 937-296-3342.

Welcome to Kettering, Gem City Music Studio

Kettering City Council members and City staff were thrilled to welcome Gem City Music Studio to Kettering! Gem City Music Studio is located at 4017 Marshall Road offering playful music instruction for all ages and abilities. Gem City Music Studio says, "We play music, learn music, love music." What a wonderful addition to Kettering.



2020 Census Results

Thank you for participating in the 2020 Census and helping Kettering by doing so. The United States Census Bureau released data from the 2020 Census which will guide legislative redistricting for states and possibly affect how much federal funding local governments receive.

According to the new data, the City of Kettering now has a surveyed population of 57,862, a 3.03% increase from 56,163 in 2010.

Kettering's 65 and older population accounts for 18.4% of total residents.

Montgomery County reported an overall growth rate of 0.4%. Warren County added the most new residents, with more than 29,000 people in 2020, a 13.9% growth rate. Hamilton County added the second largest number of new residents - with over 28,000 more people - in 2020, but trailed the overall region's growth with a rate of 3.5%.

The Life of a Leaf in Kettering



Collection crews will make one final pass through the city beginning Monday, November 29. Each year, the leaves collected are taken to the city's Leaf Farm. Leaves are disbursed in piles to be cultivated and ground for compost available to residents at no charge. Mulch is also made from the limbs collected at the Yard Debris Center each year and available to residents each spring.

The program is more than 20 years old and provides about 2,000 tons of compost

- and mulch annually. The City's compost consists of leaves and other yard debris. It is heated to or above the recommended temperatures in piles on City-owned land and then taken to the Stroop Road site for residents.

- There is a delicate balance in the production. The compost pile reaches 180 degrees, and it is turned to allow more moisture to form as the temperature drops. The piles are continually turned to maintain an appropriate temperature and consistency.



Don and Maureen Patterson as Don was sworn in to City Council by former Mayor Marilou Smithin 1997. Former City Manager Steve Husemann and current City Manager Marks Schwieterman are pictured here, as well.



Volunteers Make the World a Brighter Place!

We are so pleased to see the return of our annual Volunteer Recognition Lunch on November 18 at Presidential Banquet Center! A drive-through option will also be available for volunteers preferring to enjoy their meal at home. This celebration showcases the many contributions our volunteers make throughout the community by treating them to good food, thank you gifts and personal thanks from Mayor Donald E. Patterson, members of

- City Council, and staff. Mayor Patterson will present awards based on the number of hours contributed by volunteers. A variety of door prizes will also be given out thanks to the generosity of several Kettering businesses!
- For the majority of the last year, volunteers were unable to help due to COVID-19. Many called and emailed regularly to inquire of ways in which they could lend

- a helping hand or just to stay in touch. Since reopening the program at the end of March, and recording numbers through June 30, volunteers contributed **6,352** hours (and the hours continue to increase)! We offer our sincere thanks to all our volunteers for giving their time and talent and for finding innovative ways to contribute during an unusual year!
- For additional information, contact the Volunteer Office at 937-296-2433.



Mayor Patterson congratulating Neighborhood Pride winners at the drive-through event in September.

Make A Difference Day Impacts Many!

October 23 was *National Make A Difference Day*, celebrated in many communities across the country. Here in Kettering, volunteers of all ages worked on outdoor projects at the Habitat Environment Center removing honeysuckle, installing new saplings and spreading seeds. *Make A Difference Day* volunteers also gathered at Christ Church United Methodist to create holiday cards and placemats for active-

- duty military and area nursing homes. Card crafting kits were also provided for individuals unable to participate on *Make A Difference Day*.
- If you missed this opportunity, there are still many ways to get involved! Contact the City of Kettering Volunteer Office at 937-296-2433 or visit our website at www.ketteringoh.org/volunteer-opportunities/ to learn more!



Christmas Day at Polen Farm Returns!

We welcome back this long standing holiday tradition at Polen Farm, located at 5099 Bigger Road! The annual celebration includes Christmas caroling, holiday food and cookies, a train display, free children's books and activities, and of course, a visit from Santa himself! Please plan to stop by Polen Farm on Christmas Day between 1 and 4 p.m. If you are not comfortable joining us indoors, we will have a festive drive-through experience with holiday treats to enjoy at home! Thanks to the generosity of our many volunteers and community partners, this event continues to be free and open to the community. Reservations are not necessary. Please contact the Volunteer Office at 937-296-2433 with any questions.

Neighborhood Pride Program

Kettering residents made 2021 another fantastic year for the *Neighborhood Pride Program* with more than 400 nominations submitted and reviewed by the committee members. The award winners demonstrate significant improvement and upkeep to their properties year after year. Mayor Don Patterson, City Council members and City

- staff recognized the award winners at a drive-through event at the Government Center.
- Thank you to all award winners for showing such beautiful pride in Kettering with the impeccable care of your home or business! Please visit www.ketteringoh.org to view photos and a video of the 2021 award-winning properties.



July Winners

District 1
John & Sharon Hutchinson
1816 Vermeer Dr.

District 2
Alan & Hope Zins
1724 Farrington Dr.

District 3
Matt & Nicole Wallace
3717 Braddock St.

District 4
Frank & Barbara Grimsley
1936 Woodbriar Dr.

District 5
Tedd & Victoria Shimp
2708 Acorn Dr.

District 6
Andrew & Ashley Brown
1106 Kenosha Rd.

District 7
Robert Zimmer
801 Stonybrook Dr.

District 8
Louis & Deborah Schirack
740 W. Dorothy Ln.

District 9
David & Sheila Sisson
424 Honeysuckle Dr.

District 10
Marsha Purtee
1325 Belvoir Ave.

District 11
Lawrence & Jennifer Evans
2165 Willowgrove Ave.

District 12
Melissa Watkins
3753 Kingswood Dr.

Commercial
Kettering VFW Post 9927
3316 Wilmington Pike

June Winners

District 1
Christy Ruffner
1949 Courtland Ave.

District 2
Timothy & Deborah Roark
2898 Prentice Dr.

District 3
Lucas Jenkins
4480 Woodner Dr.

District 4
Bob & Ann Whiteside
4573 Ridgebury Dr.

District 5
Steven & Stefanie Schaffer
2800 Colonial Ave.

District 6
Mark Anderson & Lois Madrie
304 Cushing Ave.

District 7
Todd & Darcie Moncrief
4351 Renwood Dr.

District 8
Chuck Chambers & Colleen McCormick
365 Canterbury Dr.

District 9
Larry & Anne Lawhorne
571 Eagle Cir.

District 10
Herb & Bessie Smith
3303 Regent St.

District 11
Bobby Tayim
1260 Brooklands Rd.

District 12
Jack & Stephanie Putnam
4265 Wilmington Pike

Commercial
Wenzler Day Care & Learning Center
4535 Presidential Way

August Winners

District 1
Amelia Kayes
1517 Barney Ave.

District 2
Todd & Nicole Guy
3005 E. Cunnington Ln.

District 3
Kate Kelly
4230 Clarendon Dr.

District 4
Douglas & Rhonda Hess
2252 Berrycreek Dr.

District 5
Lori Lee
2920 Royalston Ave.

District 6
Laura Vielbig
133 N. Bromfield Rd.

District 7
Christopher & Princess Teague
813 Larrivood Ave.

District 8
Brad & Allie Hosler
500 Canterbury Dr.

District 9
Gary & Candice Webb
4300 Schrubbs Dr.

District 10
Daniel Landis
3475 Westbury Rd.

District 11
Gail Kepler
2320 Willowgrove Ave.

District 12
Michael & Kimberly Flynn
4133 Meadowcroft Rd.

Commercial
Kettering American Legion Post 598
5700 Kentshire Dr.

Neighborhood Pride Committee

This program would not be possible without the time, talent and commitment of the Neighborhood Pride Committee! Thank you to co-chairs Rob Jahn, Gail Carone, Mark & Carol Messer, and committee members Kathy Waker, Jim Bolton, Del & Ginny Herbeck, Maureen Willits, Chuck Dickerson, Gale Heller, Pat Ferguson, April Mason, and Donna Speers. Your involvement is appreciated and is vital to the success of the *Neighborhood Pride Program*!

Mayor Patterson with his loyal companion, Tucker



Working on Your Fitness?



What's this? We're talking fitness? That must mean it's New Year's resolution time. We get it. This is a big time of year to make a fitness plan. It can be hard to filter out the noise and find a safe, affordable fitness experience that offers what you need.

While we love to show off our wide range of amenities and our two convenient facilities, we'd rather find a way to help you succeed as an individual. Making a commitment to wellness can be scary, no matter your goals or your fitness level. And let's face it — it's also pretty hard to hit the treadmill again after couch and cookie season. Our expert staff understands this and wants to cheer for you. Since we enjoy getting to know our patrons, we love when our new friends stick around past January.

So, how can you ease the transition from feast mode to beast mode? During a *Personal Fitness Guidance* session, you'll learn your individual body composition from a certified personal trainer who will develop a personalized fitness program just for you. Then you'll get two sessions to work out with your trainer to put that personalized plan into action. This program will give you the confidence you need to strike out on your own and get results. Or if you love working with your trainer, you can always continue



training with them. If you're not new to exercise or stuck in a rut, weights, cardio equipment — it's all here for you to pop in your earbuds and do your thing. (We'll still cheer for you, though.

We kind of can't help ourselves.) "But I have a treadmill in my basement," we can hear you thinking. "There are treadmills everywhere."

So true. Almost every fitness center, plus some lucky basements and guest rooms, can offer a bare-bones fitness experience. If you need a little luxury in your life, we

understand. Access to our whirlpool, walking track, sauna and steam room is included with each pass type. You won't find those in a basement (or bargain-basement) fitness center.

Speaking of bargains, we strive to keep our passes wallet friendly and help you only pay for what you need. Choose from an all-access *Combination Pass*, a *Fitness Pass* to use weights and cardio equipment, an *Exercise Pass* if group exercise classes are your thing, and a *Fit-Ex Combination Pass* if you like to mix it up during the week. During winter and summer break, we also offer *College Passes* with special pricing for students. All new pass holders receive a complimentary equipment orientation.

We know you have plenty of options for how you spend your free time, and we're thrilled that you're interested in spending time with us. We are Kettering's home for fitness!

For more information on our Kettering fitness facilities, please visit www.playkettering.org/fitness. Or, stop into the Kettering Recreation Complex or the Kettering Fitness & Wellness Center and let us show you around!

PASSES DESIGNED FOR YOU

	Combination	Fit-Ex	Fitness	Exercise	Pool	Gymnasium	Skate	Water Park	Senior Center
Indoor Track	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Towel Service	●	●	●	●	●	●			
Complimentary Lockers	●	●	●	●	●				
Whirlpool	●	●	●	●	●				
Sauna	●	●	●	●	●				
Steam Room	●	●	●	●	●				
KRC Fitness Room	●	●	●						
KFWC Fitness Room	●	●	●						
Exercise Classes	●	●		●					
Gymnasium	●					●			●
Ice Arena Open Skate	●						●		
Indoor Pool & Aqua Fitness	●				●				
Adventure Reef Water Park	●							●	

AMENITIES



Mayor Patterson and Dayton Mayor Nan Whaley at the Dayton - Kettering Connector Bike Path ribbon cutting 2013

Kettering PRCA is Proud to be Reaccredited

Kettering Parks, Recreation and Cultural Arts (PRCA) has officially maintained its status among the ranks of elite park and recreation agencies across the country by earning reaccreditation through the Commission for Accreditation of Park and Recreation Agencies (CAPRA) and the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA). This distinguished accomplishment was awarded during the 2021 NRPA Annual Conference.

This is the sixth time PRCA has achieved this milestone since 1996! We were the first parks and recreation department in the State of Ohio to become nationally accredited and have maintained this status for the past 25 years.

CAPRA accreditation is the only national accreditation for park and recreation agencies, and is a measure of an agency's overall quality of operation, management and service to the community. This mark of distinction indicates that an agency has met rigorous standards related to the management and administration of lands, facilities, resources, programs, safety and services.

As part of the accreditation process, PRCA had to demonstrate compliance with 154 recognized standards and document

- all policies and procedures. Often, the process helps identify efficiencies and heighten areas of accountability, all of which translate into higher quality service and operation to benefit the community.

- The process for accreditation involves a formal application, self-assessments, a site visit by a team of trained visitors that results in a written report, and a hearing with the commission to grant accreditation. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, this year's visitations were held virtually. Once accredited, the agency must uphold the standards by submitting an annual report and is reviewed again in five years.



The Commission is comprised of representatives from NRPA, the American Academy for Park and Recreation Administration, the National Association of County Park and Recreation Officials, the International City/County Management Association, the Academy for Leisure Sciences, the Armed Forces Recreation Network and the Council of State Executive Directors.

- We're grateful for the expertise of our PRCA Accreditation Team and the hard work that they put into helping us accomplish this goal.

Mayor Patterson's online story time during pandemic 2020



Play Dates

Join your Parks, Recreation and Cultural Arts for fun this winter! These events are free and open to all ages

Details are at www.playkettering.org

Mayor's Christmas Tree Lighting

Friday, December 3, 6 – 8 p.m.

Lincoln Park Civic Commons

9th Regional Art Ed Exhibition

Through December 30

Rosewood Arts Center

32nd Annual Works on Paper Exhibition

January 24 – February 25

Rosewood Gallery

Juried by artist and educator Willis Bing Davis.

Important Dates

November 29

Winter Program Registration Begins for Kettering Residents

December 6

Winter Program Registration Begins for Non-Residents



Deborah Dixon, *Flamingo Feesh*, 2020, paper mache from the 2021 *Works on Paper* at Rosewood Gallery

Kick Off the Holidays in Kettering!

After going virtual in 2020, we can't wait to see you in Lincoln Park for the 2021 **Mayor's Christmas Tree Lighting**. On Friday, December 3 from 6 – 8 p.m., join Mayor Patterson and your Kettering neighbors to see the Kettering Christmas Tree light up for the season. Come join this treasured tradition and sing your favorite carols, and we'll have hot chocolate and cookies to enjoy. Tour the light display in style with our community-favorite horse-drawn carriage rides.

Remember our **Santa Paws** event? It's back and this year, will be held in conjunction with the **Mayor's Christmas Tree Lighting**. Bring your cameras and your pups along on December 3 to get the perfect photo using our props and backgrounds right at Lincoln Park.

This year will be Mayor Patterson's last time lighting up Lincoln Park for the holidays, so please join us to help send him out in style! **The Mayor's Christmas Tree Lighting** and all of the activities during the event are free and open to all.

As always, we're offering a variety of ways to help you celebrate the season. We all missed out on enjoying traditions with family and friends last year. Spend an evening with the kids during our **Flashlight Candy Cane Hunts** at Polen



- Farm on December 12. If you need a minute away from the kids, we can help with that, too. On December 18, our **Holiday Helper** program let's you take the afternoon to shop, wrap gifts, or just de-stress with a sleeve of butter cookies.
- Whatever you need to get done, we've got your childcare covered.

Step out on the town for some festive fun for adults and seniors only. **Swingin' Sounds of the Season** returns on December 7, followed by **A Very Merry Christmas Party** on December 16 and our **Happy (almost) Noon Year's Eve Party** on December 30. Each event will offer great food, music,

- dancing and time to connect with friends.
- Last, but not least, we hope you'll bring your worst to the Kettering Ice Arena on December 18. Your worst holiday attire, that is! **Our Ugly Sweater Skate** is brand new this year and promises to be a hideously good time for all ages. The skate will be held from 1:45 to 3:45 p.m.
- We hope to see you and your family on December 3 for the **Mayor's Christmas Tree Lighting** and all month long as we celebrate the season together.
- **Complete details about each program, as well as registration information, can be found in our *PlayKettering Activities Guide* at www.playkettering.org**



CITY OF KETTERING

Contact Numbers

Emergency

Police/Fire/Paramedic Emergency 9-1-1

Non-Emergency

Police and Fire Dispatch 937-296-2555

Frequently Called Numbers

Animal Control	937-296-3266
Building Permits & Zoning	937-296-2441
City Income Tax	937-296-2502
Government Center	937-296-2400
Housing Rehabilitation	937-296-2441
Polen Farm	937-435-5787
Property Maintenance Hotline	937-296-3286
Recreation Complex/Water Park/Pool	937-296-2587
Rosewood Arts Center	937-296-0294
Senior Adult Recreation	937-296-2480
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.