

CONTACT WITH

Kettering

Community Magazine Summer 2023



**KETTERING
SUMMERS
OFFER FUN FOR
EVERYONE!**



Let's kick things off right here with information to prepare for the season and a few puzzles for our Kettering kids!



CITY OF KETTERING *is home*

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Mayor's Welcome

Dear Neighbors:

As the days get longer, the sun shines brighter, the sky gets bluer and nature's colors become more pigmented, I am excited to see the spring and summer community events filling my calendar. The City of Kettering offers something for everyone year round; but, with springtime comes the anticipation of the fellowship and connection that coincides with every program, event and initiative we get to enjoy together during these warmer seasons.

First, allow me to shine the light on the City's Finance Department honored for 40 years with The Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting and 38 years with The Distinguished Budget Presentation Award from the Government Finance Officers Association. These folks work behind the scenes to ensure we are the picture of fiscal health. We are in good hands.

There is no better way to kick off sunshine and summertime in Kettering than with our annual Kettering Community Block Party Wednesday, May 31, from 6 to 8 p.m. at Frazee Pavilion and Lincoln Park Civic Commons. This is a free, fun event for the entire family to meet representatives from every City department and learn about our services. Strike up a conversation with a new neighbor and share why you are proud to say "Kettering is home". Enjoy the annual performance by the talented musicians from the Kettering Civic Band on the Frazee stage at 7 p.m.

Speaking of Frazee Pavilion, if you have not had a chance yet, please check out this season's fantastic lineup. As always, the Frazee team aims to please everyone with live music, festivals and community events at one of the prettiest venues around. We have everything you need to know right here in **Contact With Kettering** or at www.frazee.com. Some of my fondest memories were made at our beloved Frazee, and the traditions that stand the test of time such as the Community Block Party, Spass Nacht and The Taste have become anticipated events.

As you well know, the summer experience Kettering offers is endless. Make a pact with your children or friends to visit all 21 parks by the end of summer. Pack up the family and head to Adventure Reef Water Park or the Kennedy Park Splash Pad for a day of fun and memories of a lifetime. Enjoy a bike ride on Kettering's dedicated paths and routes throughout the city. Visit www.ketteringoh.org/bike-kettering/ for maps and information.

Another great summer tradition in Kettering is neighborhood block parties. What a fantastic way to catch up with neighbors and welcome families new to your neighborhood. The City of Kettering allows block parties on selected residential streets. Block party applications are submitted to the Engineering Department for review. If it is approved, the Engineering Department will properly notify the Street, Fire and Police Departments of all block party street closures. One day before your scheduled block party, the City's Street Department will deliver barricades to a designated location for residents to set up the next day. Visit <https://www.ketteringoh.org/neighborhood-block-parties/> to start the process.

While you are out and about this summer, you may have the opportunity to engage and offer feedback as we develop our Strategic Plan! If you see Spark Kettering! signs at City events, please stop by to offer your input and learn more about the process!

Finally, the reason we are such a unique community is the care and respect we have for one another. Thank you all for your 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,

Peggy Lehner, Mayor of Kettering



Share today. Plan tomorrow.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!



Community Block Party
Wednesday, May 31
Lincoln Park Civic Commons



Juneteenth
Monday, June 19
Lincoln Park Civic Commons



Spass Nacht
Wednesday, June 21
Lincoln Park Civic Commons



Go 4th!
Tuesday, July 4
Delco Park



National Night Out
Tuesday, August 1
City of Kettering Government Center



CITY OF KETTERING

Kettering Mayor & Council

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City of Kettering, Ohio – Government

Visit www.ketteringoh.org and sign up to receive **The Starter**—Kettering's monthly e-newsletter.



Attract Butterflies to Your Yard

Butterflies are important pollinators as many plant species would dramatically decrease without their presence. They also help pollinate fruits and vegetables, are responsible for one in every three bites of food we consume and contribute to over \$200 billion to the food economy worldwide. You can help protect these pollinators by providing the right habitat for them. Planting a wide range of nectar and host plants from flowers, shrubs, and trees is the best strategy for attracting butterflies.

There are 13 species of milkweed found in Ohio and all of them serve as host plants to Monarch butterflies. Violets are a host plant for native Great Spangled Fritillary butterflies and their early spring blooms provide food for pollinators. Native black cherry trees are a host plant for Eastern Tiger Swallowtail and Spring Azure butterflies. Other native host plants that will attract butterflies to your yard include: sky blue asters, black-eyed Susans, geraniums and purple coneflowers.



Introducing the City of Kettering Sustainability Committee

In response to a planning retreat held spring 2022, the Kettering City Council determined that sustainability is a priority issue for our community. To facilitate the process of determining the direction and scope of projects recommended to City leaders, the recruitment of a team of dedicated volunteers willing to serve as an advisory body took place, and this group was officially appointed by Council on February 14. The scope of the Sustainability Committee will include research, discussion, written communication, and advocacy. The committee has been focused on researching regional initiatives, as well as learning more about efforts already underway within City offices.

Kettering is Home to Inspired Stewardship



Ellie McCall, a junior at Fairmont High School is proving that an inspired, balanced life is important at any age. This up and coming political science major has something so special to share with all of us—life's gifts are truly in the giving.

For Ellie, working toward the greater good is her purpose. She said, "I have a good balance. I have time to do my school work, my extracurricular activities, my job and time for me. I'm on the path, and I'm going to keep running on it."

Since second grade, Ellie and her family have called Kettering home. She loves Kettering's beautiful neighborhoods with mature trees and nature's vibrant colors. Ellie, her mom and sometimes her dog, Chewie, take long walks and appreciate the natural habitats that are so prevalent in our city.

Along with city government, Ellie is passionate about sustainability and repurposing. In October 2022, she volunteered to help build a rain garden on Make A Difference Day at Van Buren Park. That annual October event is appropriately named as it truly made a difference in Ellie's life and the impact she has on our community.

The City of Kettering has a Sustainability Committee where like-minded people determine ways to incorporate sustainable processes into Kettering's framework. After seeing Ellie in action at the Make A Difference event, the Volunteer Administrator recruited her to sit on the committee. Several months later, Ellie volunteered to join the Strategic Plan Steering Committee.

As Ellie tours different colleges, she continues to think about ways she can contribute to her hometown while away at college via video conference. She is passionate about public service, and that is what led her to volunteer.

When asked what inspired her to lead a service-driven life, Ellie explained that her mother volunteered for a food kitchen by providing groceries each week. The McCall family also volunteered to serve Thanksgiving meals. Ellie said that volunteering inspires her to do more.

She was recently inducted into National Honor Society and will help her fellow students learn through tutoring and the example she provides for all of us.

The contributions this young lady is making to our community are so appreciated. Being surrounded by mostly adult volunteers has not caused her to shy away from doing great things!



Welcome Kettering's New Senior Services Coordinator

The City of Kettering is pleased to welcome Natalie Storms to serve as senior services coordinator. Kettering is a unique community in that 18.4% of its residents are age 65 or older.

Natalie looks forward to serving our seniors with the knowledge she's gained through experience and education, with the compassion that fulfills her and her customers and with a collaborative approach engaging every function of the City necessary to help our older residents.

To help improve the quality of life for our senior residents, Natalie will work with the Fire Department/EMS with hoarding situations, fire Safety and fall risk prevention. She will engage Kettering Police Department's Safe Seniors Program working with families and individuals to make sure all resources and services are in place so they can remain in safely in their homes. Natalie will also provide assistance and guidance when it is time for the next step, including downsizing. She will collaborate with property maintenance in assisting individuals with keeping their homes compliant to City



codes and providing support in the process. Natalie will work with Community Development to ensure that older adults are aware of the beneficial programs available to Kettering residents to assist with home repairs and more.

Natalie's goal is to help residents, their families and friends to find wrap-around services, education and programs to keep them in their Kettering homes longer. She will work holistically to provide the best services while maintaining a strong, supportive network of experienced professionals.

Some of the services Natalie can provide are: assistance in completing applications for housing, transportation, personal care/in-home services, insurance--Medicare/Medicaid, supplemental nutrition assistance/home-delivered meals, utility assistance programs, aging issues, COVID/illness safety plan and Kettering homeowner programs and grants.

Natalie can be reached at 937-296-3356 or Natalie.Storms@ketteringoh.org.

Word Search

WORDS:

- BEACH
- CAMP
- FUN
- HOT
- SUMMER
- SUN
- SWIM
- WATER

S	J	C	A	M	P	M	C
W	G	L	A	M	C	H	M
I	J	M	M	P	Y	Y	Z
M	V	K	B	E	A	C	H
S	U	M	M	E	R	M	S
M	H	O	T	E	B	H	U
K	O	I	G	U	F	U	N
W	A	T	E	R	O	Q	E

Can you help the squirrels, Tucker and Ash, find all the words?

Reporting Street Light Outages

Most of the City's street lighting system is owned and maintained by the Miami Valley Lighting, LLC, a subsidiary of AES Ohio, Inc.

Residents may report an outage directly to Miami Valley Lighting at www.lightingsimplified.com or call 888-316-2393. The exact location of the outage is required. Additionally, each pole has a five-digit number on the pole at eye level facing the street. This number is helpful when reporting an outage.

Flood Protection

The City of Kettering participates in the National Flood Hazard Insurance Program and has adopted flood hazard area protection standards. As a public service, the City can provide the following information upon request:

- Basic flood map information such as identifying locations of special flood hazard areas and floodways, and the correlating regulatory requirements.
- Base Flood information, elevation certificates, and copies of letters of map amendments and revisions.
- Known flood problems not shown on the FIRM maps, such as localized drainage problems. This could also include information on prior flooding events.
- Anticipated flood depths on a property in a flood hazard area.
- Sensitive areas serving natural floodplain functions such as wetlands and open space.

Flood protection information is available at www.ketteringoh.org/flood-protection or you can contact the Engineering Department at 937-296-2436.

How to Store Recreational Vehicles and Trailers

The City of Kettering has zoning regulations regarding parking and storage of recreational vehicles (RVs) and trailers. The regulations are enforced by Kettering Code Enforcement Inspectors. Vehicles found in violation may receive a Notice of Violation regarding acceptable storage. Within the Zoning Code an RV is defined as any vehicular type portable structure which can be towed, hauled, or driven, and is designed as temporary living accommodation for recreational, camping, and travel use. They include, but are not limited to; camping trailers, converted vans, self-propelled motor homes, tent trailers, travel trailers or truck campers; boats and other floating vehicles; ATVs, dune and beach buggies, golf carts, go carts, snowmobiles and other tracked vehicles. The Zoning Code defines trailers as vehicles on wheels, runners, or tracks to be towed or hauled and used for carrying materials, goods, other vehicles, cargo, or other objects; including for use as a temporary office for construction.

All Recreational Vehicles and Trailers, when permitted, shall be subject to the following parking/storage conditions:

1. RV's and trailers 30' in length or longer shall only be permitted within a vehicle storage facility or within an indoor storage/parking location
 2. RV's and trailers greater than 8' in height shall be limited to indoor storage/parking only.
 3. RV's and trailers less than or equal to 8' in height shall be subject to the following conditions:
 - Storage/parking is limited in location to rear and side yards on a lot.
 - When greater than or equal to 6' in height maintain a minimum setback of 6' from all lot lines.
- When less than 6' in height maintain a minimum setback of 3' from all lot lines.
 - All such vehicles shall be screened from view of neighboring properties and all public rights-of-way by a minimum 8' high continuous evergreen hedge or a 6' high wooden privacy fence or masonry wall. Proper screening must meet Zoning provision so you should check with the Planning Department prior to installing any such screening.

RV's and Trailers are also not permitted to be stored/parked on any public street, alley or unimproved right-of-way. RV's and trailers found parked on the street are subject to a citation and/or towing by the Kettering Police Department. Be aware that Code Enforcement Inspectors and Kettering Police work hand in hand regarding enforcement of these regulations.

Swimming Pool Regulations

1. A zoning permit is needed for pools that are deeper than 18 inches or larger than 65 square feet in area, or that measure more than 9 feet in any dimension. An electrical permit may be required for pools with pumps even if a zoning permit may not. Extension cords are not permitted for any pool equipment.
2. Year-round pools and those larger than the requirements in #1 requires a permit.
3. Pool must be located in rear yard.
4. Pool must be enclosed with a six-foot high fence with locking gate, approved guards or pool safety cover. Fence structural supports and posts must be on the interior side of fence. Non-support side of fence shall face towards neighbors' property.
5. Edge of pool water must be at a minimum of 10 feet or more from all property lines.
6. Overhead power lines less than 10 feet (horizontally) from edge of water must have the following minimum clearances:
 - 22.5 feet from surface of water
 - 14.5 feet from diving platform, tower or observation stand
7. Overhead cable and phone lines less than 10 feet (horizontally) from edge of water must have the following minimum clearances:
 - 10 feet from surface of water
 - 10 feet from diving platform, tower or observation standContact AT&T prior to inspection.
8. Pool shall not be located within 5 feet of underground power lines not associated with the pool.
9. Check for underground utilities prior to excavation. O.U.P.S. (Ohio Utility Protection Service) provides a convenient utility location service. Call them at 1-800-362-2764.
10. Do not direct concentrated water onto neighboring properties.
11. Control erosion and sedimentation during and after construction.
12. Consult licensed electrical contractor for electrical and bonding requirements.

Contact AESO prior to installation for their requirements as they may be more restrictive.



Inground Pools Require 3 Permits:

- Zoning permit
- Electric permit bonding only
- Electric company for wiring pool



Above Ground Pools Require 2 Permits:

- Zoning permit
- Electric permit for wiring and bonding only



No Permit Required



Flock Safety Automatic License Plate Readers

In June 2022, Kettering installed the Flock Safety Automatic License Plate Readers. The Flock system consists of 10 cameras placed throughout the city that capture images of license plates as vehicles pass in front of them. These images are stored for 30 days and then purged from the system.

Overall, Kettering's Flock cameras have read approximately 10 million license plates since installation. In addition, Kettering has received approximately 3,000 Hot List hits from Flock cameras. Hot List hits are generated by national databases to alert officers of stolen vehicles, wanted persons, or missing persons. Kettering officers can also create their own Hot List entries to aid in investigations.

The Flock system has aided the police department in many ways including helping to solve crimes in Kettering. Thefts, including post office box thefts, burglaries, criminal damaging, assaults and arson cases, have been assisted by images from the cameras.

Since June, Flock hits have resulted in 39 arrests and assisted in 27 cases. They have also resulted in the recovery of 20 stolen vehicles and 5 stolen license plate. While not every Flock hit leads to an arrest, images can help determine a suspect's direction of travel after a crime was committed or help identify a suspect vehicle.

Kettering's Flock cameras are part of a large and growing network of cameras in the Dayton area. Kettering PD has access to images from Flock cameras located in surrounding jurisdictions, allowing for more information to be shared among agencies.



KPD New Hires

On March 16, in front of City Council, family, friends and coworkers, seven new employees were sworn into their new positions. Five were sworn in as patrol officers and 2 were introduced as dispatch/communications supervisors.



Patrol Officers Jeremy Branham, Craig Sanders, Peter Nicoll, Jeremy Blackwell, Mason Bagwell



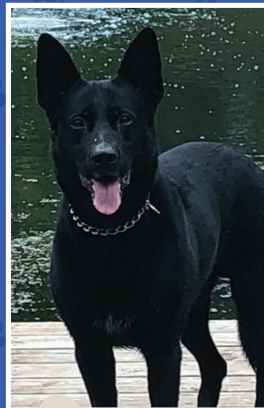
Civilian Dispatch Supervisors Rachel Myers and Cindy McKenzie.

KPD Welcomes a New K9



Please welcome K9 Bolt to the KPD family! Bolt comes to us from Romania via Shallow Creek Kennels in Pennsylvania. Bolt is a 13 month old pure bred German Shepherd and will begin his 13-week training program this upcoming Monday with his handler Officer Matt Harper.

A special thank you to McAfee Heating and Air and Greg McAfee for their very generous donation to purchase Bolt through the Kettering Police Foundation and their continued support for law enforcement.



K9 Jax



K9 Ox



K9 Thor

Recreational Fire Safety



Recreational fires are permitted in the City of Kettering; However, these fires must meet a few criteria to prevent unfriendly fires or a neighborhood nuisance. All of these requirements can be found in the Ohio Administrative Code 1301:7-7-03. Information is also available on our website by visiting www.ketteringoh.org/departments/kettering-fire-department.

- Permission must be received from the owner of the property where the recreational fire is taking place.
- Recreational fires shall not be conducted within 25 feet of a structure or combustible material.
- If the fire is contained in an approved container such as an outdoor fireplace, barbecue pit, etc., the fire must be at least 15 feet from a structure or combustible materials.
- Fire shall be constantly attended until the fire is extinguished. A portable fire extinguisher with a minimum of a 4A rating or garden hose, bucket of sand or other suitable means for extinguishing the fire must be provided.
- The total fuel area shall not exceed 3 feet in diameter or two feet in height.
- Fuel shall only consist of clean dry firewood. (No yard waste or rubbish materials or prohibited materials defined by the Ohio Administrative Code may be burned at any time).
- Fire shall not create an offensive or objectionable situation to neighboring property owners

Give Rio the fish some color!

Fire Hydrant Inspections

The Kettering Fire Department inspects fire hydrants in Kettering each summer. During these inspections, hydrants will be checked for any damage or defects. Also, KFD members will be flowing water from these hydrants to help ensure that they will operate effectively in the event of a fire.

This water flow could disrupt sediment within the water delivery system causing a brown discoloration of the water. This discoloration poses no threat to health or safety although, these deposits could discolor laundry. We suggest residents check the clarity of their water prior to washing laundry. If brown water is observed, simply run cold water until it clears. Residents are being asked to wash clothing after 5:30 p.m. Monday through Friday or any time Saturday or Sunday to avoid the risk of stains caused by brown water. If clothing becomes discolored, it is suggested to wash clothing again using a rust removing detergent prior to drying.

The Code Red Community Alert system will be used to inform residents when hydrants will be inspected in their area. Residents will be given at least 24 hours of notice prior to inspections. Kettering residents are encouraged to sign up to receive these notifications by visiting the City of Kettering website at www.ketteringoh.org/code-red-emergency-incident-community-alerts. For more information about the hydrant inspection process you may visit www.ketteringoh.org/fire-hydrants or contact Kettering Fire Department at 937-296-2489.

BBQ Grill Safety

Summer is not complete until you have enjoyed some tasty food from a BBQ grill. Here are some tips to keep you and your family safe this summer when cooking on your propane, charcoal, or wood pellet grill.

- Propane, charcoal and wood pellet barbecue grills must only be used outdoors.
- Place the grill well away from siding and deck railings and out from under eaves and overhanging branches according to the manufacturer's instructions. Do not store or use a grill on a porch or balcony, including any porch or balcony on an upper level of the building.
- Periodically remove grease or fat buildup in the tray(s) below the grill so it cannot be ignited by a hot grill.
- Light a propane grill only with the cover open. If the flame on the propane grill goes out, turn the grill and gas off and wait at least 5 minutes before relighting.
- Never use gasoline or any other flammable liquid except charcoal starter or lighter fluid to start a charcoal fire.
- Keep children and pets away from the grill area. Have a three-foot "kid-free zone" around the grill.
- Use long-handled grilling tools for plenty of clearance from heat and flames when cooking.
- Dispose of charcoal coals only after they are cool. Empty the coals into a metal container with a tight-fitting lid that is used only to collect coals. Place the container outside away from anything that can burn. Never empty coals directly into a trash can.



Visit FRAZE.COM for tickets, updates, info and more.

May

United Way of the Greater Dayton Area presents

STRONGER TOGETHER CONCERT featuring STEPHANIE MILLS with special guest MORRIS DAY AND THE TIME

Friday, May 19 at 8:00 PM

Ticket Prices: \$30 – \$80*

KETTERING BLOCK PARTY

Wednesday, May 31 at 6 – 8 PM

Free Event (No coolers or pets, please)

June

DUSTIN LYNCH with special guest AVERY ANNA

Thursday, June 1 at 8:00 PM

Ticket Prices: \$40.50 - \$60.50*

MIX 107.7 Summer Concert at Fraze Pavilion

38 SPECIAL WITH LOVERBOY

Saturday, June 3 at 8:00 PM

Ticket Prices: \$45 – 65*

THAT ARENA ROCK SHOW

Friday, June 9 at 8:00 PM

Ticket Prices: \$5*

I LOVE THE 90S featuring MARK MAGRATH, ALL 4 ONE, COLOR ME BADD, TREACH, KID N PLAY, 2 LIVE CREW & DJ KOOL

Saturday, June 10 at 8:00 PM

Ticket Prices: \$45 – \$75.50*

KMO Chamber presents

THE TASTE

Sunday, June 11 at 3 – 6 PM

Ticket Prices: \$25 – \$30 day of

BREAKFAST WITH THE BEATLES

Sunday, June 18 at 9 – 11 AM

Free Event (No coolers or pets, please)

JUNETEENTH

Monday, June 19 at

4:00 – 7:00 PM

SPASS NACHT 2023

Wednesday, June 21

at 5:30 – 9:30 PM

Free Event (No coolers or pets, please)

GESMV presents

THE MENUS

Friday, June 23 at 8:00 PM

General Admission \$5*

MIX 107.7 Summer Concert at Fraze Pavilion

RICHARD MARX

with special guest STARSHIP featuring MICKEY THOMAS

Saturday, June 24 at 8:00 PM

Ticket Prices: \$39.50 – \$65*

July

KILLER QUEEN a tribute to QUEEN featuring PATRICK MYERS as FREDDIE MERCURY

Thursday, July 6 at 8:00 PM

Ticket Prices: \$20 – \$40*

GESMV presents

LDNL

Friday, July 7 at 8:00 PM

General Admission \$5*

CHICKEN WING FEST

Saturday, July 8 at 3 – 10 PM

Free Event (No coolers or pets, please)



Sage the owl needs your help to unscramble all the words of activities you can do in Kettering!



IGSIFHN



OSCTNRCE

SEASON

WTUE Birthday Bash

GEORGE THOROGOOD & THE DESTROYERS

Saturday, July 15 at 8:00 PM

Ticket Prices: \$40 – \$65*

NELLY with CHASE McDANIEL

Thursday, July 20 at 8:00 PM

Ticket Prices: \$45 – \$65.50*

PEPPA PIG LIVE

Saturday, July 22 at 1:00 PM

Ticket Prices: \$30 – \$45.50*

BONEY JAMES & LALAH HATHAWAY featuring DAMIEN ESCOBAR

Sunday, July 23 at 7:30 PM

Ticket Prices: \$40.50 – \$75.50*

WE THE KINGDOM with special guest ANNE WILSON

Monday, July 24 at 7:30 PM

Ticket Prices: \$35 – \$48.50*

DONNY OSMOND

Wednesday, July 26 at 8:00 PM

Ticket Prices: \$45.50 – \$80.50*

GESMV presents

QUEENS BOULEVARD

Friday, July 28 at 8:00 PM

General Admission \$5*

August

HAPPY TOGETHER TOUR

2023 starring THE TURTLES, LITTLE ANTHONY, GARY PUCKETT & THE UNION GAP, THE VOGUES, THE CLASSIC IV & THE COWSILLS

Thursday, Aug. 10 at 8:00 PM

Ticket Prices: \$45 – \$60*

DAVE KOZ with special guests CANDY DULFER and ERIC DARIUS

Saturday, August 12 at 8:00 PM

Ticket Prices: \$35.50 – \$65.50*

ART ON THE COMMONS

Sunday, August 13 at 11:00 AM

Free Event (No coolers or pets, please)

GET THE LED OUT

Wednesday, August 16 at 7:30 PM

Ticket Prices: \$26 – \$30*

BACONFEST

Saturday, August 19 at 3 – 10 PM

Free Event (No coolers or pets, please)

September

ECOFEST

Saturday, Sept. 16 at 11:00 AM – 3:00 PM

Free Event (No coolers or pets, please)

*ticket prices increase \$5 day of show

Please note our bag size policy for concerts, festivals and events.

PERMITTED	PROHIBITED
Bags & Totes measuring 12" x 12" x 6" or smaller	Backpacks of any size are NOT permitted into the venue.
	



MWGIMSI



PSKRA



MSRUME SCMPA

Kettering to Offer Microenterprise Program Again this Spring

The City of Kettering is building on the overwhelming success of our microenterprise program by offering another round of classes and funding in 2023. Last year, in our inaugural year of programming, the city provided \$101,553.08 in financial assistance to 10 historically disadvantaged microenterprises, helping them to grow.

Like last year, the spring 2023 program features entrepreneurial training programs, networking and a forgivable loan program. It was developed as a collaboration between the City's Board of Community Relations, as well as the City's Community Development and Economic Development Departments.

Technical Assistance Topics

Under one component of the program, a four-week entrepreneurial course will be available for all businesses during Wednesdays in May. These sessions are open to current business owners and those interested in starting a business. Topics will include Working with City Staff; Writing a Business Plan; Marketing Your Business; and a panel discussion of veteran business owners on lessons learned. For dates and locations of these sessions or to register to attend, contact the Economic Development Manager at econdev@ketteringoh.org

No-Interest, Forgivable Financing

For the second component of the program, the City will once again offer a forgivable, one-year, no-interest loan for Minority Business Enterprises, Women's Business Enterprises, Disabled Business Enterprises, and Veteran-Owned Businesses. The maximum amount of a forgivable loan is \$12,000 with the loan forgiven after 1 year. Maximum amount that local business owners can receive from this and previous rounds is \$25,000. To be eligible, the business must be located in Kettering and be a microenterprise*; have no outstanding loan balance from prior rounds, and the owner of the business must be current on income taxes and have no code violations.

**Using the HUD definition, a microenterprise is a business that has 5 or fewer employees, one of whom is the owner of the business. Microenterprise business owners who apply must have a household income at or below 80% of the area median income. Income will be verified.*

The application period will run from mid-May through June 30, 2023. Watch for updates on the City's website at www.ketteringoh.org/microenterprise.



Energy Aggregation Update

Kettering is among 13 communities included in the electric aggregation process scheduled to go out to the market in early June. Four additional cities with May ballot issues will join the program if the initiatives pass. Aggregation allows communities to negotiate with suppliers on behalf of eligible households, nonprofits and small businesses to save money on bills by grouping together. Once legislation requirements are met and a quote and market rate is approved, Kettering residents and business owners will receive information to join or opt out of the program in late July or early August. It is expected that those who participate will receive their first bill as part of the aggregation program in October 2023. It is important to note that the rates for electricity in an aggregation program are not guaranteed; but, the freedom to opt in or out will always be a guarantee.

Welcome Home

Welcome Let Them Be Wild to Kettering! Council Members, Kettering Moraine Oakwood Chamber of Commerce and City Staff helped kick off their grand opening with a ribbon-cutting ceremony. Located at 5525 Bigger Road, Let Them Be Wild is here to help encourage children to love nature.

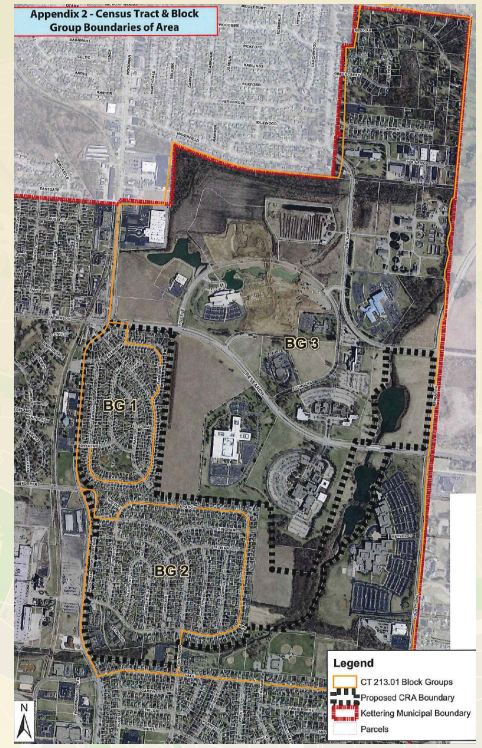


Kettering City Council Approves Community Reinvestment Area

Kettering City Council passed a resolution during its March 28 Council meeting implementing a Community Reinvestment Area (CRA) for the Aragon and Oak Park neighborhoods and for a currently vacant parcel in Miami Valley Research Park. This effort was initiated to spur investment in these areas of Kettering.

CRA's are an economic development tool used widely by communities throughout Ohio, although this is the first CRA implemented in Kettering. By designating a neighborhood as a CRA, it allows the property owners to receive real property tax exemptions when they renovate existing properties or construct new buildings.

Now that the resolution has been approved by City Council, the City must submit documents to the Ohio Department of Development to certify the CRA. After that happens, City staff plan to hold a community meeting to explain to residents in these neighborhoods how they can take advantage of the program. If you are a resident in those neighborhood, stay tuned for more information as you will receive a letter from the City with details about the meeting.



Community Tissue Services Expansion at Kettering Business Park

Last month, the City of Kettering was excited to learn of Community Tissue Services' purchase of two buildings located at 950 Forrer Blvd. in the Kettering Business Park. The acquisition of these buildings gives Community Tissue Services the space needed to expand warehouse capacity, improve efficiencies and further their potential as a global leader in the production of life-saving and life-enhancing allografts.

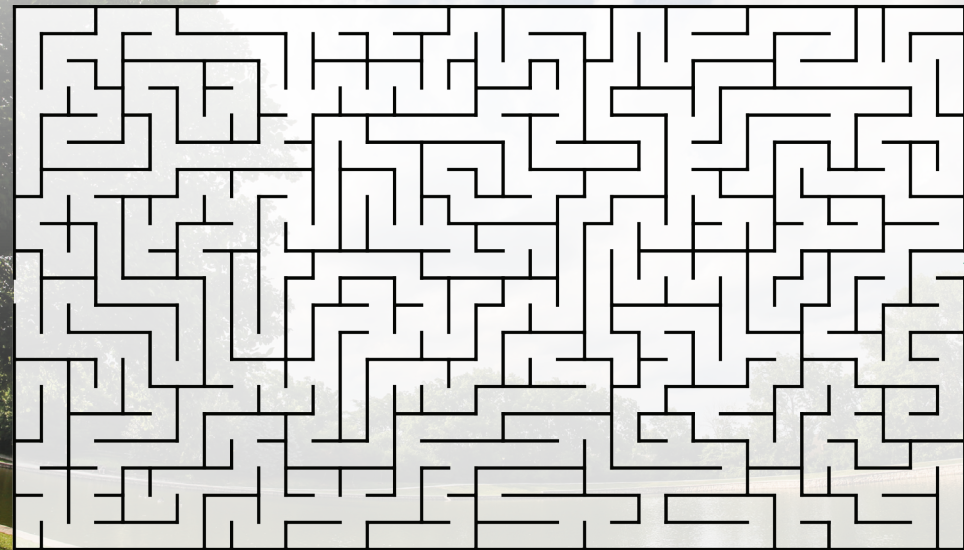


Community Tissue Services has been an exemplary corporate partner since opening their Center for Tissue, Innovation & Research facility in Miami Valley Research Park in 2011, and the City welcomes their continued investment in Kettering.

The buildings purchased were once home to Synchrony Financial, but have been vacant since 2020, when the company went to a work-from-home model in the wake of the

COVID pandemic. Kettering Mayor Peggy Lehner noted that finding a new use for the buildings has been a key priority since 2020. "Community Tissue Services joins Alternate Solutions Health Network and the Kettering Health Operational Command Center as anchors within a unique cluster of bioscience and health care companies doing life-saving work in Kettering Business Park. We look forward to a successful relationship with these businesses for years to come," said Mayor Lehner.

Tiki the turtle needs your help to get to the turtle ramp in Lincoln Park Civic Commons!



Lincoln Park Civic Commons



Mayor's Award for Volunteer Service Winners 2023

The Mayor's Award for Volunteer Service honors outstanding volunteers who are making valuable contributions to the community through volunteer service in a wide variety of categories. Recipients of this award must either be a resident of Kettering or the majority of their volunteer service must be performed in Kettering. In celebration of National Volunteer Week, awards were presented by Mayor Lehner to youth volunteer, AnnaBelle Hacker and adult volunteer, Al Fullenkamp at the April 11 City Council meeting.

Youth Volunteer **AnnaBelle Hacker** is a senior at Alter High School and President of the Key Club. Over the course of her high school career, AnnaBelle has volunteered in a variety of capacities and given well over 150 hours of her time. During her freshman year, she volunteered for a summer program in Appalachia. She coached youth volleyball for St. Charles for several years, volunteered time with the Habitat Environmental Center during summer camps and special events and promoted the GEM Project as a member of the Hope Squad at Alter. The GEM Project was an art contest promoting suicide awareness.

As a member of Hope Squad, AnnaBelle made herself available to students who might suffer some anxiety or simply needed to talk. In addition, AnnaBelle was a leader on the senior retreat and has given numerous hours to Key Club activities.

Her nominator described her as "a young lady of impeccable integrity, kindness and authentic leadership".

Thank you for being a youth leader in our community, AnnaBelle!

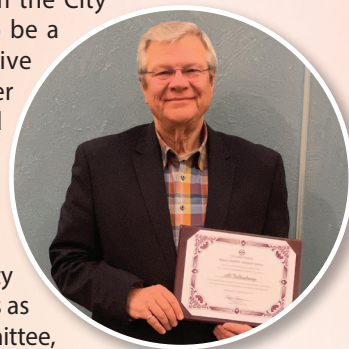


The adult recipient of the Mayor's Award for Volunteer Service is

Al Fullenkamp. Despite retiring from the City of Kettering in 2014, Al continues to be a representative of the City as an active volunteer. Al enjoys being mail courier between City buildings, collects and delivers batteries for recycling, has been active with the Great Miami River watershed project and represents the City of Kettering as a member of the Greater Dayton Regional Transit Authority Board of Trustees. In addition, Al serves as chair of the Kettering Sister Cities Committee, and is a member of the Kettering Development Corporation. Al has always been willing to serve the City in any capacity.

His nominator states that Al's "contribution of time and talents has made every organization that he serves a better place". And, a City of Kettering staff member noted, "Even when I am having a bad day, Al comes in with his infectious smile and brightens it."

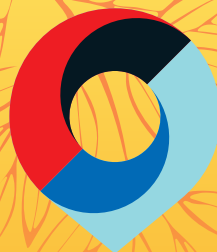
We are lucky to have you, Al!



Kettering Leadership Academy

The Kettering Leadership Academy (KLA) is now accepting applications for the 2023-2024 class. This program created by Councilman Bruce Duke, is designed for individuals looking for leadership roles within our community such as serving on a board or commission at the City of Kettering, or at one of our area non-profit organizations. The Academy begins in September with an overnight retreat. Sessions are held once a month throughout the year until graduation in May. Sessions include information on history, local government, community organizations, education, health care, business, service clubs and volunteering. The Kettering Leadership Academy is a fantastic opportunity to learn about all of the wonderful facets of the City of Kettering while also gaining professional and personal growth.

For additional information about the Kettering Leadership Academy, call 296-2433 or visit www.ketteringoh.org to submit your application. Applications must be received by June 12.



CITIES OF SERVICE .ORG

We are excited to announce the Cities of Service (COS) neighborhood for 2023! We will move slightly south this year to cover the South Van Buren neighborhood encompassing the area bordered by Forrer Blvd., Smithville Rd., the Tenneco property and the Montgomery County Education Learning Center. This will be the ninth neighborhood in the COS initiative. The residents in the area will soon be receiving invitations to a neighborhood block party in June.

This initiative is a true example of what can be accomplished when volunteers, businesses and City staff come together in the spirit of civic engagement. Our COS team welcomes the opportunity to work with service clubs, students, faith-based groups and any organizations looking for ways to give back to our community. In addition, several area businesses contribute to this effort by providing volunteers, gift certificates, refreshments and monetary donations.

If you, your organization or business is interested in partnering with us in this effort, please contact the Volunteer Office at 937-296-2433.

Summer Volunteer Opportunities

Warm weather and sunshine offer a variety of opportunities to get involved! Our Parks, Recreation & Cultural Arts Department offers a variety of exciting and engaging camps every summer. If you are an adult or are a student age 16 or older, and enjoy working with children, you may be the perfect camp volunteer to assist our staff.

Interested in conservation? You may want to consider participating in some of our new projects including monitoring and repairing bird boxes; helping to design, care for and interpret the Sensory Garden at Pondview Park; participate in a park or neighborhood clean-up; or welcome and direct guests at our compost site on Stroop Rd.

If you're looking for ways to fill your evening or weekends as the days get longer, we can use your help with our special events and activities sponsored by our Parks, Recreation and Cultural Arts Department. These are great opportunities to assist with activities suited for children and families, and you'll find the time flies! Check out the list of events at: ketteringoh.org/volunteer-special-events.

Please contact the Volunteer Office at 937-296-2433 if you are interested in these or other volunteer opportunities.

Play tic tac toe with a friend on Toast the raccoon's tummy!



Neighborhood Pride

Dear Neighbor:

The Neighborhood Pride Program recognizes people who have made significant improvements to the appearance of their home or business, or who have maintained their property impeccably year after year. A committee of dedicated volunteers selects one residential winner in each of the 12 districts and one overall business winner in June, July and August. Winners are recognized at a City Council meeting, an attractive sign is placed on their lawn, and the properties are showcased on the city's website.

This year, the Neighborhood Pride Program is pleased to introduce a new category: the Sustainable Landscape Award. This award will be presented to a qualifying home or business owner who has incorporated sustainable practices into their landscaping alongside general improvements. This may include reduction of water usage through reclamation or incorporation of drought tolerant plant species, installation of energy efficient exterior lighting, use of sustainable materials such as recycled composite, runoff reduction through rain gardens or permeable surfaces or the addition of native plants.

All practices must comply with City ordinances and will be reviewed by members of the Neighborhood Pride Committee and the City of Kettering Planning and Development Department. Nominations should include details about items that may not be easily observed in the information provided. One award will be given for the 2023 season.

There are several ways to nominate:

- Visit www.ketteringoh.org to complete a nomination
- Call the Volunteer Office at 937-296-2433
- Email the information to: dawn.kirchner@ketteringoh.org
- Complete the attached card and mail to:
**City of Kettering
Volunteer Office
3600 Shroyer Rd.
Kettering, OH 45429**

Please take a moment to nominate a deserving neighbor for this prestigious award.

Sincerely,

Peggy Lehner, Mayor of Kettering

 **NOMINATE YOUR NEIGHBOR**

Address of property owner you think is an award winner: _____

Name of property owner (if you know it): _____

Why does this property deserve an award? _____

Type of entry: Residential Commercial

Your name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

Please clip this nomination card, place in an envelope and mail to:

City of Kettering
Volunteer Office
3600 Shroyer Road
Kettering, OH 45429

Nominations will be accepted May 1 – August 1.



Let's Celebrate Summer!

The weather is finally warm and sunny again. Our favorite season of the year is here at last. Our team spent the chilly months planning an amazing summer just for you!

Adventure Reef Water Park opens for the season on Saturday, May 27. We'll be open daily from 12 – 5 p.m. until Labor Day weekend with the region's favorite waterslides, leisure pool, splash pad and Clownfish Cove kiddie pool.

Just want to dash out and cool off with the kids? The Splash Pad at J.F. Kennedy Park is a community favorite summer destination that's always free. Check out the farm-themed playground while you're there!



Summer camps and programs are kicking off with a vast variety of ways to explore our community and world. Our summer camps team has put together a

fun, engaging summer of opportunities for kids to learn new skills, grow as leaders and make forever friendships. Summer programming for all ages is the perfect way to get out of the house and make the most of the sunshine.

For families with littles, Touch a Truck on Saturday, June 3 is one of our most beloved annual events, offering the chance to get up close to big rigs, safety vehicles and more. Touch a Truck will be held from 9 – 11:30 a.m. with Sensory Time from 9 – 10 a.m. and vehicle horns and lights used from 10 – 11:30 a.m. The new Kettering Summer Flea Market will be held in conjunction with Touch a Truck. Come and shop for crafts, garage sale items and more from 9 a.m. to Noon on June 3 at the Kettering Recreation Complex.



Families are also invited to join the Habitat's annual Youth Fishing Derby on June 10 at Delco Park – BYO gear or borrow ours, plus enjoy a free lunch.

Registration is at 9:15 a.m. with the derby kicking off at 10 a.m.

Go 4th will be back at Delco Park on Independence Day! Come enjoy food vendors, fireworks, a kids' zone and live music by the Zack Attack band. Dance the evening away to your favorite nostalgic hits with this high-energy crew!

On August 13, Rosewood Arts Center's signature event, Art on the Commons, will be back and celebrating its 35th year! Come shop for art, and enjoy food trucks, family activities, music and much more at Lincoln Park Civic Commons.

Summer is our most exciting time of year! We want to make your summer great, and hope you'll join us for another season of adventure.



Been a Busy Year for Parks, Recreation and Cultural Arts!

We're excited to have made significant progress on several major park and facility upgrades during the first half of 2023, with many more exciting projects still on the horizon.

Our Charles I. Lathrem Senior Center improvements have made significant progress! Upgrades to the building interior are now complete and include a new billiards room, updated technology, brand-new furniture and much more. Earlier this year, the CIL also added two new vans to the Senior Transportation Program fleet. Still to come are improvements to the CIL's outdoor spaces - a pavilion area, gardens, swings and an upgraded shuffleboard court. All of these projects are made possible by a generous donation from the Doug Lathrem family.

The Rosewood Arts Center renovation has made some major progress in 2023 and remains in full swing. This summer is notably the first in Rosewood history for camps in air-conditioned classrooms! Renovations recently completed include Rosewood's new ceramics studios, which opened in mid-April. The new ceramics studio features state-of-the-art equipment, kilns, other amenities and additional capacity to support creativity in clay, reflecting the community's desire for more classes and opportunities to participate.

The third and final phase of Rosewood's renovation kicks off very soon with updates to the painting and drawing studios, the theater, and the establishment of a printmaking studio. Newly-dedicated glass and metals studios will also open this fall.

Renovations at Polen Farm are nearly complete. The pavers in the outdoor event area have been replaced and new benches installed at the gazebo area. We are thrilled to provide these updates to our beautiful venue space!

The pickleball court renovation project at J.F. Kennedy Park is underway! The expansion of the courts, shelter addition, asphalt and infrastructure updates are all complete. The fencing, court surfacing and surrounding site work are happening now. We anticipate the courts to be complete and ready for play in early June.

For information and updates about specific projects, please visit www.playkettering.org

Go 4th and Enjoy the Fireworks!

It's almost summer, and we're counting down to... the countdown! That's right, Go 4th is almost here. We hope you'll join us at Delco Park for Kettering's biggest party of the year. On Tuesday, July 4 from 6 – 10 p.m., help us celebrate Independence Day as a community.

All your favorites will be back for 2023 – live music, food trucks, the kids' fun zone and of course, an amazing fireworks display!

This year's entertainment will be provided by Zack Attack, a high-energy band that brings all your nostalgic favorites to the dance floor.

Get comfortable for an evening of patriotic fun. Bring chairs, blankets, snacks, non-alcoholic beverages and your camera. Please leave alcohol, tents, drones, sparklers/fireworks and pets at home.



We also recommend that before you head out to Delco Park, plan your driving route and decide where you will park. Even better? Walk or ride your bike. Parking inside Delco Park will be limited to guests with a state-issued disability placard or license plate. Remember that anyone who parks inside Delco Park must wait until pedestrian traffic has cleared before leaving the lot (usually 11 p.m.).

Mother Nature doesn't always cooperate, but we don't let that dampen our spirits. In most cases, Go 4th is held rain or shine.

However, if the weather looks questionable, check our PlayKettering Facebook page or our website www.playkettering.org for any event updates.

Each year, we pour our hearts into planning a fun, active and festive Independence Day celebration for our community. We can't wait to see you on July 4!

"We Are Kettering" Supports Youth

The City of Kettering and Kettering City School District Advisory Board joined forces in 2003 to establish Partners for Healthy Youth (PFHY), a groundbreaking initiative aimed at providing academic and behavioral support for all Kettering youth. In the spring of 2021, PFHY launched its "We Are Kettering" project offering a holistic community support system to strengthen protective factors for kids and foster their resilience in the face of life and behavioral challenges.

Council Member Jyl Hall, the City's PFHY liaison, describes the "We Are Kettering" project as an initiative to encourage organizations and businesses to adopt the existing Kettering Schools language "We are Respectful, We are Responsible, We are Safe" to create a community wide Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) model.

PBIS is a proactive approach schools use to improve school safety and promote positive behavior. The focus of PBIS is prevention, not punishment. With PBIS, students are taught positive behavior strategies in the way they would learn

any other subject. In the community, it can involve predicting and managing behavior, which is achieved through a simple matrix that can be uniquely created for any organization or business.

Since the launch of the initiative, PFHY has received overwhelming support from community members and organizations. City of Kettering Parks, Recreation and Cultural Arts Director Mary Beth O'Dell and Kettering City Schools Multi-Tiered Systems of Support Leader Carrie Hennessy recently attended a conference at which it was discovered the "We Are Kettering" project is innovative in taking academic and behavioral supports from the classroom into the whole community and may be the first of its kind.

Overall, the "We Are Kettering" project is a major step forward for the Kettering community in its efforts to support its youth. With its unique PBIS model, the project has the potential to revolutionize the way communities approach academic and behavioral support for youth and Kettering is leading the way

Play Dates

Join your Parks, Recreation and Cultural Arts for fun this spring!

These events are family friendly and free.

Details are at www.playkettering.org

Touch A Truck

Saturday, June 3
9 – 11:30 a.m.

Kettering Recreation Complex

Summer Flea Market

Saturday, June 3
9 a.m. – Noon

Lathrem Senior Center

Youth Fishing Derby

Saturday, June 10
10 a.m. – Noon

Delco Park

Go 4th!

Tuesday, July 4
6 – 10 p.m.

Delco Park

Kids Day in the Park

Saturday, August 5
10 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Delco Park

Art in the Commons

Sunday, August 13
11 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Lincoln Park Civic Commons

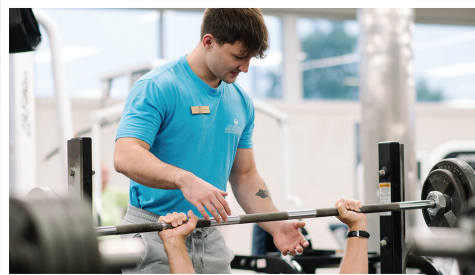


CITY OF KETTERING

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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
- Street Division Hotline 937-296-3255
- Trash Information 937-29-TRASH
- Volunteer Office 937-296-2433

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
Leah Cultice, 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.