



# CITY OF KETTERING

PARKS, RECREATION AND CULTURAL ARTS DEPARTMENT

*Accomplishments  
& Kudos — We  
did it!*

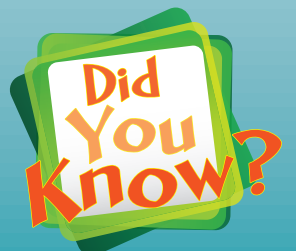
## 2013 ANNUAL REPORT

**DIVISION  
REPORTS**

**BY THE  
NUMBERS!**

**3 PILLARS**

*What it means — why  
it's important*



# WELCOME FROM DIRECTOR



Dear Friends,

In 2013, we had a wonderful year for Parks, Recreation and Cultural Arts and we have highlighted all of the amazing achievements and successes in this annual report.

Parks, Recreation and Cultural Arts strive to provide exceptional customer experiences, through innovation and excellence in everything we do. Our many advisory boards provide incredible feedback on our programs and services which we use to enhance the existing services that we offer to you our residents.

We are the stewards of all the public parks, recreation and arts spaces and places in this community. Our programs and services span the ages and activity spectrum and in 2013 touched almost 1 million customers.

On behalf of the Kettering Parks, Recreation and Cultural Arts Department, we thank you for your support, input, and participation in all that we do. We are one of many departments in the city that make Kettering a better place to live, work and play.

All the best!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mary Beth Thaman". The script is fluid and cursive.

Mary Beth Thaman  
Director Parks, Recreation and Cultural Arts

# AQUATICS

• The overall attendance for aquatics in 2013 was

**167,942.**

• Learn-to-swim program attendance numbers were up from 10,473 to 14,386 in 2013, an increase in attendance of 37%. This was supported by improved management, combining classes, transferring students to appropriate sessions and better trained staff.

• Adventure Reef and main pool attendance for rentals increased by **300** visitors from 2012 despite the cooler temperatures.

• Our drop-in lap pool attendance was also up from 37,476 to 46,554, resulting in a 24% increase.

• We offered **257** aquatic programs with 2,113 people enrolled and 12,430 in



attendance (In 2012 – 214 classes, 1,564 enrolled and 9,095 in attendance).

• Patrons took part in **26** aquatic fitness programs with 436 people enrolled and 2,411 in attendance. (In 2012 – 21 programs, 276 enrolled and 1,864 in attendance).

• The Kettering City Swim Team, who swim year-round, also use our facility for practice and hosting swim meets. In



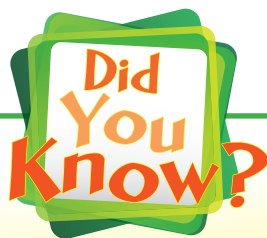
2013, they hosted one swim meet, rented water January – September and reported an attendance number of 10,368 for all activities.

• In 2013, the Learn-to-Swim Program participated in a promotional event entitled, **“The World’s Largest Swimming Lesson”** with more than **40** people participating.

• Three teams, representing the Kettering Recreation Complex, attended the regional lifeguard competition in Cincinnati.

Out of 57 teams, Kettering placed first, fourth, and seventeenth. Teams demonstrated first aid, CPR, and in-water rescue skills. The top two teams competed in the State tournament in Columbus. One team placed eighth.

• Improvements to Adventure Reef Water Park included: the original water slides were “Renu’d”; the waterfall pool was renovated to feature a ramp entrance for improved accessibility; and the splash pad was enlarged and a curb and benches were added.



## I SCREAM, YOU SCREAM, WE ALL SCREAM FOR.....

*It's a summertime favorite for all ages. Whether you are a traditionalist and prefer vanilla and chocolate or you like to take a walk on the wild side with Jolly Rancher popups, or cookie 'n cream sandwiches, ice cream is a summer staple. And we should know! We sold \$21,300 worth at Adventure Reef Water Park last year!*



# ICE ARENA

The KIA has received the Excellence on Ice Award from the Professional Skaters Association for 13 straight years. Only the most progressive training facilities receive this award.

There are currently three Master rated coaches serving on the instruction staff. Two of those coaches have multiple Master ratings in different disciplines. The Master level is the highest level that can be achieved through the Professional Skaters Association.

- The KIA is home ice to three college hockey teams (WSU, UD, Wittenberg), one men's league (Huff n' Puff), one women's league (Dayton Fangs), Beaver Creek Varsity Hockey Team and the Dayton Bombers Youth Hockey League.

- In 2013 there were 1,269 hours designated to open skates and drop-in activities for a total attendance of 14,664.

- In 2013 the Learn-to-Skate Program started over **263** classes with over 963 skaters registered and a total attendance of 5,210.

- Overall, combined attendance for 2013 year was over

## 54,257

- The ice arena offered "Retro Pricing" in January 2013, bringing in over 6,000 patrons for general admission during that time.



**Did You Know?**

### AND THE WHEELS GO ROUND AND ROUND

*Driving in circles usually isn't a good thing, but for the Zamboni it is! The Zamboni at the Kettering Ice Arena holds about 200 gallons of water and goes around the rink approximately 1,600 times per season. Hope the driver doesn't get dizzy!*

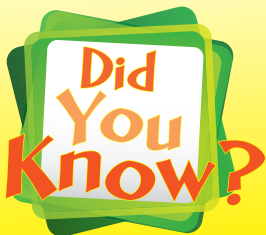
The Kettering ice arena hosted 559 private rentals and 21,858 people were in attendance in 2013. In 2012 there were 645 private rentals and 20,329 people in attendance.

### YOU'RE NOT ON THIN ICE....

*at the Kettering ice arena! The lines and logo are hand painted between sheets of ice. It takes about a week and 270 pounds of bright white paint to lay the 1 1/2 inches of ice. Ice temperatures are kept at 16-18 degrees. Brrrrrr!*

*How about how much white paint does it take to paint the ice arena?*

*9 boxes (30 lbs each) of Bright White Jet Ice Paint.....*



# PARKS

- Celebrated the Grand Opening

## Habitat Environmental Center

of the new **3,000** square foot facility that includes displays about various environmental topics and is used by the Land Lab program for Kettering City School students to further their knowledge about the environment.

- Over **191** people attended programming at the new facility including evening and weekend workshops and educational talks on topics such as emerald ash borer, science night, environmental book club and gardening lectures.



- The Land Lab is in its 10th year in partnership with Kettering City Schools and has successfully taught science curriculum and environmental stewardship to over **25,000** Kettering youth.

Implemented an Emerald Ash Borer management program by preventively spraying Ash trees on City property with the intent of phasing their removal and replacement.



Over 155 online surveys were completed and three public meetings were held to gather ideas and stakeholder feedback regarding the development and amenities of Gentile Park.

- Additional renovations to Pondview Park were completed with a grant from the Kellogg Foundation through the Dayton Foundation. Improvements included modifying the sensory garden for improved accessibility and installing an observation deck in the prairie.



## TREE CITY USA

For the 30th year PRCA was named a TreeCity USA for our excellence in urban forestry management.



## Did You Know?

### SOMETHING FISHY IS GOING ON

*If you've always dreamed of catching the "big one" there is plenty of opportunity in Kettering. We stock the ponds at Delco Park, Pondview Park and Lincoln Park with more than \$2,500 worth of fish each year.*



# fraze

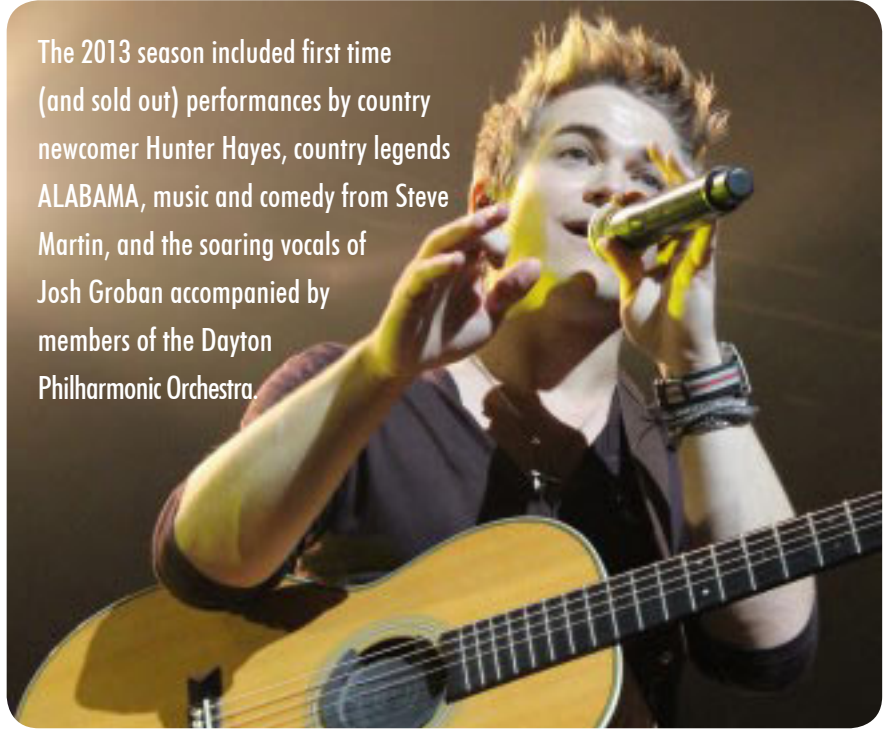
p a v i l i o n



Fraze FanFare in Town & Country Shopping Center opened for gift certificates, merchandise and Fraze ticket sales. FanFare offered a better ticket buying experience in a climate controlled environment, longer hours daily to purchase tickets and face to face ticket sales.

The Kettering Health Network Employee Recognition Concert and Awards was held at Fraze.

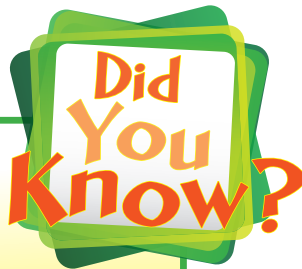
The 2013 season included first time (and sold out) performances by country newcomer Hunter Hayes, country legends ALABAMA, music and comedy from Steve Martin, and the soaring vocals of Josh Groban accompanied by members of the Dayton Philharmonic Orchestra.



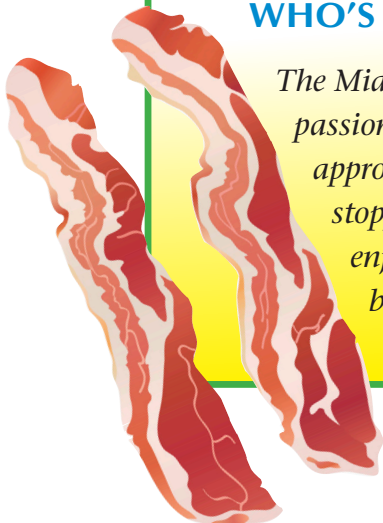
Fraze hosted the Dayton Dragons All Star Block Party in June the night before the Dragons hosted the Midwest League All Star Game at Fifth Third Field.

## WHO'S GOT BACON???

*The Miami Valley is home to passionate bacon lovers! Last year approximately 20,000 bacon fans stopped by Bacon Fest at Fraze to enjoy bacon wrapped chocolate, bacon pancakes, bacon flavored ice cream and more!*



Ticket sales exceeded \$3 million for the third straight year.



# PROGRAMS/SPECIAL EVENTS



• 2013 was an extremely successful year for our Summer Camp programs. Participation increased by over **53%** from 2012 with many returning campers and counselors.

• **THE SUMMER FOOD & FUN CAMP PROGRAM** in partnership with Kettering Police Department with support of Kettering Community Foundation, LaRosa's and Wilmer Hale provided 4 free weeks of summer camp in two of the city's most challenged neighborhoods near Van Buren and State Farm Parks. **52** campers enjoyed nutritious meals, field trips and positive adult role models.



• The Charles I. Lathrem Senior Center facilitated critical services for Kettering seniors including more than 3,400 tax return appointments; more than 5,764 affordable rides to doctor appointments and necessary errands; and more than **8,140** nutritious warm meals.

• **THE KETTERING GIVING TREE PROGRAM** provided holiday gifts for more than 590 Kettering school children in 2013, an increase of 28% over those served in 2012. Families who qualify for free and reduced lunch through the Kettering schools are eligible to refer a child for the program through their school guidance counselor. Gifts are provided thanks to the strong support of the City of Kettering employees, the Kettering community and key partners including McGohan Brabender, Day Air Credit Union, Christ United Methodist Church, Town & Country Shopping Center and Kettering Fairmont USB.



## THE MOVIN' & GROOVIN' SUMMER WELLNESS PROGRAM

was created to incorporate routine fitness and wellness opportunities into our existing summer camps. Over 10 weeks, 2,165 children ages 6 to 14 were introduced to various fitness activities including Yoga, Tai Chi, Zumba, Boot Camp Aerobics and walking/running. The program included group exercise classes, frequent outdoor games and a weekly newsletter featuring family-oriented fitness/wellness, nutrition and safety tips.



## BUILD ASSETS KETTERING I'M IN ARE YOU?

In connection with Kettering Youth Month, Partners for Healthy Youth is sponsoring the Asset Champions Award to recognize adults and youth who as a team demonstrate commitment to Youth Service and Leadership, Character/Asset Development, and Mentoring. This year the award went to Steve Hopf who has been a volunteer one-on-one reading tutor at Southdale Elementary since the fall of 2012. Mr. Hopf has given over 100 hours of volunteer time to first grade students.



# FITNESS/WELLNESS/SPORTS

Total fitness attendance (registered programs and drop-in) for the Kettering Recreation Complex and Kettering Fitness & Wellness Center experienced a 6% increase with an overall attendance of 265,400 in 2013 compared to 249,957 in 2012.

The Kettering Recreation Complex Fitness Center experienced a **14%** increase in attendance with 126,472 visitors in 2013 compared to 111,155 in 2012.

The Kettering Fitness & Wellness Center experienced a slight decrease in attendance with 91,903 in 2013, compared to 92,643 in 2012.

Following suggestions from the Program Advisory Committee, a Single Sampler Exercise Program was created. These one-time registered exercise classes offer an extensive variety of exercise/wellness-based programs without the extended commitment of multiple sessions. Twelve of these programs ran with 73 total participants. Classes included *Working Out Outside*, *Ladies Night Out*, *Training for a Competition*, *Family Night Two Combo*, *Balance*, *the Forgotten Fitness Component* and *Cross-Fit*.

## FITNESS DIVISION REVENUE EXPERIENCED KEY INCREASES:

- Kettering Recreation Complex Fitness – (includes the Fitness Center and Group Exercise revenue) experienced a 5.3% increase in revenue – \$27,781.
- Kettering Fitness & Wellness Center also saw an increase of 3.4% – \$9,258.
- The team-based adult league programs (basketball, corn hole, softball and volleyball) have seen 529 teams, 7,171 players and a combined attendance of 143,433 in 2013. This is a slight increase over 2012 with 517 new teams, 6,899 players and a combined attendance of 111,916.

- The inter-generational and individual sports consisting of tennis, martial arts programs and fencing, have an increase in enrollment and attendance:

2012: 141 programs, 1,375 enrollment, 10,568 attendance

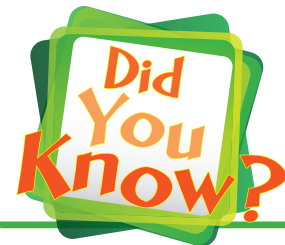
2013: 133 programs, 1,791 enrollment, 12,386 attendance

- Patrons using the Indoor Walking/Running Tracks increased by 8% over last year.
- Of the contributing components (fitness center, drop-in group exercise classes, registered programs, indoor track), the largest increase in attendance has been drop-in fitness center participation.



The Drop-in Group Exercise Program experienced a slight increase in attendance with 47,025 visitors in 2013 compared to 46,159 in 2012.

The largest spikes in revenue this year have been drop-in group exercise pass memberships and fitness pass memberships.



## GLOBE TROTTERING

46,230 people walked the KFWC and KRC tracks combined. If each person walked just one mile the total distance would stretch around the world twice!



# EMPLOYEE WELLNESS

**224** employees participated in the Health Risk Appraisal conducted by Kettering Medical Center. This is an increase of 21 employees over 2012.

221 employees obtained fitness memberships by participating in the Wellness Program.

21 health screenings were held through the year including blood pressure, blood glucose, osteoporosis and skin cancer screenings.

The **Not Me** program was created in response to the significant amount of diabetes related health care claims. This new, insurance integrated program, featured 16 weeks of nutrition and exercise counseling along with pharmacological therapy for employees who qualified with their A1c score.



45 employees participated in the "Merry Maintenance" program that ran from Thanksgiving (2012) into the New Year (2013). As a group, 71.5 pounds were lost over the weight-management challenging holiday season.

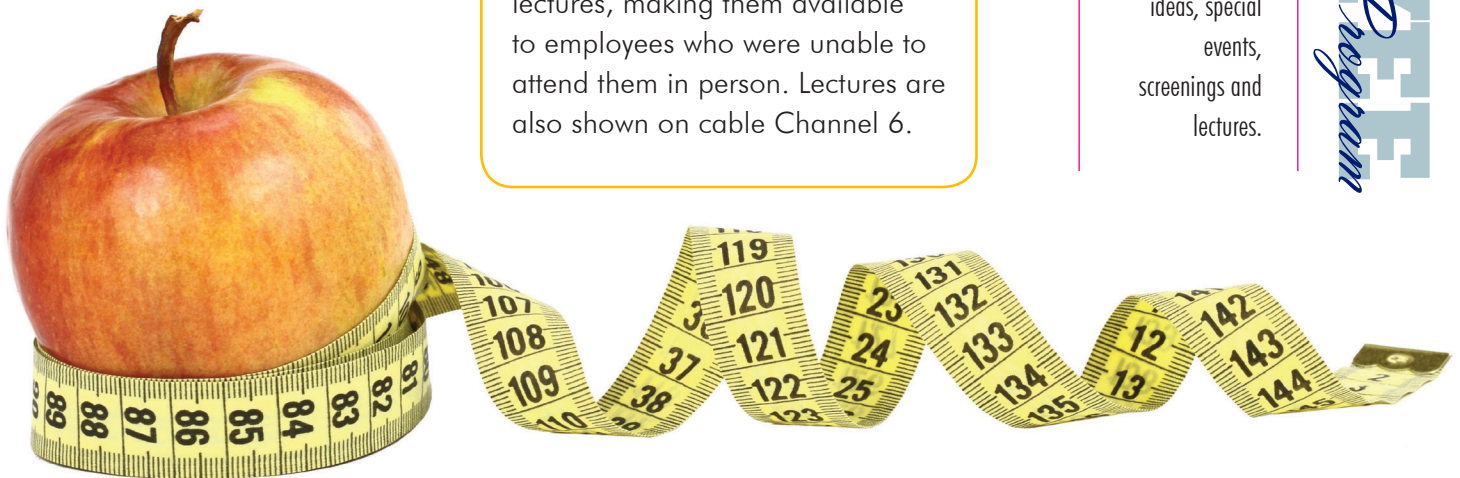
135 employees received either the HSA earn-back or cash incentive by meeting activity point and non-activity point criteria. This is an increase from the 101 employees in 2012.



The Employee Wellness Program Committee, with representatives from various City departments, met on a monthly basis to discuss future programming ideas, special events, screenings and lectures.

**EMPT**  
*Wellness Program*  
**OVER**

The Miami Valley Communications Council filmed all of the wellness lectures, making them available to employees who were unable to attend them in person. Lectures are also shown on cable Channel 6.





## ROSEWOOD GALLERY

There were four juried competitions and six individual artist shows in 2013

- Works on Paper
- Pulp Fiction: Free Day of Paper Art Activities
- Jim Shirley and Sean Wilkinson
- Benjamin Swallow Duke and Esther Randall
- The View: Juried Landscape Competition
- Joseph Fuchs and Derrick Davis/James Pate
- HWD: Regional Sculpture Exhibition
- Transformers Sculpture Workshop
- Michael Litzau and the Dayton Printmakers Cooperative
- Art Ed: An Art Educator's Exhibition



**JIM SHIRLEY**  
**Conversation with the Wind** (detail)  
photography



- Artist lectures, a studio visit and a hands-on aluminum pour rounded out the year's offerings.
- Artist lecture with Jean Koeller
- Artist lecture with Katherine Kadish
- Studio visit with Hamilton Dixon
- Aluminum Pour

The foundry team of Bernie Carreno (Austin, TX) led an aluminum pour event for over 100 public participants and students from Fairmont High School, Southdale Elementary, Van Buren Middle School and Kettering Middle School.

## SPECIAL PROGRAMS

Special programs throughout the year included ten special events including Art of the Commons, two Kettering Children's Performances, the Kettering Civic Band summer concerts and the artist in residence.

- Ohio Arts Council Artist in Residence
- Kettering Children's Theater presents Alice in Wonderland
- Art on the Playground
- Getting in the Game: Professional Development Program for Artists
- Art on the Commons

The 25th anniversary of this annual fine arts and crafts event at Civic Commons featured 104 artists and brought in over 7,000 people during the one-day event. The event was sponsored by Rite-Aid Wellness 360, United Art and Education, the Kettering Arts Council and the Dayton City Paper.



- Kettering Civic Band presents Summertime, Sousa and Sundaes
- Free Shakespeare! Presents As You Like It
- Victorian Cemetery Tour
- Bike the Arts presented by the Kettering Arts Council
- Kettering Children's Theatre presents Jolly Roger and the Pirate Queen

# ADMINISTRATION



For the third consecutive year, Kettering was a finalist for the National Gold Medal Award sponsored by the American Academy for Parks and Recreation Administration in partnership with the National Recreation and Park Association. This award is given to the best park and recreation agency by population class.



**KELSEY COPPER** was selected as a recipient of a full scholarship to the 2014 NRPA Revenue School.



**ADDIE WEAVER** was selected to be the Extern for the 2014 NRPA Revenue School.

**STACY SCHWEIKHART** was elected to serve as President of the Board of Directors for the Ohio Parks & Recreation Association. Stacy Schweikhart was also named the Young Professional Extern by the American Academy for Parks and Recreation Administration and received a full scholarship and travel expenses for the 2013 NRPA Congress in Houston, TX.



## SURVEY SAYS!

Leisure Vision conducted a citizen survey on behalf of the department to establish priorities for providing recreational and art programming services for the community. Below are highlights of survey results.

87% of residents have visited at least one Kettering park in the past 12 months.

- Clearly you LOVE the renovations and new playgrounds!

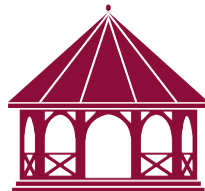
83% of residents use the Activities Guide to get information on programs, classes and services. This brochure is mailed to every household in Kettering four times a year.

72% of residents are either very satisfied or somewhat satisfied with the overall value they receive.

- We love it when you're happy!

20% of residents expressed a need for more special events for families and youth.

- We've introduced several new special events and will continue to explore what additional events our residents want.



### Polen Farm:

Polen Farm continues to grow the rental business. Polen hosted 167 paid rentals in 2013, a 12% increase over 2012. Additionally, attendance is up 18% over 2012. All this translates into increased revenue and improved cost recovery. Revenue is up \$55,700 over 2013, a 38% increase. Expenses are down \$48,400 or 23%. This has all been accomplished through outstanding event service and management, and modest fee increases.

## EIP AWARD WINNERS

(Excellence Innovation & Positive Experiences)

Tari Brewer  
Andrew Dailey  
Jim Engelhardt  
Emily Gastineau  
Damien Harris  
Pete Huffman  
Breck Jordan  
Alison Nelson  
Bill Orr  
Eric Potts  
Chuck Skidmore  
Debbie Tschirhart  
Julie Wright  
Jessica Wuensch



**OPRA**  
OHIO PARKS AND RECREATION ASSOCIATION

## AWARDS

Art on the Playground

Special Event Award – Second Place

Uncovering Kettering

Historical & Cultural  
Arts Award – Third Place

Movin' & Groovin'  
Summer Camp  
Wellness Program

Health & Wellness Award – Third Place

Fraze FanFare

Management Innovation Award – Third



# Kettering's 3 Pillars Fast Facts

Our nation's local parks and recreation agencies are the gateways to healthy, prosperous and connected communities. On any given day, someone is being positively affected through Kettering Parks, Recreation and Cultural Arts – whether they are taking a walk on a trail at Pondview Park or a fitness class at the Kettering Recreation Complex, getting a nutritious meal at the Charles I. Lathrem Senior Center or just reaping the benefits of clean air and water because of preserved open space.

The work of local parks and recreation takes on some of our nation's toughest challenges like obesity, the economy and environmental sustainability and offers solutions. Local parks and recreation agencies are uniquely positioned to make significant contributions in these areas, and do by providing critical front-line services and resources.

## **Conservation—**

Parks are critical in the role of preserving natural resources that have real economic benefits for communities. We strive to protect open space, connect children to nature, and provide education and programming that helps communities engage in conservation practices.

## **Health and Wellness—**

Parks and recreation agencies lead the nation in improving the overall health and wellness of communities. We work to combat some of the most complicated and expensive challenges our community faces – poor nutrition, hunger, obesity, and physical inactivity.

## **Social Equity—**

Universal access to public parks and recreation are a right, not just a privilege. Every day we work hard to ensure that all members of our community- regardless of their physical, intellectual and financial abilities – have access to Kettering Parks, Recreation and Cultural Arts events, programs and facilities.

But we've got to start telling that story. Watch our slide show at [www.ketteringoh.org/3pillars](http://www.ketteringoh.org/3pillars) and see how we are leaders in conservation, health and wellness and social equity!



# 2013 BY THE NUMBERS

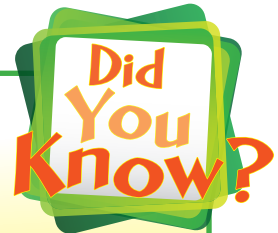
## FITNESS ATTENDANCE

	2012	2013
KRC FITNESS CENTER .....	111,155	126,472
KFWC FITNESS CENTER .....	92,634	91,903
TOTAL .....	203,789	218,375

## ENROLLMENT FIGURES

	2012	2013
TOT LOT .....	60	51
YOUTH .....	2,830	3,200
ACCESS TO RECREATION .....	466	402
FITNESS/WELLNESS (KRC) ....	1,715	969
FITNESS/WELLNESS (KFWC)..	2,341	2,178
SPORTS ACTIVITIES.....	7,081	6,568
ICE SKATING.....	1,121	963
AQUATICS .....	2,192	3,188
ARTS .....	2,239	2,778

### THAT'S A LOT OF WEIGHT



Collectively, the KRC and KFWC facilities have 6,337 pounds of dumbbells for patrons to use. That's approximately equivalent to the weight of a Mini Cooper and the average minivan. Happy weight lifting!

## AQUATICS DROP-IN SWIMMING

	2012	2013
ADVENTURE REEF .....	72,818	57,475
MAIN POOL.....	37,476	46,590
TOTAL .....	110,294	104,065



## DROP-IN / PASS VISITS

	2012	2013
KRC FITNESS ROOM....	111,155	126,472
KFWC FITNESS ROOM ...	92,634	91,903
AEROBICS (KRC).....	46,159	47,025
AEROBICS (KFWC) .....	2,264	2,198
WALK/RUN TRACK.....	45,791	50,377
GYMNASIUM .....	6,845	8,516
NURSERY.....	6,386	5,440
SKATING .....	16,386	14,664
SWIMMING .....	120,884	114,211



**BOTTOMS UP!** **Did You Know?**

*We take environmental stewardship seriously. So seriously that we installed an automatic water bottle filler at the KRC. And guess what? Our patrons are just as serious about environmental stewardship. They've saved 215,000 water bottles from landfills by refilling their own.*

## FRAZE ATTENDANCE

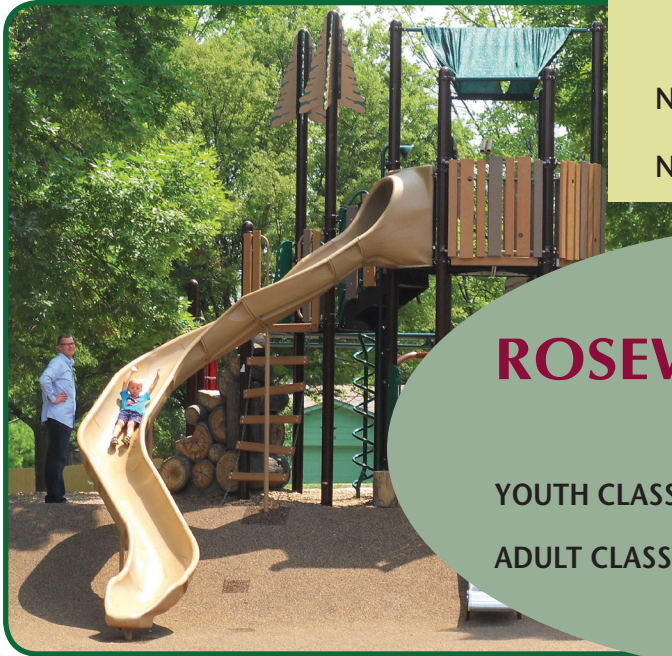
	2012	2013
FREE CONCERT ATTENDANCE.....	3,900	4,250
FESTIVAL ATTENDANCE .....	62,256	75,955
TICKETED PERFORMANCE ATTENDANCE.....	87,601	78,355

## RENTAL ATTENDANCE

	2012	2013
GYMNASIUM .....	10,621	3,342
KRC.....	21,739	18,764
SENIOR CENTER .....	12,490	8,775
ICE ARENA.....	39,128	34,383
MAIN POOL / WATER PARK.	29,938	30,236
POLEN FARM .....	24,237	26,820



# 2013 BY THE NUMBERS



## ROSEWOOD GALLERY

	2012	2013
NUMBER OF ARTISTS .....	179	197
NUMBER OF VISITORS . . .	2,938	2,321

## ROSEWOOD CLASSES

	2012	2013
YOUTH CLASSES.....	169	132
ADULT CLASSES .....	181	154

## MARKETING \$\$\$

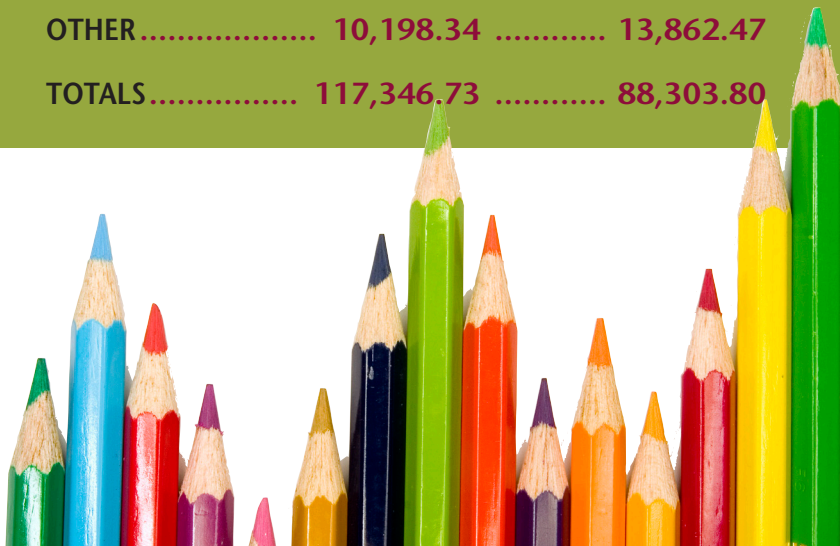
	2012	2013
BROCHURE .....	55,437.46	52,531.13
TV .....	30,503.00	0
NEWSPAPER .....	21,207.93	21,910.20
OTHER .....	10,198.34	13,862.47
TOTALS .....	117,346.73	88,303.80

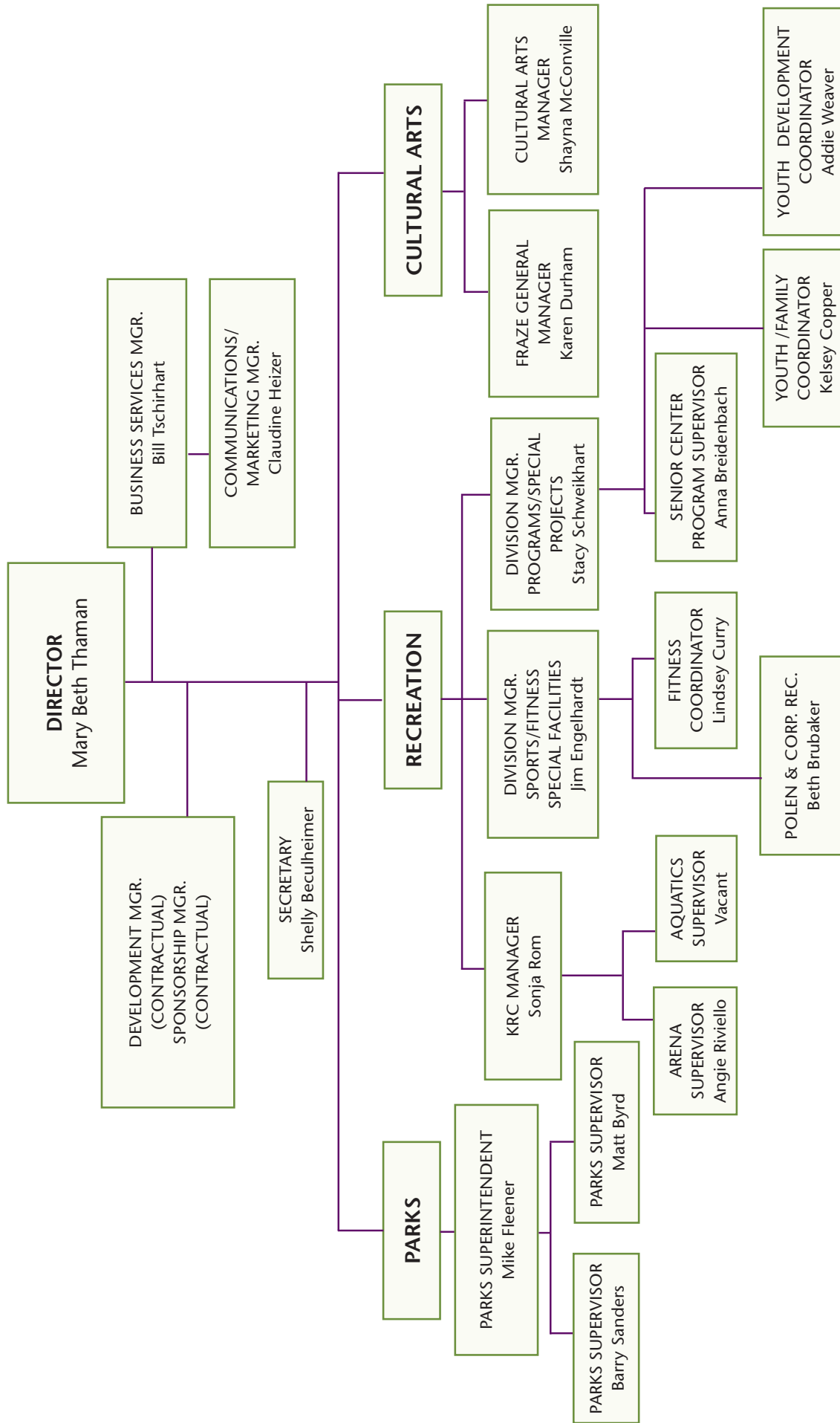
## PARK IT HERE

*Everybody needs a little space to play. . .relax. . . daydream. . .exercise. Kettering has the perfect spot, with more than 325 acres to choose from.*



**Did You Know?**







# ADVISORY COMMITTEES

Advisory committees comprised of hundreds of citizens play a vital role advocating for seniors, promoting arts and providing valuable policy advice. Links to our advisory boards are listed below.

## PARKS, RECREATION AND CULTURAL ARTS ADVISORY BOARD

Established in 1954, the PRCA Advisory Board was created to promote a comprehensive parks, recreation and cultural arts program for the citizens of Kettering.

## PROGRAM ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Program Advisory Committee engages members in a systematic review of our facilities, patron services and programs.

## KETTERING ARTS COUNCIL

The Kettering Arts Council strives to provide access to the arts for all ages, encourage a passion for the arts, and promote art appreciation and education.

## CITYSITES

CitySites is a percent for art program recognizing artistic excellence, accessibility to the arts for all people, and the positive impact creativity has on our community and quality of life in the City of Kettering.

## LATHREM SENIOR ADVISORY BOARD


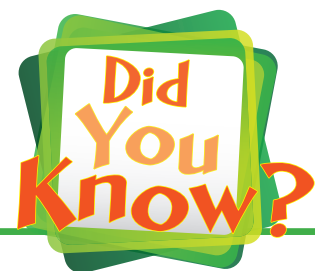
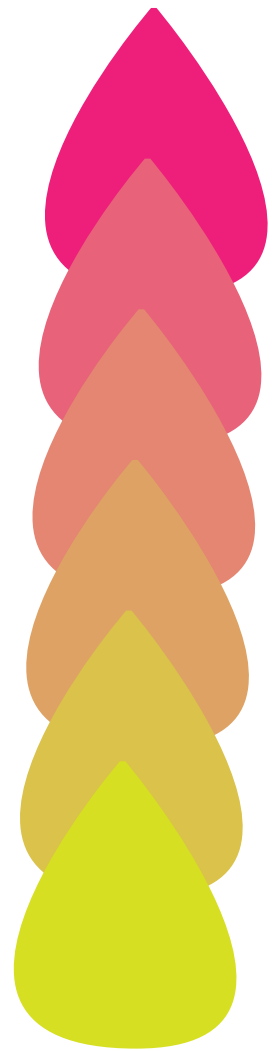
The Lathem Senior Center Advisory Board, established in 1970, serves the more than 2,000 members of the center.

## PARTNERS FOR HEALTHY YOUTH

Partners for Healthy Youth is a collaborative effort founded jointly by the Kettering City Council and the Kettering School Board.

## KETTERING YOUTH COUNCIL

Kettering Youth Council is a group of 6th through 12th graders who are committed to making a difference in their community, thereby improving the quality of life for youth in Kettering.



**MORE THAN A DROP IN THE BUCKET**

*It takes about 24 hours to fill the main pool at the KRC with 250,000 gallons of water.*

**The City of Kettering**  
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**CITY OF KETTERING**  
PARKS, RECREATION AND CULTURAL ARTS DEPARTMENT