



# 2021 : ANNUAL REPORT



CITY OF KETTERING

PARKS, RECREATION AND CULTURAL ARTS DEPARTMENT



# CITY OF KETTERING

## KETTERING MAYOR & COUNCIL

**Peggy Lehner, Mayor**

Peggy.Lehner@ketteringoh.org . . . . .937. 477.7640

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KetteringMayorCouncil@ketteringoh.org . .937. 296.2416

# MISSION

We are here to provide quality parks, recreation and cultural arts that make Kettering home.



# VISION

We envision an exceptional and engaging parks, recreation and cultural arts department that improves the quality of life for everyone in our community.



# DIRECTOR'S LETTER



For PRCA, 2021 was a year of transition as we continued to adapt to meet the changes and health/safety measures necessitated by the COVID-19 pandemic. Our top priority remained keeping our staff and customers safe. Operations shifted due to both the pandemic and limited staffing – virtual programs remained popular alongside in-person programming. Despite

the need to reduce our services due to fewer staff, PRCA's amazing team prevailed and continued to provide the community with exceptional service. Limitations aside, 2021 was a year of remarkable achievement for our staff, our programs, our parks, and our facilities.

A number of long-anticipated improvement projects took shape during 2021. Rosewood Arts Center's renovation began in September. The project is a multi-year, phased renovation, which includes infrastructure improvements and the creation of more efficient and customized learning environments for various artistic disciplines. The renovation will continue through 2023. Throughout the renovation process, the building will remain open and continue to offer art education classes and gallery programming.

The Ridgeway Road Bridge public art project in partnership with the City of Kettering's Engineering Department was completed in 2021 with the successful opening of the bridge to traffic and the installation of Foliage by artist Cliff Garten.

Kettering's 21 parks continued to serve residents as dedicated places for recreation, wellness and healing. Our parks played an important role as safe spaces for an escape to the outdoors.

In 2021, our department was thrilled to receive funds to make a number of improvements on our amenities frequently used by the area's senior population. In partnership with the Kettering Parks Foundation and our

Pickleball Pals, \$244,000 was raised by December 2021 to support six renovated and six new pickleball courts at J.F. Kennedy Park. Thanks to a generous donation of \$1 million from the Doug Lathrem Family, the Charles I. Lathrem Senior Adult Center will be receiving upgrades to its interior and exterior spaces, as well as new equipment and technology.

Another substantial donation in 2021 supported programs for our Kettering youth. The Gatorade Play It Forward Grant from former Fairmont basketball player Madeline Westbeld made free open gym time possible for over 2,000 kids in Kettering.

Although the Frazee season was reduced in 2021, our Frazee team did an outstanding job! Summer's Best Music and community-favorite festivals provided the region with a much-needed chance to get outdoors, socialize and enjoy top-notch entertainment.

PRCA was proud to receive significant recognition over the past year. Kettering Parks, Recreation and Cultural Arts maintained its status among the ranks of elite park and recreation agencies dedicated to providing excellence in operations. We earned reaccreditation through the Commission for Accreditation of Park and Recreation Agencies (CAPRA) and the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA). We were also awarded the Tree City USA Growth Award, for our dedication to re-foresting the city. Our Parks Division and Tree Committee do excellent work in preserving and maintaining Kettering's urban canopy.

Thank you, Kettering, for all of your support! We always strive to make your experience successful through our quality services focused on you.

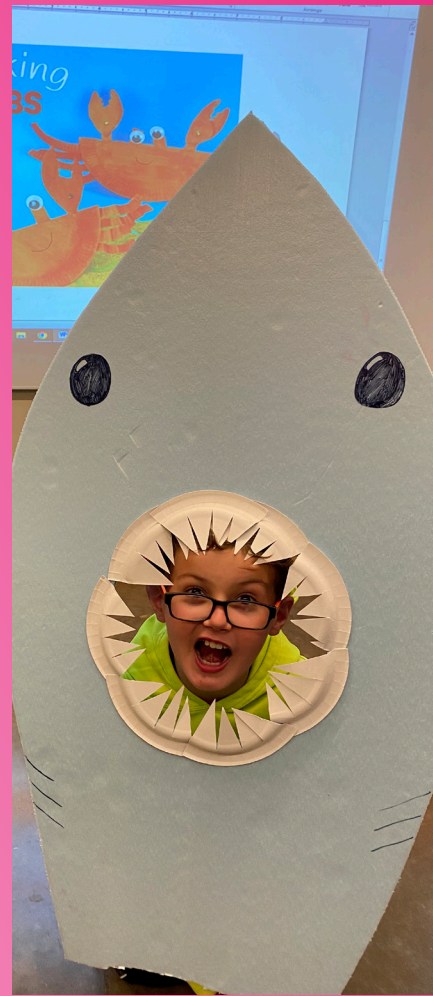
All the Best,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Maybeth O'Dell".

# YEAR IN REVIEW

Parks, Recreation and Cultural Arts brought thousands of people together in 2021 for safe, fun and enriching activities in our various public spaces. We were proud to organize and host hundreds of programs and events, and continue to deliver the highest quality services to you and your families. Here are some of this year's highlights!







# AQUATICS

Classes, lap swimming and more round out the aquatics offerings at the Kettering Recreation Complex in an indoor, 25-meter pool.

In 2021, approximately 44,100 people visited our aquatic facilities, along with an additional 12,000 rental attendees, for water-based fun and learning for all ages and swim abilities.

This year over **1,000** people enrolled in swim classes

# ARTS EDUCATION

Arts education is the core of Rosewood Arts Center, with over 270 class offerings in ceramics, dance, theatre, music, the humanities, photography, painting, printmaking, drawing, jewelry, glass and more.

The language arts returned to the schedule, with popular Japanese and Italian language and culture classes.



# CHARLES I. LATHREM SENIOR CENTER

The CIL Center offered services, classes and events for the community. This year, the CIL received a generous \$1M gift from Doug Lathrem, the son of Charles Lathrem. The gift will fund a renovation of the senior center in 2022.

Over  
**2,400**  
transportation rides were  
provided to Kettering seniors



Over **4,000** children  
attended art classes in 2021





# ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION

The environmental education program includes the Land Lab Nature Program with the Kettering City Schools and classes and workshops at the Habitat Environmental Education Center. This year, the Habitat initiated a new program, Wild Child Homeschool Nature, with 175 students enrolling in its first season.

Over **900** people attended Habitat classes and events in 2021

# FRAZE

After going dark in 2020, Frazee Pavilion returned to a shortened season in 2021. Frazee hosted 17 ticketed and 5 free events, welcomed first time performers Shinedown, Gladys Knight and Boyz II Men.



The Frazee entertained over **95,000** guests



# FITNESS AND WELLNESS

The Kettering Recreation Complex (KRC) and Kettering Fitness and Wellness Center (KFWC) had over 113,600 visits to their facilities this year. The fitness team continued offering virtual group exercise classes for patrons to stay connected to us during the pandemic.

In 2021, our cardio equipment logged over

# 32,000

miles which is roughly the distance from Kettering to Paris, France and back 4 times!



# ICE ARENA

The Kettering Ice Arena is home to the nationally recognized Learn to Skate USA Program with offerings for any age, skill level and ability.

Over **700** people enrolled in classes in 2021

Over **15,200** people visited for open skate and rentals



# PARKS

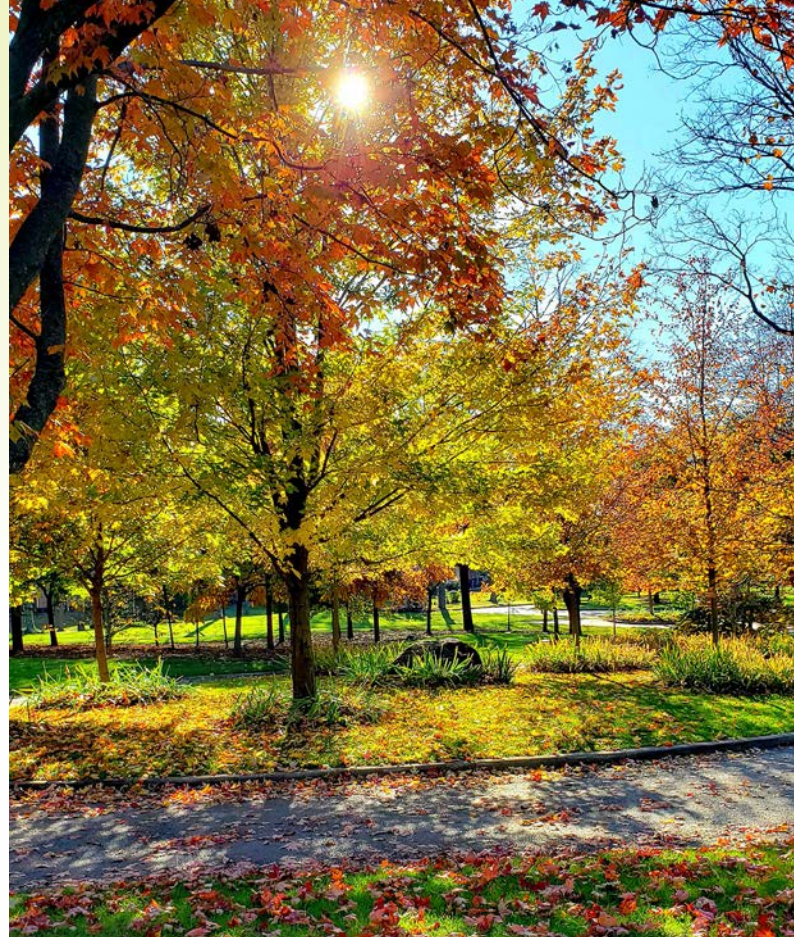
Kettering is famous for its green space, and the Parks division maintained 21 parks and other public spaces. New initiatives in 2021 included partnering with the local pickleball community to plan, design and raise funds for expansions and upgrades to the Kennedy Park pickleball courts.

2021 was also the first year for the city's recognized Tree Committee, which assisted with the application and award of an Ohio Department of Natural Resources Urban Canopy Restoration Grant.

The Parks team clocked in

# 6,987

hours to mow all the turf within the City of Kettering parks, medians and facilities



# PUBLIC ART

Public art is a part of the CitySites percent for art program, aiming to recognize 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.

In 2021, the Ridgeway Road Bridge over West Dorothy Lane was completed, with the artwork designed by Cliff Garten Studios installed.

The Ridgeway Road Bridge artwork was inspired by the plants and parks surrounding the bridge.



# RECREATION

The Recreation team offered programs for adults, youth and families, with over 2,000 participants enrolled in programs. In addition, several special events offered throughout the year were wildly popular, including the Adult Egg Hunt, Touch a Truck, and more!

Over **1,380** kids attended camps at the Recreation Complex this summer



# ROSEWOOD GALLERY

Kettering's professional exhibition space, Rosewood Gallery, featured regional and national artists in a wide range of media. Due to the pandemic, Rosewood Gallery went virtual as well, with four exhibitions housed online in addition to in-person exhibitions.

Over **2,340** patrons saw the work of 178 exhibiting artists in 2021

# SPECIAL EVENTS

Special Events are an important aspect of the work of PRCA. Between the CIL, the Kettering Recreation Complex, Rosewood Arts Center and the Habitat, there are dozens of opportunities to participate in free and fun programs every year. Noteworthy events include the Adult Egg Hunt, TreeFest, Touch a Truck, Go 4th, Flashlight Candy Cane Hunt, Youth Fishing Derby and more!

This year, a special Memorial Day Celebration included a War Historian speaking as a Civil War soldier and a 6 piece orchestra group.

Active Aging Week showed off all that Kettering has to offer our adults and seniors including discovering our parks, nutrition tips, enrichment programs, bingo, painting and a dinner & line dance party.

Art on the Commons was a hybrid event with both a website gallery and in-person exhibitions at Rosewood Arts Center, earning artists in our community thousands of dollars in sales.



Make a Difference Day brought volunteers, elected officials, and parks staff to Southdale Woods to help remove honeysuckle in preparation for native tree plantings.





# SPORTS

It was a busy year for sports, with leagues active year round. Over 2,300 participants enrolled in sports programs offered at the Kettering Recreation Complex, and activities like the Senior Golf League at Community Golf Course kept many residents outside and active.



**168** youth coaches put in  
over **1,700** hours of time

# ACCESSIBILITY, INCLUSION AND OPPORTUNITY

Parks, Recreation and Cultural Arts and the City of Kettering are committed to accessibility, inclusion and finding opportunity to reach our Kettering residents. PRCA works closely with the City of Kettering's Compliance and Inclusion Manager to educate the staff on working with all individuals, including offering program modifications as requested by patrons with disabilities. Over the next several years, our goals include reaching new participants who may not be aware of our inclusivity mission, and advocate for accessibility within our programs and facilities.

In 2021, PRCA offered the following:

- Led by the Kettering Recreation team, The Kettering Giving Tree program served 474 school-aged children in 2021.
- Rosewood Arts Center is host to the United Rehabilitation Services of Greater Dayton Academy Vocational Training Program, a transitional job training program for individuals of all ages and abilities.
- The CIL transportation program continues to provide senior transportation to medical appointments, shopping, hair appointments, banks and pharmacies. In total for 2021, we served 95 unique riders by providing 2,431 rides and covering a total of 19,288 miles.
- The PRCA team and volunteers continued to work with AARP to provide free tax services to seniors, hosting 647 appointments.
- Several dozen participants learned basic water skills during the free World's Largest Swim Lesson
- The Kettering Recreation Complex and Kettering Fitness and Wellness Center hosted classes and activities through the Free Friday program each month, and Rosewood Arts Center offers free drop-ins for special studio use.
- Over 2,000 kids participated in afterschool Youth Gym for free thanks to the the Gatorade Player of the Year Grant donated by Madeline Westbeld
- Rosewood offered free printmaking workshops with the Dayton Printmakers Cooperative with over 100 attendees.
- Instructors and staff continue to work closely with participants with modifications, including in dance, camps, and other recreational activities



# OUR TEAM

## 2021 PARKS, RECREATION AND CULTURAL ARTS LEADERSHIP

**Mary Beth O'Dell**

Director of Parks, Recreation & Cultural Arts

**Lindsey Whitley**

Secretary

**Christopher George**

Administration and Special Projects Superintendent

**Shauna Lewallen**

Recreation Superintendent

**Shayna V. McConville**

Division Manager of Cultural Arts

**Gary Schussler**

Parks Superintendent

**Rachel Sherwood**

Fraze Pavilion Operations Manager



## 2021 PROGRAM AND FACILITY LEAD STAFF

**Alison Pifer**

Program & Youth Development Supervisor

**Andy Dailey**

Cultural Arts Program Supervisor

**Barry Sanders**

Parks Manager

**Beth Brubaker**

Polen Farm Coordinator

**Breck Jordan**

Fraze Pavilion Supervisor

**Caitlin Hayes**

Business Services Coordinator

**Candice Roberts**

Aquatics Supervisor

**Christopher George**

KRC/CIL Facility Manager (through August 2021)

**Drew Corbett**

Recreation Manager

**Jennifer Giessler**

KRC/CIL Senior & Adult Program Supervisor

**Jennifer Holman**

Rosewood Facilities Coordinator

**Lindsey Curry**

Fitness and Wellness Supervisor

**Kerri Miles**

Environmental Education Supervisor

**Matt Byrd**

Parks Manager

**Sara Thomas**

Communications Coordinator

**Tony Habart**

Ice Arena Manager



# AWARDS

The PRCA team celebrated several recognitions in 2021, including reaccreditation by the National Recreation and Parks Association Commission for Accreditation of Park and Recreation Agencies.

The City of Kettering was designated a Tree City USA community for the 39th consecutive year. The Parks division, through the City of Kettering, received the Growth award for the second consecutive year.

Kettering Recreation Complex Fitness Center won first place in the Dayton Magazine Best of Dayton awards.



# MARKETING AND COMMUNICATIONS

2021 marked the first full year of our new social media storytelling content, which brought recognition and engagement to a wider audience across our diverse program and facility areas. Special marketing campaigns included profiles on staff and patrons that depended on Parks and Recreation services during the pandemic, as well as a focus on wellness through our fitness program.



CATS RULE  
16x20" Oil Painting  
\$600.00

CATY LADIES  
18x18" Oil Painting  
\$400.00

HANDS OFF  
16x20" Oil Painting  
\$600.00





# SUPPORT

January 1 – December 31, 2021

PRCA is thankful to the many individuals, foundations, corporations and community partners that make programs possible.

## **FOUNDATIONS**

Community Fund for Kettering  
The Dayton Foundation  
Joan W. McCoy Art Memorial Fund  
John and Betty Jo Meyer Foundation  
Kettering Parks Foundation  
Thomas Schiff Foundation

## **PROGRAM SPONSORSHIP AND PARTNERS**

Addison Home Health Services  
Aetna  
Arrow Wine & Spirits  
Brookdale Kettering  
City Barbeque  
City of Kettering Board of Community Relations  
City of Kettering Police Department  
Culture Works  
Dayton Daily News  
Dayton Metro Library  
Dayton Printmakers Cooperative  
Fairmont High School Athletics  
Figlio  
Frisch's Big Boy  
Goodwill Easter Seals Miami Valley  
Heartland ProMedica  
Heidelberg Distributing  
Humana  
Kettering Backpack Program  
Kettering City Schools  
Kettering Health Network  
Kettering Sports Medicine  
Legacy Village

## **STATE AGENCIES**

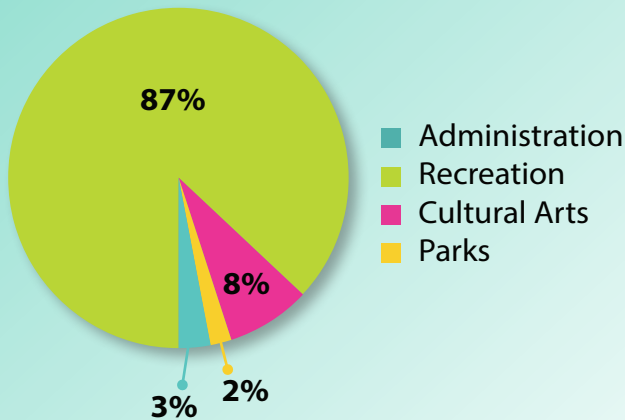
The Ohio Arts Council  
The Ohio Facilities Construction Commission  
Ohio Department of Natural Resources

Miami Valley Communications Council  
Montgomery County Health Department  
Montgomery County Arts and Culture District  
Oak Creek Terraces  
Oak Creek Health  
One Lincoln Park  
One Love Skate Shop  
Paramount ProMedica  
Pepsi  
Poelking-Woodman Lanes  
Skyline Chili Kettering  
Springfield Masonic Community  
State Farm (Linda Nervis)  
The Medicare Connection  
The Rosko Group with Keller Williams Communications  
Town and Country Shopping Center  
Tree Care Inc.  
Unhinged Balloon Company  
Vibrant Home Health  
Vienna Springs  
Village at the Greene  
Visual AIDS

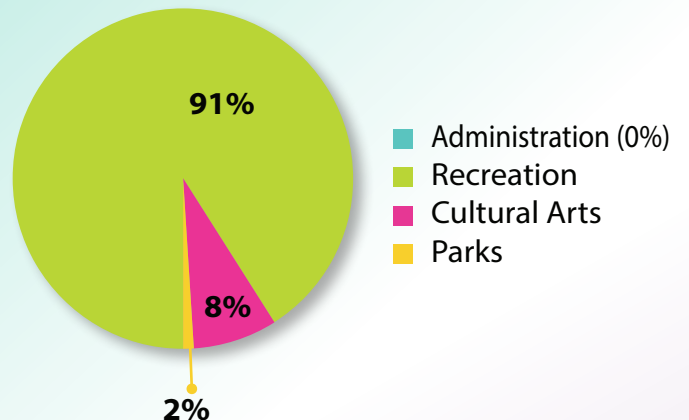
# FINANCIAL STATEMENT

PRCA revenues increased in 2021, as program enrollments, fitness memberships, rentals and more returned to pre-pandemic levels. The department's capital improvement projects (CIP) included the Rosewood Art Center renovation with support from the Cultural Facilities Fund administered by the Ohio Facilities Construction Commission and the Schantz Avenue Bridge landscaping and irrigation.

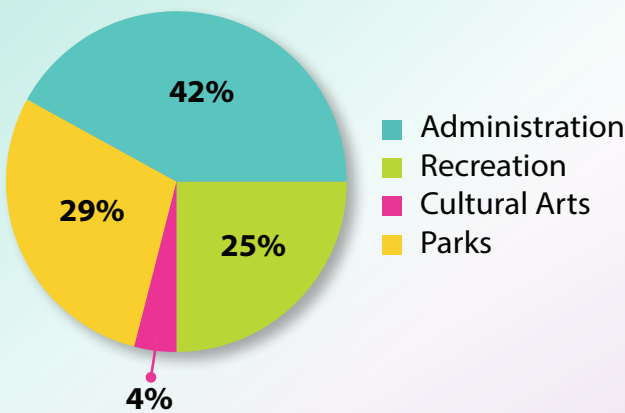
**2021 TOTAL PRCA INCOME**  
\$2,813,220



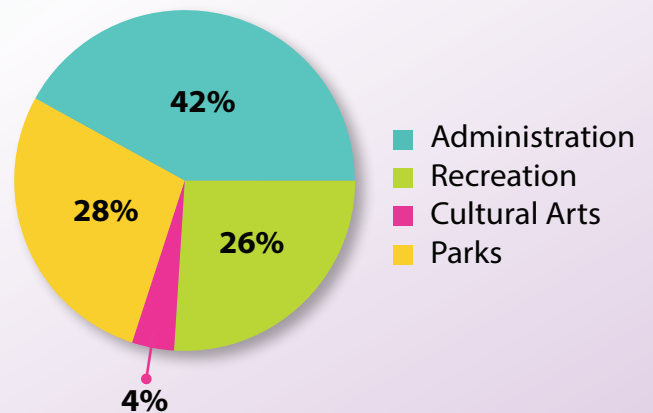
**2021 BUDGETED INCOME**  
\$3,063,000



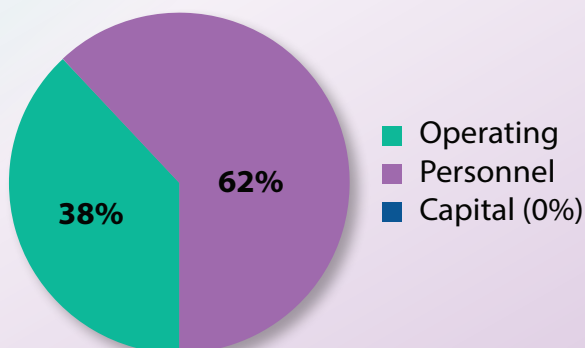
**2021 TOTAL PRCA EXPENSES**  
\$9,411,590



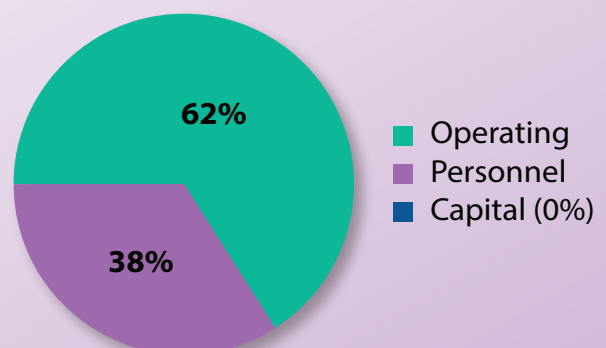
**2021 BUDGETED EXPENDITURES**  
\$10,063,760



**BREAKDOWN OF PRCA EXPENSES**



**BREAKDOWN OF FRAZE EXPENSES**



# ADVISORY COMMITTEES

Parks, Recreation and Cultural Arts is committed to providing high quality experiences to our residents. Several advisory committees comprised of dozens of volunteers work closely with PRCA staff on programs, special projects and much more!

## **ART IN PUBLIC PLACES**

Gerald Busch, Susan Byrnes, Connie Campbell, Stefan Chinov, Tess Cortés (Chair), Meghan Dillon, Bruce Duke (City Council Representative), Matt Dunn, Pete Horan, Michael Roediger, Terry Welker  
PRCA Staff: Shayna V. McConville

## **KETTERING ARTS COUNCIL**

Laura Arber (President), Susan Bennett , Christian Davell, Meghan Dillon, Elom Dossa, Sandra Doninger, Gine Elliott, Pat Higgins, Tracy McElfresh, Thom Meyer, Pene Miller (Secretary/Treasurer), Gloria Pugh, John Schmitz, Meghan Thomas (Vice President), Shane Weber  
PRCA Staff: Shayna V. McConville

## **LATHREM SENIOR ADVISORY BOARD**

Karen Schmitt (Chair), Edna Vanderkarr (Vice Chair), Gail Carone (Secretary), John Schmitt, Lisa Fields  
PRCA Staff: Jennifer Giessler, Drew Corbett, Vickie Carraher

## **PARKS BOARD**

Laura Arber, Jamie Jarosik, Carrie Kihn, Rob Leonard, Shane Sullivan

## **PARTNERS FOR HEALTHY YOUTH**

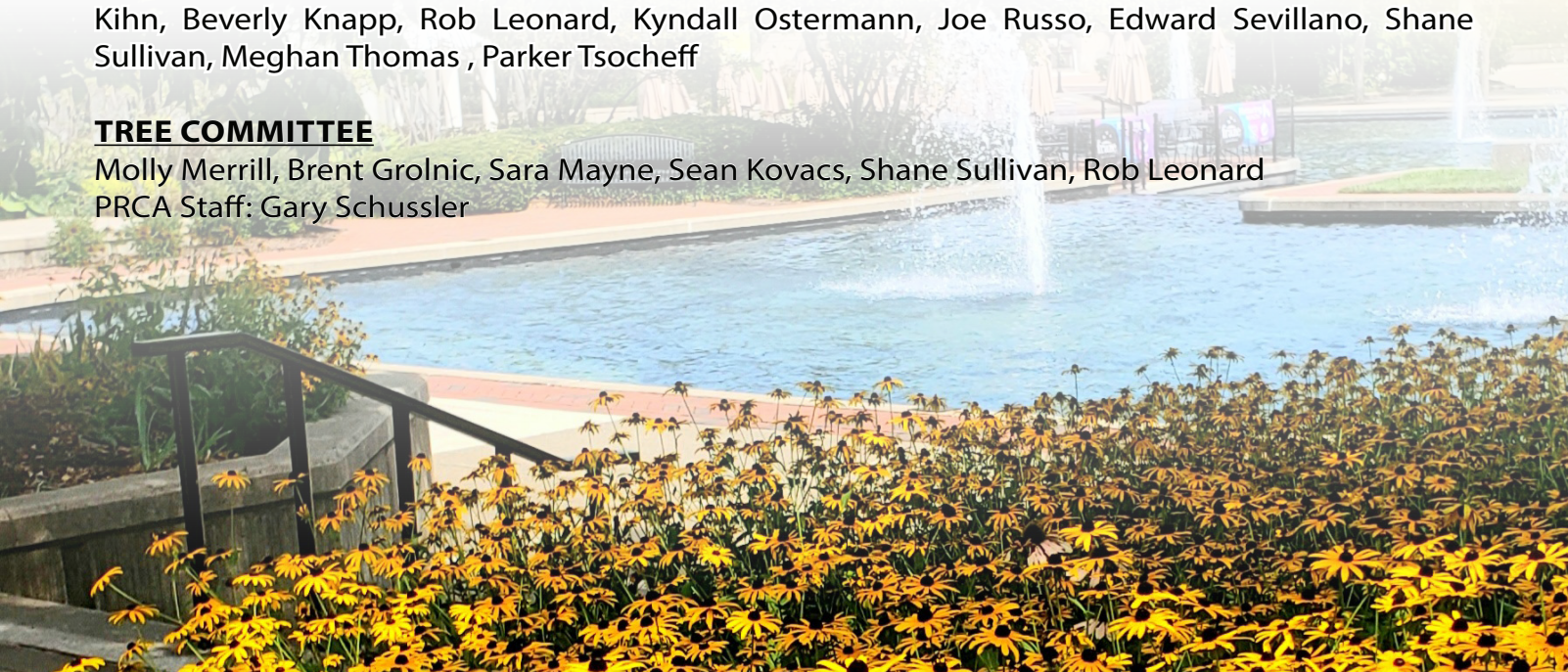
Kari Basson (Chair), Angela Brown, Jonelle Carroll, Rick Earley, Troy Erbes, Dan Von Handorf, Jennifer Kane (Vice Chair and Board of Education Representative), Matt Kesner, Bill Lautar (City Council Representative), Tracey Nissen, Lee Sanders, Addie Weaver, Shannon Wright  
PRCA Staff: Drew Corbett, Shauna Lewallen, Mary Beth O'Dell, Lindsey Whitley

## **PROGRAM ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Laura Arber, Rebecca Anderson, Amy Bellar, Danielle Barthelemy, William Cavanaugh, Jonelle Carroll, Sarah Conard, Debi Cope, Alex Duvall, Regine Elliott, Joan Fisher-Hatton, Carol Glass, Jennifer Guanciale, Timothy Hall, Barbara Hecht, Jay Heitz, Alexis Ignatiou, Jamie Jarosik, Carrie Kihn, Beverly Knapp, Rob Leonard, Kyndall Ostermann, Joe Russo, Edward Sevillano, Shane Sullivan, Meghan Thomas , Parker Tsocheff

## **TREE COMMITTEE**

Molly Merrill, Brent Grolnic, Sara Mayne, Sean Kovacs, Shane Sullivan, Rob Leonard  
PRCA Staff: Gary Schussler





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**Fraze Pavilion**

695 Lincoln Park Blvd  
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**Habitat Environmental Education Center**

3036 Bellflower Street  
Kettering, OH 45429  
(937) 296-2477

**Kettering Fitness & Wellness Center**

3351 Shroyer Road  
Kettering, OH 45429  
(937) 293-4348

**Kettering Recreation Complex**

2900 Glengarry Drive  
Kettering, OH 45420  
(937) 296-2587

**Rosewood Arts Centre**

2655 Olson Drive  
Kettering, OH 45420  
(937) 296-0294

**Parks Maintenance**

3170 Valleywood Drive  
Kettering, OH 45429  
(937) 296-2486

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

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